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This Week

National

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Hockey great denies praising Hitler. *Page 6*

New AGO head has a lifelong connection with gallery. *Page 19*

On Campus

New Jewish group launched for young adults in Victoria, B.C. *Page 25*

Fashion

Princess Di fashions on a charity tour. *Fall Fashion.* *Section B*

Arts

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Russia's Jews brace for trouble

Renewed anti-Semitism feared

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — As Russia suffers through its latest bout of political and economic convulsions, Jews in the former Soviet Union are bracing for possible repercussions, immigrant and advocacy groups here report.

Officials with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) returned recently from an 11-day fact-finding mission to Russia and Ukraine, "deeply concerned" about the state of religious protection in the former Soviet Union.

And Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS) is watching developments carefully, prepared for more community-sponsored immigrants months down the road.

Even before President Boris Yeltsin's surprise shift in cabinet personnel, including the sudden reinstatement of former prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, the ruble's drastic devaluation in recent days prompted HIAS executive vice-president Leonard Glickman to call Russia's environment "a breeding ground for anti-democratic and anti-Semitic forces."

In meetings in Ukraine and Russia with Jews from Vinnitsa to Moscow, the officials heard the same message: Despite advances on the human rights front in the region, there is still a great deal of uncertainty and fear.

Prof. Aurel Braun, a University of Toronto expert on Russia and its Jews, agrees, warning that current upheavals could lead to a "toxic mix" of anti-Semitism from both the far right and the communists.

Any period of extreme uncertainty and turmoil leads to renewed anti-Semitism, Braun told *The CJN* on Monday.

The Toronto office of JIAS is keeping a watch on developments

Continued on page 33

An elderly woman counts her change at a St. Petersburg street kiosk last week. Prices have risen dramatically throughout the import-dependent country. *[RNS/Reuters]*

New diary pages appear

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telgraphic Agency

LONDON — The publication of new excerpts of Anne Frank's diary has triggered threats of possible legal action.

The threats come after a leading Dutch newspaper, *Het Parool*, reproduced what it claimed were excerpts from five missing pages of the famous diary of Anne Frank, the Dutch teenager who died of typhus in Bergen-Belsen after the Nazis discovered her family's hiding place in an Amsterdam attic.

The missing pages, which were suppressed by Anne's father, Otto, the only member of the family who survived the Holocaust, contain critical comments by Anne about her parents' relationship.

Pierre Loewe of the Swiss-based Anne Frank Fund, which owns the copyright to the diaries, warned that "the case is in the hands of our lawyers."

Het Parool's deputy editor, Frits Campagne, responded by saying, "We think the whole subject is news, and there is no copyright on news. If they send their lawyers, we will ask our lawyers to answer them."

Anne Frank's legacy

Otto Frank, who died in 1980, is understood to have given the missing pages to a family friend, Cor Suijk, as a gift, but it is not known how the excerpts were passed on to *Het Parool*.

Suijk, a former employee of the Dutch-based Anne Frank Foundation, has demanded that proceeds from publication of the pages go to the Anne Frank Centre U.S.A. in New York, where he now works.

According to David Barnouw of the Netherlands State Institute for War Documentation, Otto Frank wanted the contents of the missing pages to remain private.

When the diaries were published in 1947, he is believed to have deleted significant sections of her entries, including negative remarks Anne made about friends who had hidden with the Frank family and later perished in the Holocaust.

At the request of the Catholic publishing house in the Netherlands that first printed the diaries, he is also believed to have deleted what were then considered explicit sexual passages.

Three years ago, a "definitive version" of the diaries, including

Continued on page 34

INSIDE

See our special food ideas for Rosh Hashanah.

Vatican silent in Auschwitz row — please see page 31

The News in Brief

CANADA

Survivors To Gather

MONTREAL — The World Federation of Jewish Fighters, Partisans and Camp Inmates will gather in Tel Aviv for a conference Oct. 13 to 15. Topics on the agenda are neo-Nazism, Holocaust remembrance and restitution claims. For details, contact Dan Tours of Canada at 905-886-9769.

Survivors Sought

OTTAWA — The federal government and national Jewish organizations are seeking Holocaust survivors to be honored at a ceremony here in November. Fifty survivors will be honored for contributing to Canadian society, as a way of commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Nominations may be faxed or mailed by Sept. 11 to: Zachor Adjudication Committee, Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, 970 Lawrence Ave., Toronto, M6A 3B6; fax: 416-785-4536.

Science Buffs Return

MONTREAL — Twenty-two young science whizzes from Canada and the United States have returned from Israel after competing in this year's Olympiyeda – Israel's prestigious international science contest for ninth and tenth graders.

The top-scoring teens each received a three-week paid stay at a summer science camp in Israel last month after being selected from some 300 applicants through a series of elimination exams.

Two Canadians were among the top scorers: Sagi Kaduri, 15, of Montreal's Herzliya High School; and Leonard Karp-Friedman, 15, of Bialik High School, also in Montreal.

ISRAEL

Economy Slowing Down

JERUSALEM — Signs of an economic slowdown are mounting in Israel. No rise was recorded in industrial production in the first half of this year, and according to the Central Bureau of Statistics, industrial growth will be 2.5 percent this year. The figure was particularly alarming in view of the latest unemployment figures, which showed another rise, to a rate of 9.4 percent, meaning that nearly one Israeli adult out of 10 is unemployed.

Despite the figures, Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman said there would be no change in the government's economic policy.

Assassination Plot

JERUSALEM — Israel tried to brainwash a Palestinian to assassinate Yasser Arafat in 1968, the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* reported. The newspaper, which cited only one intelligence source for the story, said the plot had been inspired by the movie *The Manchurian Candidate,* in which a captured U.S. soldier is brainwashed by Chinese communists to become an assassin.

Army To Build Fences

JERUSALEM — Israel's army is reportedly planning to erect fences around 20 West Bank settlements. The plan came following intelligence assessments that Hamas militants have targeted Jewish settlers. Army leaves were cancelled and tanks were placed on alert in anticipation of attacks on settlements.

Youths Celebrate Accord

JERUSALEM — Hundreds of Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian and Lebanese youths celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Oslo accords in the Jordanian town of Naharayim last week, defying a government ban on Israelis taking part.

WORLD

Kohl Rejects Reparations

BERLIN — German Chancellor Helmut Kohl last week rejected a proposal by German companies to create a new joint Holocaust fund. Federal coffers are firmly shut to any more reparations payments stemming from the Nazi era, Kohl said. Germany has paid more than $55.5 billion since the end of World War II in various forms of Holocaust compensation.

Papon's Request Denied

PARIS — France rejected the demands of convicted Nazi collaborator Maurice Papon that the state pay his court costs. Papon, who was sentenced in April to 10 years in prison for ordering the arrest for deportation of 1,560 Jews during World War II, made his demand on the grounds that he was working for the state when he committed his crimes. Papon will not have to serve his prison sentence until all his appeals are exhausted, a process that could take years.

Missile Talks Held

WASHINGTON — American and Israeli defence and intelligence officials met here last week to assess the threat posed by Iran's missile program. Last month, Iran test-fired a medium-range missile capable of reaching Israel.

Sephardi Festival in Bulgaria

SOFIA — Jews from five countries attended a Sephardi Jewish festival recently held in this Bulgarian capital.

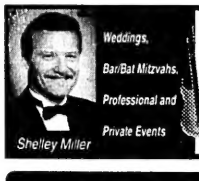
More than 150 participants from Turkey, Bulgaria, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Yugoslavia attended Esperansa '98 was a four-day affair that featured lectures, workshops, concerts, exhibitions and food tasting.

"Long into the night, songs and dances filled the terrace," said one participant. "At one point, a drummer from Turkey, an accordionist from Bosnia-Herzegovina and a guitar player from Croatia played *Hava Nagila,* while a woman from Bulgaria led a group of dancers."

The festival was organized by several Jewish groups in collaboration with Shalom, the organization of Bulgarian Jews.

Among the events was the presentation of newly published Sephardi cookbooks, which include recipes from Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Turkey.

"Through these recipes one can trace the rise and fall of empires, the ebb and flow of competing ideologies and the fortunes and misfortunes of war," states the preface to one of them.



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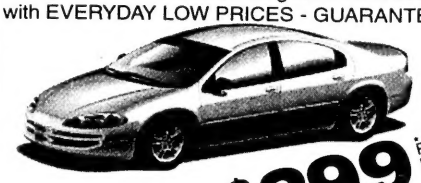
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Israel expecting tourist influx in year 2000

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's minister of tourism expects an unprecedented number of visitors in 2000.

Moshe Katsav said he believes that about 4.5 million tourists will visit Israel in the first year of the new millennium.

In 1995, a record-breaking 2.5 million visitors arrived in Israel. The figure last year was 2.2 million, a reflection of the toll terrorism has exacted on Israel's tourist industry.

Katsav, here to inaugurate the *Israel at Fifty* pavilion at the Canadian National Exhibition, said in an interview that the government has invested about $300 million (US) to prepare the country for the anticipated influx.

A further $200 million will be spent in the next two years to improve infrastructure and to launch marketing campaigns, he added.

Of the 4.5 million tourists expected in 2000, when Christianity marks its Great Jubilee, about 1.5 million will be non-Jews, Katsav said.

In a bid to encourage Christian tourism from Canada, Katsav met with Cardinal Aloysius Ambrozic in Toronto and Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte in Montreal.

Katsav said the two cardinals expressed a desire to visit Israel. Ambrosic, he quipped, looks forward "to taking a dip in the Dead Sea."

Katsav disclosed that his ministry intends to kick off a massive drive to double the number of Canadian tourists from 46,000 to 100,000, annually.

The campaign, which will focus on the media, will be conducted in cooperation with Air Canada, El Al and a host of tour operators.

Katsav said that he supports Air Canada's quest to increase flights to Israel. During his visit, Katsav conferred with federal Transport Minister David Collenette.

However, he pointed out, he has yet to decide whether Israel-bound Air Canada planes have a right to pick up passengers in the United States.

[Cont'd. on page 18]

Moshe Katsav (second from left), Israel's deputy prime minister and tourism minister, helped launch the Israel at 50 pavilion at the CNE during a performance of the Israel Scout Friendship Caravan. He was joined onstage by Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman. [Stephen Epstein photo]

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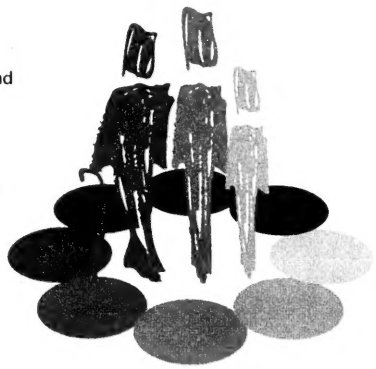

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From the editor's desk

Seeking inspiration

Last week two of my children and I saw the play, *Man of La Mancha*, at Stratford

In addition to the significant, special pleasure of being with the girls in the gentle calm of a blue-sky day, I found the production itself an emotional and sensory treat.

It was the second time I had seen the play. The first time was more than 20 years ago. On both occasions, I was profoundly moved.

At various moments during the drama, I felt goose bumps.

The Don Quixote story adapted from Cervantes, combined with the music, the poetry and the acting, were inspiring. And the physical, intellectual, psychological and emotional response to that feeling of being inspired was so very sweet.

How rare it is these days that we feel such inspiration. And what a terrible, regrettable shame that is.

Our children are growing up in a world that demands, from their earliest days in pre-kindergarten, that they be adept at competing and at handling pressure.

The competition and the pressure only increase as they ascend upward along the ladder of formal education, preparing them for the treadmill races and routines of "real-world" post-school, working life. They are forced to learn practical solutions, as only these are the guarantors of advancement and of success.

But what of idealism? What room is left in the character that school and life require of our children, for the development of the values, hopes, aspirations and ideals that formed the main message in *Man of La Mancha*? And yet what sort of character can we expect to find in our children without those values, hopes, aspirations and ideals?

By its nature, and by the nature of its reporting, the news of the world tends to deflect our children away from the beliefs that animated us in our youth, namely, that we were all special, that we all had unique destinies to fulfil, that our lives carried purpose and meaning, that nothing was beyond our ability, that we could always carry the day.

It seemed to me, as I sat in the theatre, absorbed in exciting play-inspired emotions of idealism, that inspiration was a rarer experience today than "in our time."

Where can we reach to find those fleeting flashes of inspiration capable of kindling sparks inside the souls of people, especially our young people?

As we approach Rosh Hashanah, it is an important subject to explore. I will return to it next week.

The following poem, *Remember When the Music*, by Harry Chapin, is a bridge to next week's column. It reflects on the same question. Chapin was a quixotic figure himself. He died at the age of 38 in a fiery car crash while on his way home, exhausted, late at night from a benefit concert. He was a balladeer, a story teller, who, above all else, believed in the uniqueness and the importance of all individuals.

This poem is typical Chapin inspiration.

Remember when the music
Came from wooden boxes
Strung with silver wire.
As we sang, the words
Would set our minds on fire
We believed in things.
And so we'd sing…

Remember when the music
Brought us all together
To stand inside the rain.
As we joined our hands
We'd meet in the refrain
We had dreams to live
We had hopes to give.

Remember when the music
Was the best of what we dreamed of
For our childrens' time.
As we sang we worked
For time was just a line
A gift we saved
A gift the future gave.

Don't you remember when the music
Was a rock that we could cling to
So we'd not despair.
And as we sang, we knew
We'd hear an echo fill the air
With his smile and then,
We would smile again.

Oh all the times I listened
And all the times I heard
All the melodies I'm missing
And all the magic words

And all the folks and voices
And the choices we had then
How I'd love to find
We had that kind of choice again.

Remember when the music
Was a glow off the horizon
Of every newborn day
And as we sang, the sun came up
To chase the dark away
And life was good
For we knew we could

Remember when the music
Brought the night across the valley
As the day went down
As we hummed the melody
We'd be safe inside the sound
And so we'd sleep,
We had dreams to keep

Remember when the music
Came from wooden boxes
Strung with silver wire
As we sang, the words
Would set our minds on fire
We believed in things
And so we'd sing
And so we'd sing…

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

LEARNING THE LANGUAGE AT ONE'S LEISURE

Yemenite immigrants enjoy a *nargila* at their camp in 1951 while receiving a lesson in Hebrew.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

CJC, education minister discuss school funding

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress is returning to the political arena in its bid to secure public funding for Jewish day schools.

Last week, a delegation of Congress officials met with Ontario Education Minister Dave Johnson to suggest he consider including Jewish schools in any future provincial school funding formula.

The current Conservative government is open to new approaches to school funding, and it has made equal funding of children attending public and Roman Catholic schools part of its approach, said Keith Landy, chair of Congress' Ontario region.

Although that doesn't include independent schools, Congress suggested to the minister that before the government implements any new funding schemes, it "take a look at our school system as a pilot project to determine if it will fund other independent schools," Landy said.

Any such funding would be limited strictly to the secular portion of the school day, he added.

Congress' meeting with Johnson came more than a year after the Supreme Court of Canada rejected a legal challenge to the current funding practice in which public and Catholic schools are supported by tax revenues while Jewish and other independent schools are supported privately.

Five Jewish parents, supported by Congress, along with parents in Christian schools, challenged that practice. They argued it violated Charter guarantees to freedom of religion and equality. However, the High Court ruled that the unequal treatment was justifiable as part of the constitutional bargain entered at Confederation.

Financial support for Jewish day schools is one of the Jewish community's greatest expenditures. There are between 12,000 and 13,000 students attending Jewish day schools. Annual tuition at Associated Hebrew Schools, for example, an elementary school, is $8,700 per student, while fees at CHAT, a high school, run as high as $10,700 per pupil. The UJA-Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto subsidizes parents who cannot afford the full fees.

Landy said the meeting with Johnson left him "cautiously optimistic...We had a sympathetic hearing from the minister, who appeared to be well briefed about our concerns.

"I expressed to him the level of frustration in our community. It has been the number one issue for Jewish parents for 20 years."

Rob Savage, Johnson's press spokesman, said "the minister listened but there are no immediate plans coming out of it. He said he always keeps his options open, so he'll look into the ideas they proposed."

Congress also expressed its concerns about children in Jewish day schools who have learning, emotional and physical disabilities. These students are unable to access some of the public special education services for children with disabilities, Landy said.

"We explained that the ability to be able to access government services as public schools can, would lessen the already tremendous burdens faced by their parents," said Shirley Worth, chair of the Board of Jewish Education, who also attended the meeting.

The minister was invited to visit a Toronto Jewish day school to see for himself how it operates, and to get a better feel for the issues Jewish parents are struggling with. No date for a visit has yet been set.

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Ontario Education Minister Dave Johnson (second from left) meets with a CJC Ontario region delegation on the subject of government funding for Jewish day schools. From left were Shirley Worth, chair, Toronto Board of Jewish Education; CJC Ontario region chair Keith Landy, and Murray Segal, past chair of the Ontario Association for Equity in Education.

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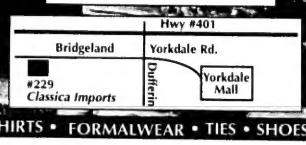

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Hockey great denies report he praised Hitler

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Hockey legend Bobby Hull, known for his swift skating and powerful slapshot, last week showed he could stickhandle as well when he denied a report in an English-language Russian newspaper in which he allegedly praised Adolf Hitler and made other racist comments.

In a news conference held in Sudbury, Hull denied the statements attributed to him by the *Moscow Times*, calling them "outrageous lies and distortions of the truth."

"I am deeply offended by the false statement s attributed to me with respect to Adolf Hitler and the black community in the United States. To my mind, Hitler was the most evil and despicable person who ever lived and there is nothing good or positive that can ever be said about such an evil man."

In a interview carried in the *Moscow Times* last week, Hull, who was in Russia to promote a hockey tournament, is quoted as saying "Hitler, for example had some good ideas. He just went a little bit too far." The former Chicago Blackhawk and Winnipeg Jet superstar also reportedly said the black population of the United States was growing too quickly, that the Canadian government was too left wing and that genetic breeding was a good idea.

The newspaper's managing editor, Matt Bivens, stood by the story, saying the reporter, Gennady Fyodorov is fluent in English and didn't misunderstand Hull's comments. However, Hull's version of events was supported by interpreter Svetlana Murashkina, who was present during the interview. She told Canadian Press that Hull was asked about Hitler and other world leaders as part of a feature story on the 21st century.

"As far as I remember, the question was: 'What do you think, is it possible that in the next century there will appear some rebel like Hitler and Stalin?' something like this. In fact, Hull answered not directly.

"He made some speculations...He said for example: 'I raise cattle. I know something about genetics,'" Murashkina said.

Hull, 59, is a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame and a recipient of the Order of Canada. During a glorious NHL career, he scored 610 goals and twice won the Hart Trophy as the league's most valuable player. He jumped to the WHA's Jets in 1972 when offered a million-dollar contract by the teams' Jewish owner, Ben Hatskin.

Mark Weintraub, national chair of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, said the *Moscow Times* report warranted an investigation to determine just what Hull said. Because of the disparity in the version of events, "someone here is not telling the truth," he suggested.

"If it isn't true, it's a scurrilous attribution," Weintraub said. If the newspaper's version holds up, Congress would call on other members of the Order of Canada "to question whether they want to be in the same club with someone who espouses those kinds of views." He said Congress would also call on the Hockey Hall of Fame to review Hull's inclusion.

In a news release titled What did Bobby Hull say?, B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights pointed out that "Hull is a role model for impressionable young minds... If Hull has made these statements, the League is calling on the NHL, the Hockey Hall of Fame and the players' associations to severely censure Hull and distance themselves from these sorts of racist and anti-Semitic comments."

Late last week, Hull's lawyer Timothy Danson announced his client would meet with Congress representatives to give his version of the comments attributed to him.

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Notice to Visitors to Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Arrangements have been made by Pardes Shalom to provide transportation to the cemetery before Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, for those without transportation.

Bus service will be provided on the following 3 days: Sunday, September 13; Sunday, September 20; and Sunday, September 27.

On each of these days a bus, identified by a sign "**PARDES SHALOM**" will depart from the front entrance of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, at 10:00 a.m. for Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

The bus will make a stop at the parking lot of Betel Centre, located on Steeles Ave. W., at 10:30, to pick up passengers before proceeding to the cemetery.

The bus will leave the cemetery at 12:30 p.m. for return to the Betel Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information, and to register, please call the cemetery office (416) 635-2883, extension 211 - Trudy, or extension 224 - Dina.

Gambling survey planned

TORONTO — Jews are being sought for a survey on gambling.

The survey, conducted by the Problem Gambling Service, Donwood Division, of the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health, will establish findings on cultural perceptions on gambling.

Initially, three cultures are being considered: Italian, East Indian and Jewish.

The results will be used primarily to increase understanding of these cultures, and to assist the centre in offering more effective services.

The findings will also be presented at a conference on problem gambling in Edmonton. They will appear in a paper which will try to raise awareness of the need for cultural sensitivity in social services.

Participants are asked to complete an anonymous questionnaire which usually takes between 10 and 20 minutes. It can be done over the phone or in person.

Anyone interested in taking part can contact Vincent Gannam at 599-1322, ext. 217 or toll-free in Ontario at 1-800-647-4414.

Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi Sapirman finds spiritual home at Beth Torah

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — He's travelled a circuitous path from his ultra-Orthodox childhood, but Rabbi Yossi Sapirman, who recently became rabbi of Beth Torah Congregation, feels he has found his spiritual home.

"I'm a modern Orthodox rabbi in a traditional Conservative shul, and I don't think I could feel much closer to the truth," said Rabbi Sapirman in a recent interview. (Technically, Beth Torah is unaffiliated; in practice, it is traditional Conservative.)

Now 30 years old, the Toronto rabbi began his religious quest as a teenager. Although he received smicha from a rabbi in Israel at the age of 18, he felt unfulfilled by the ultra-Orthodox lifestyle in which he'd been raised.

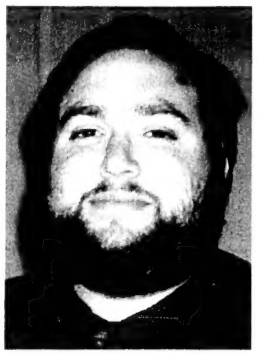
He knew of no resources for someone with his background who wanted to explore modern Orthodoxy. "Emotionally and religiously, I was in turmoil. I started studying on my own, trying to figure out whether I could make the Yiddishkeit that my parents had given me, work for me."

As a young man trying to find himself, he worked a variety of jobs, including construction. A high school dropout at age 15, he entered the University of Toronto as a mature student and studied Political Science for two years.

A few years ago he resumed rabbinical studies in Toronto to qualify for a "Yadin Yadin" smicha, entitling him to serve as leader of a community.

Along the way he met Simcha Jacobovici at a Shabbat meal. The Orthodox filmmaker, who had started a congregation in Riverdale, offered Rabbi Sapirman a job leading High Holiday services. For the young rabbi, Jacobovici and the Danforth represented the melding of the Orthodox and the worldly for which he'd been searching.

From 1994 to 1996 Rabbi Sapirman was the spiritual leader



Rabbi Yossi Sapirman

of the Riverdale Jewish Community, serving also as chazzan, baal koreh and adult educator. For the past two years he taught a weekly Torah class at the Beach Hebrew Institute and was also involved in the Danforth Jewish Circle.

Most recently, he spent a year as rabbi of Beth Israel Synagogue in Peterborough, commuting at least once a month to conduct services, run children's programs and teach adults.

But his claim to fame was probably his bicycle repair business, which he ran from 1992 to 1997, and which led to write-ups in the *Toronto Star* and *The CJN*.

He decided, however, that he was more suited to the rabbinate than the business world. Being a rabbi allows him a more consistent outlet for his sense of integrity and caring for other people, he explained.

He especially liked serving as rabbi in Peterborough, where he and his wife Gabrielle Pollard enjoyed getting to know people in the congregation. "I loved it. It was a really nice community but extraordinarily diverse. It taught me a lot about diplomacy and listening to both sides of a conversation. It taught me there is no single solution."

Bicycle repairs

He decided, however, that he wanted to be somewhere less diverse that conformed more to his personal philosophy, freeing him to "focus [his] energies on taking a place forward."

Beth Torah, where he succeeds Rabbi Charles Freundlich, is such a place, he believes. The congregation, as Rabbi Sapirman sees it, has "a fundamental respect for Halachah, although it's not necessarily observed by all the members, all of the time."

The Glenbrook Avenue shul, located a few blocks southeast of Lawrence Avenue and Dufferin Street, has about 300 member families. The congregation was established in 1961 by a small group of families; the synagogue was built four years later.

Rabbi Sapirman hopes to bring in more younger people and plans on introducing some innovations in educational programming, among other areas.

Because of his background, he feels he has a unique role to play in building bridges between Jews. "You don't have to agree with me, but you have to respect what I say," he believes. "We're not fighting to abandon the Torah, but to assign Torah values to our daily life."

Rabbi serving at Toronto churches

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A rabbi with a controversial past is serving as a "rabbi-in-residence" at several Toronto churches.

Rabbi Perry Cohen, 60, holds Bible study classes, psalm readings and weekend retreats, and "brings a Judaic perspective" to church life, says United Church spokesman Peter Wyatt.

The rabbi has served as "rabbi-in-residence" at several local United Church congregations, including Lawrence Park, Parkwoods United and the former St. George's and Eglinton United congregations.

Rabbi Cohen says he's also been involved with Anglican and Catholic congregations.

Rabbi Cohen was spiritual leader of Congregation Shaar Shalom in Chomedey, a suburb of Montreal, for five months in 1979, but was fired for sexual impropriety.

He subsequently admitted to having had an affair with the sister of a congregant.

His principal interest is in "sharing the Bible to further a greater understanding of Judaism and [of] the Jewish roots of Christianity," Rabbi Cohen told *The CJN*.

He also explains Jewish holidays and Hebrew prayers, and "spends a lot of time on [the meaning of] Shabbat."

Reaction to his activities has been "very positive," he said.

"But I don't feel as though I'm doing anything new. This is not out of the ordinary. I'm just sharing the Bible."

Wyatt said Rabbi Cohen's presence resulted in increased interest and a boost in attendance at weekly Bible classes.

The rabbi receives an honorarium, not a salary for his efforts, Wyatt added.

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We are not looking for a technocrat. We are seeking someone with strong creative, communications, organization and outreach skills, accompanied by an understanding of the Jewish community and the significance of the Internet.

If you believe that you're right for this job, please send your resume to Howard English at henglish@ujafed.org (no phone calls, please) as soon as possible. Let us know whether you prefer full or part-time (minimum half-time) work.

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Inconsistent too

Two weeks after the Supreme Court's Referendum Reference, Premier Lucien Bouchard continues to interpret the decision with virtuoso sleight of hand. In true trickster's fashion, he spin's the nine judges' opinion away from the centre stage of its actual wording into rhetorical trapdoors and demagogic false closets.

Last week, for example, he ordained that the federal government would be "obliged" to negotiate linguistic and cultural guarantees for francophone minorities in the other provinces. "We ourselves will see to it at the bargaining table," he ostentatiously thumped.

But Bouchard has neither the right nor the authority to negotiate anything for francophone Canadians outside Quebec.

In the first place, the court's decision speaks not one word about, nor does it contemplate, endangered minority francophone rights outside Quebec.

In the second place, he has no legal standing, no moral entitlement, not even the barest tangential legitimacy to speak on behalf of the francophone minority throughout the rest of Canada. They are residents of other provinces. And thus, their respective provincial governments have first-line responsibility to protect their human rights. If local governments fail to do so, the federal government and the courts of the land will intervene, as they have in the past.

Any linguistic, cultural links that the francophone minority outside Quebec shares with the majority inside Quebec confer no special representative legal status upon the premier of Quebec. Indeed, successive governments of Quebec, for their own expedient reasons, have pointedly refused to defend the rights of francophone minorities outside Quebec.

But Bouchard ignores the most compelling reason, namely, that those minorities have not asked him to speak on their behalf. Not one francophone association outside Quebec has petitioned Bouchard to represent them.

Moreover, and most poignantly, by choosing to make their homes, raise their families and pursue a francophone way of life in Manitoba, for example, or in Ontario, or in New Brunswick, or for that matter wherever they live *outside Quebec*, they have explicitly chosen to live *inside Canada*. They are effectively saying they will look elsewhere, other than to the government of Quebec, to protect their minority rights.

Bouchard's publicly expressed concern on behalf of minority rights seems contrived and mildly expedient in light of his other pronouncement last week that a simple majority of 50 percent-plus-one vote, would be sufficient to engage secession gears full throttle.

How can anyone accept as sincere the Premier's concern for minorities outside Quebec when he is prepared to ignore the unchanging, passionate political will of at least half of the people inside Quebec?

The premier's willingness to accept a 50 percent-plus-one vote majority, say, as an illustration, two million-plus-one Quebecers voting in favor of secession with two million opposing it, proves that his conscience would not be troubled to wrest half of all Quebecers away from the country of their first choice, namely a united Canada, even to the point of possibly risking severe strains within the civic and social fabric of Quebec society.

What then, of the minority rights of two million federalist Quebecers?

Would Bouchard reciprocate and allow the federal government to "see to [the protection of the rights of the federalist minority inside Quebec] at the bargaining table?" We doubt it.

By demanding the right to champion francophone minority rights outside Quebec, Premier Bouchard is being expedient, disingenuous and inconsistent too.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Repentance prolongs a person's life."
Talmud

Dry Bones

AMERICA BOMBED US BACK?!
YUP...
THEY TRACKED US DOWN, PIN-POINTED OUR CAMPS...
...AND THEN THEY JUST BOMBED US AS AN "ACT OF SELF-DEFENSE"
WOW!
ARE THEY ALLOWED TO DO THAT?
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Experienced no bias in Canadian navy

I would like to address the perception that there is an anti-Jewish bias in the Canadian Armed Forces. A number of months ago, I read an article in *The CJN* in which a reserve officer in the Navy claimed that he had been systematically discriminated against due to his religious affiliation.

I have been a member of the naval reserves for eight years. In that time, I have never felt discriminated against based on my religion. Further, I have always felt well within my rights to ask for special considerations so that I might be able to follow the laws of kashrut, in order to be observant of holy days, and to conduct myself as a Jew, and feel that my requests were granted to as great a degree as was possible given the existing circumstance.

One month ago my father passed away. I was on a diving course in Victoria, B.C. (Friday) when I received a phone call informing me of the circumstances and the intention to hold the funeral on Sunday. I explained to my instructors the traditions and customs relative to Jewish burial, and hence the need for me to return to Toronto on the next available flight. The military did not question; they acted. They arranged and paid for my travel on the spot. I received a great deal of support waiting for my flight, as well as after the funeral service.

I believe the members of the Canadian Forces acted towards me with chesed. Based on my experiences, I do not believe that an anti-Jewish bias exists in the Canadian military; nor has it existed in my time of service to date.

As well, the Canadian Forces have implemented a mandatory Sexual Harassment and Racism Policy (SHARP). All members of the forces are required to be fully cognoscente of all facets of this policy. The Department of National Defence supports a zero tolerance policy with respect to harassment of any nature.

David Ophek
Toronto

Israel omitted from Fugitive Pieces

I agree with much in From the editors desk (*CJN*, Aug. 13) regarding the literary and historical accomplishments demonstrated in Anne Michael's *Fugitive Pieces*.

However, I must admit to a nagging flaw that struck me after reading the book a year ago. In this book, Israel is never mentioned. Why? Allow me to elucidate on a number of elements I find troubling. As our young hero is growing up, his Greek mentor makes efforts to imbibe him with his Jewish cultural and historical heritage. However, he does not tell him about the amazing creation of the State of Israel. Similarly, there is no passing reference to 1967.

The young boy is haunted by the suspicion that his sister did not die. Does he ever contact Israeli sources about the possible whereabouts of his beloved sister? Only upon his arrival, as an adult, in Toronto, does he consider the possibility of contacting the Jewish community? In the second section of the book, there is much talk about the fate of survivors, their travails, travels, destination. No Israel. It is as though in Anne Michael's historical consciousness, Israel does not exist.

Nahum Ravel
Montreal

Differing views of Perspectives article

Re: Recalling Zionism's Sephardi Names, by Sarah Taieb-Carlen (*CJN*, Aug. 20). I was touched because my grandparents and great-grandparents, with other families, left Marrakesh Morocco, in 1919, for then Palestine, for a pilgrimage to visit the tombs of our forefathers. I wrote an article about their experience and also in my possession is my grandfather's passport and my grandmother's copy of her passport and their young son's (my father) laisser passer. I would love to share their experience and have their passports in the books dealing with the subject.

Bloria Lasry Roizman
Toronto

Ms Taieb-Carlen might be too young to remember (*CJN*, Aug. 20). At the time of Israel's 50th birthday she recalls Herzl, Nordau, Begin and Jabotinsky. But some of us, not of the Revisionist persuasion, have other recollections. We remember this year the real heroes of the creation of Israel: David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Sharet, Golda Meir, the Palmachniks, the kibbutzniks. Current fashionable history not withstanding, those of us who were there might recall these lesser participants of Zionist history.

Shlomo Salamon
Toronto

That fateful day in September, 1939

I would like to remind readers of Friday, Sept. 1, 1939. At 4:45 in the morning, when the darkness of night still covered the sprawling Warsaw metropolis of 1.5 million inhabitants, a frightened voice came over the air waves from the Central Warsaw Radio Station. It was the voice of the president of the Polish Republic, Prof. Ignace Mashtshitzki, bringing the following message:

"Citizens of the Polish Republic!"

"The eternal enemy, the German crusader, has brutally attacked our Fatherland and is sowing death by a dreadful bombardment of open cities and villages in our country. God and history are our witnesses. Justice is on our side."

Thus began the end of Poland's independence, which had lasted barely two decades, and the end of the thousand-year old Jewish settlement in Poland.

Israel Kopyto
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

The undiscovered palace of King David

By EILAT MAZAR
WZPS

A careful re-examination of biblical text, combined with the results of modern archeological excavations in Jerusalem, have led me to believe that we are now able to locate the site of King David's palace; a palace that if modelled on Phoenician-style buildings would have resembled a small-scale version of King Solomon's magnificent palace in Jerusalem.

The Canaanite/Jebusite city that King David conquered in about 1000 BCE was a mere nine acres on a ridge south of what today we call the Temple Mount. David renamed the city the City of David and made it his capital. Today this ridge is still called in Hebrew *Ir David.*

From excavations, topography and the biblical text we know quite a bit about this city, which was chosen because of its proximity to the only perennial supply of water in all Jerusalem – the Gihon Spring, which lies to the east of the ridge near the floor of the Kidron Valley.

The City of David excavations, located slightly south of Mount Moriah – the Temple Mount – near pool of Silwan.

[WZPS photo]

Equally important, this ridge is easily defensible as a result of deep valleys on three sides: the Kidron to the east and the Tyropoeon (or Central) Valley to the west and south.

The ridge rises as it moves northward, first to the Ophel (the area between the City of David and the Temple Mount) and then, still higher, to the Temple Mount. This was the city's weak spot, as with no natural barrier, this strategically significant vulnerable northern boundary called for massive defences.

At the time of David's conquest, Jerusalem was a well-fortified city, with a thick city wall dating back to the 18th century BCE. The exact location of the northern section of this wall is unknown, although it seems likely that in order to facilitate the construction of defences, the city's northern border was fixed at the narrowest point of the ridge.

At some point in the 14th to 13th centuries BCE, the Canaanites/Jebusites built the now-famous Stepped-Stone Structure, which internally consists of a huge fill. The massive fill was constructed at the highest point in the city, which happened to be at its extreme northern end, just inside the city wall. The Stepped-Stone Structure was built up over a steep slope descending to the Kidron Valley. It served as the vast foundation for an impressive artificial platform that added a level area of about 2,000 square feet at the top of the hill. It is probably on this level area that the Canaanite/Jebusite citadel, called the Fortress of Zion (Metsudat Zion; 2 Samuel 5:7,9), was built.

The foundation of the Stepped Stone Structure consisted of a complex system of skeleton walls that once ran along and across the slope, forming "boxes" that were then filled with stones. This created a massive and imposing fill structure. Kathleen Kenyon, the British archeologist who dug in this area of the City of David in the 1960s, suggested that the fill structure should be identified with a millo, a term used in the Bible for a fortification built in Jerusalem in the time of David.

I think Kenyon was probably right. The link between the millo and the fill structure known as the Stepped-Stone Structure is very appealing, not only because of the name "millo" (which literally means "filling"), but also because of the location, which accords well with the Bible's description of the millo's strategic importance to the City of David. Note, for example, how important the millo was to Hezekiah's defence of the city during Sennacherib's siege in the late eighth century BCE (2 Chronicles 32:5). In addition, from the reign of King Solomon on, the kings of Jerusalem had to rebuild and reinforce the millo as a complex architectural unit of prime strategic importance (1 Kings 9:15,24).

With this background, let us see if we can determine where King David's palace might be located.

Unlike his son Solomon, David was not a great builder. He was too taken up with wars and political affairs to concentrate on building projects. Nor did he have the architectural experience for carrying out royal building projects. The only royal building the Bible mentions as having been constructed in Jerusalem during his reign is his palace. But this was built for David by Hiram, King of Tyre (2 Samuel 5:11; 1 Cronicles 14:1). This gesture is widely recognized as a symbol of friendship between the Israelite monarch and his Phoenician counterpart, as well as a recognition of the newly acquired importance of the kingdom of Israel and its new capital in Jerusalem.

But Hiram's gift also reflects David's seeming inability to build a palace himself. Hiram sent not only cedar logs, but also carpenters and stonemasons, doubtless because of their scarcity in the new Israelite capital. David lived in the Fortress of Zion, the old Canaanite/Jebusite citadel, until his palace was built.

After David captured Jerusalem, Israel's perennial enemy, the Philistines, could no longer restrain themselves. At this point, we need to look very carefully at the biblical text: "When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over Israel, the Philistines marched up in search of David, but David heard of it and he went down to the citadel. The Philistines came and spread out over the Valley of Rephaim" (2 Samuel 5:17-18).

David ultimately prevailed, but that is not our concern here. That the battle occurred in the Valley of Rephaim near Jerusalem indicates that David was already based in Jerusalem at this time. (During the first seven years of his reign, he ruled from Hebron.) When David heard that the Philistines were coming up to wage war against him, he went down to the citadel, that is, to the building on top of the Stepped-Stone Structure. Based on the topography of the site, it would appear that he heard the news of the Philistine advance from a point higher up than the citadel; thus his palace must have been north of the citadel.

There is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the biblical description; the Bible is quite careful in its use of going up and going down.

The obvious implication of this passage is that David was already living in his new palace when news arrived of the Philistines' hostile approach. The palace was probably not fortified strongly enough to withstand a direct attack; so the king preferred to barricade himself inside the citadel until the situation improved.

Since the Canaanite/Jebusite citadel had been deliberately built on the city's northern border, adjacent to the narrowest width of the ridge, David's new palace must have been constructed both to the north of the citadel and outside the city's fortified boundaries.

A sketch by William Simpson of 19th century excavations under the Temple Mount.

At first glance, this may seem illogical. Wouldn't the king's palace be built in the most defensible place within the city walls?

The problem was that the small nine-acre site that was Canaanite/Jebusite Jerusalem, had already been built up; there was no room for him to build a palace inside the walls. When David conquered the city, it had already been inhabited for more than 2,000 years, and it had been surrounded by a city wall for nearly 1,000 years. Moreover, Jebusites continued to live in the city after David's conquest, with overcrowding in the city becoming even worse as hundreds of David's followers settled there.

Kenyon also noted this problem, although she did not locate David's palace to the north of the citadel as seems to be required by the biblical text. Instead, she suggested, his palace must have been very small: "David must have cleared a space within the Jebusite town, but the size of his residence is unlikely to have been great, for anything grandiose would have taken too much space within the restricted area of the Jebusite-Davidic city."

It is much more likely, I believe, that David decided to build his new palace outside the city walls. If so, he would probably have chosen a site adjoining the citadel to the north.

King Solomon, David's successor, built a new acropolis further to the north, on the Temple Mount. During the years following, the acropolis developed and was extended southward to the northern Ophel. The northern acropolis' complex of royal buildings was called the "upper house of the king" (Nehemiah 3:25), implying that there must have been a "lower house of the king," which was probably the old acropolis to the south, in the City of David, which preserved its sacred and royal charter (see 2 Chronicles 8:11).

In 1962, Kenyon excavated immediately north of the Stepped-Stone Structure, at the eastern foot of the area where I have placed David's palace, and concluded that during the period of monarchic Jerusalem, a building of some considerable pretensions stood on top of the scarp. Kenyon also found additional evidence of royal architecture: a casement wall, built, she believed, by King Solomon in order to protect the acropolis. In my opinion, they are actually the remains of small palace rooms that originally enclosed a courtyard. Kenyon believed she had stumbled upon the corner of King David's palace. Unfortunately, our dating techniques are not yet so refined that we can easily distinguish between the Solomonic period and the Davidic period in Jerusalem.

When Kenyon sought to excavate this area in the 1960s, she encountered insurmountable barriers. Much of the area was occupied by orchards and gardens, making excavation very costly. Accordingly, she confined herself to a very narrow trench – only three metres wide and extending across the summit. Today, the land is available for excavation, which is very exciting. Who will heed the call to find King David's palace?

Eilat Mazar recently completed the final report on the Temple Mount excavations conducted by her grandfather, Benjamin Mazar, from 1968 to 1977. She directed the excavations of the Ophel, the area between the City of David and the Temple Mount.

Opinions

Those who follow their dreams

"Strange things are done 'neath the midnight sun, by the men who moyle for gold," wrote Robert Service, poet of the gold-fields.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

It certainly feels strange to be driving to Dawson City via Whitehorse in the Yukon to visit a Jewish cemetery. But here we are, on the road to Whitehorse for a Shabbat stopover before heading to Dawson City, centre of the 1898 gold-rush.

Yukon bills itself as the land of dreams. Once it was the land of golden dreams, seducing thousands from all over the world to climb frozen mountain passes, risk death in the Yukon River, or court mayhem in the gold-rush city of Dawson, all for that dream.

At least eight Jews lie buried in the Jewish cemetery above Dawson City. Lost to their families, in exile from any community, they waited for someone to remember that they lived and died here. It is important, I believe, to record their names:

Solomon Packer (d. 1918); Abraham Alton (d. 1901); Benjamin Zerrif (d. 1902); Isaac Simmons (d. 1902); Jacob Klein (d. 1903); Harry Kaplin (d. 1904); Samuel Ross (d. 1911); Jacob Rosenfeld (d. 1931).

Only Solomon Packer has been reclaimed from exile. His story may serve as paradigm. Born in Odessa, he left Russia, possibly to escape forced army service, persecution and poverty. He followed his immigrant dream to the gold-fields, dying at age 57. Only recently when his story was told, did family in Vancouver realize what had happened to their lost uncle.

Immigration to North America was all about dreams. Grandparents and parents slaved long hours at menial jobs so that their children would have a better life. Now, we are about to find some lost sons.

We arrive in Whitehorse on Friday, just as the group is beginning the Shabbat hymn, Lecha Dodi. The first known services here were held 100 years ago at Rosh Hashanah, on Sept. 18, and this year it begins very close to the same date. We are closing a circle of Jewish time that began a century ago.

Saturday we are led by the newest bar mitzvah, Lars, who just celebrated his simchah in Victoria. The davening is very strong as we celebrate together.

Research has uncovered something about a Jewish family that arrived in Dawson a century ago. Solomon and Rebecca Shudenfrie of Krakow are not buried in the cemetery, but they left their children in New York and trekked west, hoping to strike it rich. Their letters have been carefully preserved by their descendants and give a painful account of life in the Klondike. Finding no gold, they turned to commerce. Defeated by fire and the unforgiving Yukon they returned home.

Mother Rebecca wrote: "We have such treasures at home,who certainly will not love us any less for the want of gold, and who cannot love us any more even if we had all the Klondike"

Back to the present. Early Sunday morning we trek north and west along the Yukon River. In bright sunshine we pass the terrible remains of huge forest fires and arrive in Dawson just in time to climb the hill to the cemetery high above the Yukon River. There it is not only Jews who lie buried. There is a section for Masons and their families, a section for RCMP officers who fell, a section for tiny children. A new fence marks the Jewish section, where Solomon Packer's stone stands.

For many years, Jewish residents and visitors intended to reclaim the cemetery. Yukon centennial plans have made it possible, along with the determination of the Jews of Whitehorse. Now the moment has arrived. Birch and alder rustle, a raven calls out as we recite the kaddish. Jews from all over Canada and Europe unite. The men have come home at last.

Back in Whitehorse, we pass the statue of a miner and his trusty dog: "This statue is dedicated to all those who follow their dreams," it says.

What dreams bring Jews here today? Family, friends, a profession or a business, it seems that all who come have the same story: "I came for a year and stayed a lifetime." Indeed there is something mystical about the country, which holds you and promises to be the land of dreams.

The community of the Yukon can be proud of what it has done, returning lost sons to their place in our memory. We all go home richer for having met such intense people. We will not forget each other, we who met in the land of the midnight sun, just as those will not be forgotten who now lie in Dawson's Bet Chaim – House of Life.

The wheel and the Jews

Summertime is traditionally not only an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, but it also seems to stimulate the endangered art of reading. I found it encouraging therefore, when I recently learned that Thomas Cahill's book, *The Gifts of the Jews*, is among the best-sellers. Even though the end of summer now comes into sight, it might be well to revisit at least one idea of Cahill's that describes the first (and in many ways the most important) gift that the Jews have bestowed upon the world.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Cahill argues that ancient civilizations, with all the differences, had a common view in at least one respect: the world could be compared to a wheel. The years went by, the wheel turned, but nothing really changed. It didn't matter what people did, who they were, whether they contributed to society or not, whether they were good, bad or indifferent – nothing changed.

This, argues Cahill, is where the Jews came in. Judaism has taught that what we do matters because God cares, that what we contribute is not forgotten, but embedded in the progress that time can bring. We can advance society or retard it, and each person can make his/her contribution to this process. Says Cahill: The Jews were the first people to expose the wheel idea as a myth.

In order to prove his point he claims that some of the most important words in our language are, in fact, the gift of the Jews, because they show the possibility of breaking out of the circle and advancing into new intellectual, technical and religious territory. The words that Cahill believes can be traced back to Jewish ideas are these: new, adventure, surprise; unique, individual, person, vocation; time, history, future; freedom, progress, spirit; faith, hope, justice. The very perceptions behind these words are what the Jews contributed to the world and thereby changed it.

From all of this, Cahill draws a fascinating conclusion. He argues that amongst the most important sections of the Bible are the very ones that are considered by most readers as inconsequential and even boring. He refers to the so-called "begats," that long catalogue in the Book of Genesis (Chapter 10) which lists name after name, generation after generation of the ancients – culminating in the genealogy of Abraham. Why does Cahill believe these lists are so important? Because, he says, they indicate that their bearers were considered to have been individuals. Their lives mattered and were not swallowed up by the Great Wheel and rendered insignificant. They contributed; they are remembered.

I would add another fact to Cahill's list of Jewish gifts: We were not a people that excluded different, and perhaps, unpopular ideas. Everything is up for debate, and in essence, the Talmud is one vast compendium of discussions and often of widely different ideas. To be open, inquisitive and ever-searching – and thereby breaking the wheel – is indeed an essential gift of our people.

The secession decision: a call to action

It did not surprise me when, at minyan on the morning following the Supreme Court's historic decision in the Quebec Secession Reference, an older gentleman came over to me and asked: "Bruce, this court decision, what does it mean for the Jews?" I told him the court decision could well be an important decision for the Jewish community – and all minorities – inside and outside Quebec.

By Bruce Elman in Edmonton

Just in case you were following the Monica and Bill Saga and missed the court's decision, here are the basics: In response to three questions referred to it by the federal government, the court held that: under the Constitution of Canada, Quebec (or any other province for that matter) could not unilaterally secede from Canada; under international law, Quebec does not enjoy a right to secede unilaterally from Canada; and there was no conflict between domestic and international law on this issue. The answers given by the Supreme Court were largely predictable.

This was not the end of the matter, however. The court identified four underlying or foundational constitutional principles which animate the entire Constitution: federalism, democracy, constitutionalism and the rule of law, and the respect for and protection of minorities. These principles give rise to substantive legal obligations. They have full legal force and constitute substantive limitations on government action. They are not merely descriptive but are invested with powerful normative force. This was pretty strong stuff!

The court went on to say that, although Quebec cannot legally unilaterally secede, it can pursue a secession initiative. A "clear majority" vote on a "clear question" in a referendum would confer democratic legitimacy on a secession initiative. A Yes vote would give rise to a constitutional obligation on the part of the federal government and the other provinces to negotiate the potential secession of Quebec from the federation. Negotiations would be expected to address the interests of Quebec, the federal government, all the other provinces, the rights of all Canadians inside and outside Quebec, and the rights or minorities. Finally, the court said that it is up to the political actors – and not the court – to determine what is a "clear majority on a clear question," and if there were to be a clear majority in favor of secession, to supervise the process and the content of the negotiations.

The court's ruling virtually compels the political actors – at a minimum the leaders of the federal government, Quebec and the other provinces – to engage in negotiation prior to any referendum to determine what is a "clear majority on a clear question," and should there be a vote in favor of secession, to negotiate the specifics of that secession.

The Jewish community of Canada should take this as a call to action! The Jewish community of Canada, both inside and outside Quebec, must begin to organize. We must build bridges to other minority communities whose interests are similar to ours. The court has said that respect for and protection of minorities is one of the fundamental normative principles of the Constitution and should animate any negotiations on secession. We have an obligation to ensure that the political actors remember this principle and adhere to it.

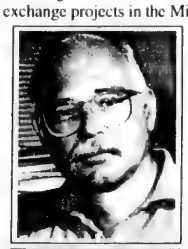
The Canadian Jewish Community, largely through the work of the Canadian Jewish Congress, has a rich history of involvement and advocacy on constitutional issues, particularly the protection of minority rights. At the first Congress Plenary in March 1919, the president, Lyon Cohen, called for the constitutionalization of civil, political and religious rights. In 1950, Monroe Abbey, national vice-president, called for the inclusion of individual rights and fundamental freedoms in the British North America Act and, in 1960, Saul Hayes, executive vice-president argued for the inclusion of a Bill of Rights in the BNA Act.

A select committee of Congress headed by Dean Maxwell Cohen presented important submissions to the Parliamentary committee studying the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Congress worked hard during the Meech Lake and Charlottetown accord debates to protect individual rights and multiculturalism. Congress has appeared as intervenor in numerous cases advocating for the protection of minority rights. We have an obligation to continue this legacy of activism in constitutional matters, particularly to ensure the protection of the rights of minorities.

The first question the community must tackle is fundamental: Given that minorities are generally better protected in federal states and given that minorities do not generally fare well during times of political and constitutional upheaval, is there any basis upon which the Jews of Canada can accept the secession of Quebec?

The Kirshner File

Building bridges in the Middle East



By Sheldon Kirshner

Dr. Arnold Noyek, an ear, nose and throat specialist, is a bridge builder whose medical exchange projects in the Middle East span the chasm of politics.

Noyek, otolaryngologist-in-chief at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital and professor of radiology at the University of Toronto, runs the path-breaking Isabel Silverman-Canada-International Scientific Exchange Program, which has a booth at the Israel pavilion at this year's Canadian National Exhibition.

CISEPO, as it is known, is a federally incorporated, charitable, non-governmental organization which provides medical and health services to more than 10 countries and entities, notably Israel, Jordan and the Palestine Authority.

"Disease knows no boundaries," says Dr. Noyek, who's convinced that CISEPO can further the process of normalization between Israel and its Arab neighbors and thus make the Middle East a safer and more secure environment for all nations.

A man whose enthusiasm for his mission is boundless and infectious, he has visited the region several times of late to promote cooperation between Israel and Jordan.

Earlier this year, CISEPO sponsored two conferences on the early detection and management of hearing impairment in infants and children, both of which were attended by Israeli and Jordanian doctors. The first conference was held at the King Hussein Medical Centre in Amman and the second one took place at the Schneider Children's Medical Centre in Petah Tikvah.

Dr. Arnold Noyek

As a result of these meetings, the Middle East Association for Managing Hearing Loss came into being. It is supposedly the *first* Israeli-Jordanian professional group of its kind since the two countries signed a peace treaty in the autumn of 1994.

Since then, despite a series of crises, Israel and Jordan have forged relatively close relations on the government-to-government level. But professional unions in Jordan, most of whom are controlled by Arab nationalists and Islamic fundamentalists, have resisted the tide of normalization.

Dr. Noyek, therefore, was hardly surprised when the Jordan Medical Association demanded that its members boycott a recent audiology seminar hosted by the Royal Medical Centre in Amman under the auspices of CISEPO.

Facing punative measures, many doctors heeded the warning. But others ignored it, and some of the physicians who boycotted the Amman conference showed up at the symposium in Petah Tikvah.

"Medical exchanges allow us to rise above politics," said Dr. Noyek, who, following Anwar Sadat's historic 1977 visit to Jerusalem, was the University of Alexandria's first Jewish visiting professor.

"But when you're fishing in these waters, you have to be very patient," he cautioned.

Throughout the Middle East, including Israel and Jordan, hearing loss in children is a considerable genetic problem due to intrafamilial marriage. Recognizing this, King Hussein, two and a half years ago, asked CISEPO to get involved in peace building through medicine.

Dr. Noyek, who likens himself to a matchmaker bringing people together, has also taken CISEPO programs to Nablus and Gaza in the Palestinian autonomous areas.

And if his plans pan out, he will add Egypt and Morocco to the list of countries and entities already cooperating with CISEPO. At last count, they were Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority, as well as Turkey, Australia, New Zealand, Holland, Norway, Thailand and Brazil.

Based in Mount Sinai Hospital, CISEPO was formed in 1984 as an interactive program involving only Canada and Israel. Back then, Israel was something of a pariah in international medical exchanges, and Dr. Noyek wanted to put an end to this state of affairs.

So what originally began as a bilateral initiative has gradually blossomed into an ambitious multilateral effort supported in Canada by Canadian Jewish Congress, B'nai Brith, Canada-Israel Committee, Palestine House and the National Council on Canada-Arab Relations.

"We're mixing medicine and peace," said Dr. Noyek, who has nothing but praise for Arab physicians who "stick out their necks" and participate in collaborative and mutually beneficial programs with Israeli doctors and medical institutions.

Dr. Noyek, who brings an astonishingly positive attitude to his work on behalf of CISEPO, believes that it need not limit itself to hearing impairment problems. "There are possibilities for cooperation in other health fields such as cancer and perinatology," he said, his words resonating with ardor.

One hopes that Dr. Noyek's inspirational message will be heard, loud and clear.

No tears for Czar Nicholas II

I did not shed tears when the remains of Czar Nicholas II and his family were interred with pomp and circumstance in a St. Petersburg cathedral in July.

At the burial ceremony, President Boris Yeltsin declared that "many glorious pages of Russian history were connected with the Romanovs," the dynasty to which Nicholas II belonged.

What he neglected to mention was that Nicholas II, shot by Bolshevik forces in July 1918, was the ethnocentric standard-bearer of a generally reactionary monarchy whose treatment of the Jewish population was invariably abominable.

His namesake, Czar Nicholas I (1825-1855), passed hundreds of anti-Semitic laws and encouraged a system in which "khappers" kidnapped young Jewish men for long periods of military service. Nicholas II's father, Alexander III (1881-1894), tolerated the first organized pogroms, enacted the May Laws (which forbade Jews from owning property outside urban areas), curbed the participation of Jews in local government and imposed a numerus clausus on Jewish university students.

Nicholas II (1894-1917) inherited the anti-Jewish animus of his predecessors. His education was directed by Konstantin Petrovich Pobedonostsev, the jurist whose remark about the fate of the Jews seemed symptomatic of the times: "One-third will die, one-third will leave the country and the last third will be completely assimilated with the Russian people."

Although Nicholas II did not pass new anti-Jewish laws, he resisted advice to dilute or scrap them altogether.

In 1905, Nicholas II extended his patronage to the Union of the Russian People. The Black Hundreds, as this group was known, demanded the imposition of additional anti-Semitic edicts, and played a pivotal role in the infamous 1913 blood libel trial of Menahem Mendel Beilis.

Furthermore, Nicholas II turned a blind eye to pogroms, some of which were organized and perpetrated by the police and the army as part of their campaign against revolutionaries.

The Bolshevik leader who signed the telegram ordering the deaths of Nicholas II and his wife and daughters was Yakov Sverdlov (1885-1919), a Jew. Five years after Sverdlov's death, the name of the city of Yekaterinburg, the scene of Nicholas II's demise, was changed to Sverdlovsk in his honor. With the fall of communism in 1991, the name Yekaterinburg was reinstated.

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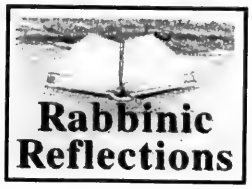


Empathy and experience

By RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

When we experience something, we feel a lot more passion for that thing. When we have had an experience with an elderly relative in need of constant nursing care, we become much more compassionate and concerned with the issue of care for seniors. When we have had first- hand experience of substance abuse, we become more attuned and empathetic concerning drug abusers. When we have suffered through bankruptcy, we suddenly become a lot more understanding of the financial pressures of others.

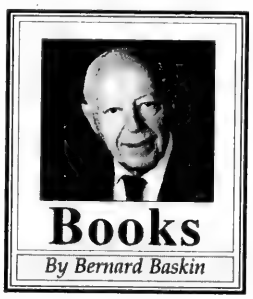
This is good and bad. It is good that we respond to our experiences and grow from them. One could even say that maybe that is what the Almighty is looking for – He wants us to grow from our experiences. When we do get the point, and when we do become more empathetic, that is a good thing.

It is a sad comment as well. The Torah says twice in this week's parshah that we must do a mitzvah because we know what it feels like, because we've been through it. Be careful to stand up for justice for the widow and orphan because you know what it feels like to be on your own in Egypt. Leave some of the crops for the widow and the orphan and remember that you were in Egypt, and experienced this same feeling – that is why I am commanding this to you today. (Deuteronomy, 24:17, 18, 21, 22)

The Torah emphasizes that because we know what it feels like to be on our own we can understand more fully the needs of others who are on their own. That has a sad tinge to it. Shouldn't we be more altruistic, more magnanimous, to be able to empathize with someone even if we have never been through it ourselves? Is our ability to understand the needs of others so weak that we need to experience the pain ourselves before we can really understand it?

The Torah seems to emphasize two points: The first is if you have been through it, if you have been through Egypt and know what it is like to be a slave, then be kinder to slaves. If you have been isolated and lonely, then be kinder to those who are isolated and lonely. If you have had an experience in life that has been difficult and challenging, then use that experience to deepen our empathy and understanding of others.

The second point is to jump the gun, and be kind and empathetic to others in all their different challenges and pains, in order to defuse the need to personally endure that experience in order to understand it. If we already get the point, then maybe we won't need the painful lessons of life.



A complex personality

***Helen Keller, A Life*, by Dorothy Herrmann (Random House, $42).**

Thirty-one years after her death, Helen Keller is still a household name. Almost everyone knows something about her long and remarkable life. Born a normal child, she was deprived of sight and hearing at 19 months of age, by illness.

When Helen was 7 years old, Anne Sullivan Macy (1866-1936) undertook to educate her through a system of spelling a touch alphabet into her hand. But the basic concept of communication, that of a relationship between words and things, was hard to teach. Understanding of this concept came suddenly. Helen and her teacher were standing by an outdoor pump while someone was pumping water; Miss Sullivan placed the child's hand under the spout while she spelled out the word water in the palm of her other hand. At last, joining the thought of the fresh flowing liquid and the word, Helen stooped down and touched the earth, showing her desire to know its name. By nightfall she had learned 30 words. When she was 10 years old she surprised her teacher by asking to be taught to speak.

Her fame grew with her accomplishment. In 1904 she received a degree from Radcliffe.

Mark Twain, one of her enthusiastic admirers, called her the most marvellous woman since Joan of Arc. "For the rest of his life, he would be one of her greatest champions, defending her against the critics and scoffers. Once, when a mutual friend pointed out her seemingly monotonous life, Twain replied testily, "You're damned wrong there; blindness is an exciting business, I tell you. If you don't believe it, get up some dark night on the wrong side of your bed when the house is on fire, and try to find the door."

By the 1950s, many people around the globe considered Helen an inspiring heroine, a person who overcome grim adversity to become a triumphant symbol of human resilience and courage. In 1964, four years before her death, she was one of 30 Americans on whom President Lyndon Johnson conferred the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award.

Surprisingly, Helen developed a mystical approach to religion, and for most of her life was a devout Swedenborgian. Also, to the chagrin of family members and high-placed friends, she advocated socialism, and defended the rights of striking workers.

She was violently opposed to the American entry into World War I, not because she was a pacifist, but because she believed the war was largely imperialistic and " a crime against the people," affecting the whole working class, which shed blood, suffered poverty, and got nothing in return.

When Helen fell in love with Peter Fagan, a young and promising journalist, she met fierce resistance from her family. Her mother banished Fagan from the house, and thwarted the elopement plans of the young couple. The affair collapsed ingloriously.

Later, writing about her romance, Helen asserted that "the brief love will remain in my life, a little island of joy surrounded by dark waters. I am glad that I have had the experience of being loved and desired. The fault was not in the loving, but in the circumstances."

Over the years, Helen wrote numerous books, lectured widely and worked tirelessly on behalf of the blind. She deplored the lack of understanding shown to the sightless, and the unwillingness to treat them as mature and able human beings.

She rebuked hearing, sighted people who neglected to observe their surroundings. "Use your eyes as if tomorrow you would be stricken blind. Hear the music of voices, the song of a bird, the mighty strains of an orchestra, as if you would be stricken deaf tomorrow. Touch each object you want to touch as if tomorrow your tactile sense would fail."

This engrossing biography helps the reader to apprehend the elusive personality of a complex, driven, gifted, high-strung, and passionate woman, who, facing a bleak and tragic future, in an act of astonishing transformation, became one of the world's worst admired personalities.

Judaism embodies mysteries, truths

BY RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

The month of Elul begins the period of our preparation for the High Holy Days, a time filled with introspection and self-evaluation.

Judaism is a religion that includes a legal structure. Some people feel that Judaism and its legalities embody a cold and restrictive religion.

Our behavior is assessed based on whether we have done a mitzvah or whether we have sinned. Yet where is the spirituality? Can a life governed by laws lead us to the concepts behind the laws? Can prayers that are fixed in their language convey meaningful messages?

According to Jewish law, one may suspend the commandments in order to save a life – all the commandments but three. The sin of murder, the sin of a sexual crime and the sin of idolatry do not supercede the saving of a life. In other words, should someone be threatened with the loss of their own life unless they kill another or rape someone or worship an idol, Judaism would say that their life should be sacrificed. Certain lines are never to be crossed, but one wonders why it is these three that stand alone.

In a religion that values life in the way that Judaism does, one would expect to find no exceptions to ensuring its preservation. Yet these three seem to contradict that premise. However, when one looks closely it becomes clear that it is these three acts that negate the very concepts of life. To murder is to take a life with no justification. To commit a sexual crime is to distort that act through which we create life. To worship idols is to deny the very source of all life. Thus the concept of life is protected through the singling out of these three sins.

Yet what if one has committed one of them? Is there room for repentance and can one be forgiven for so horrible a sin?

Within our history we have examples of these sins and their outcomes. Cain was guilty of needlessly taking a life (Abel's). David was guilty of a sexual crime (adultery). Menasheh was guilty of leading the nation Israel into idolatry during his reign. Interestingly, none of the three men received the punishments they deserved. Although each was punished, he received a lesser punishment, and the Talmud states that this is due to the fact that they truly repented.

Within our prayers, we say to God: "Renew our days as the days of old." The implication is that we long for the days when our relationship with God was more open and direct. However, the word in Hebrew for "days of old" is *kedem*. "K" represents Cain; "D" represents David and "M" represents Menasheh. Our simple plea is a subtle request of God that our lesser sins be forgiven as their greater sins were forgiven.

Throughout the year we focus on the daily requirements of our religion – the laws and the prayers. During Elul we must force ourselves to expand our views and remember that our seemingly cold and restrictive culture embodies mysteries, subtleties and truths. May we all be inscribed for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

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Several chassidic Web sites available

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Vizhnitz, Stutchin, Bluzhov, Kotzk, Bobov, Modzitz, Ger, Lubavitch, Klausenburg, Belz, Breslov – even Boston. These are just some of the many towns and cities remembered for their famed chassidic dynasties.

As we approach next week's 300th birthday of the Baal Shem Tov, the founder of Chassidism, we continue our look at Chassidut on the World Wide Web. This week, some Chassidim that operate their own Web sites.

Not surprisingly, the chassidic group with the largest presence on the Web is Chabad/Lubavitch. Chabad operates many sites in both English and Hebrew. The best place to start is at Chabad of Cyberspace **[http://www.chabad.org/]** where you can study their beliefs, read their Nine Questions About Moshiach **[http://www.chabad.org/9q.htm]** or even track down the Chabad emissary in Singapore **[http://www.chabad.org/directory.html]** – that would be Rabbi Mordechai Abergel. Also check out A Guide to Chabad Literature **[http://www.kesser.org/]**.

The people behind Chabad of Cyberspace were profiled in the book and Web site, *24 Hours in Cyberspace* **[http://www.cyber24.com/]**. In a feature titled Swords into Plowshares: Spreading Judaism at the Speed of Light, **[http://www.cyber24.com/htm2/4_45.htm]**, the site focuses on Rabbi Yosef Kazen, manager of Chabad-Lubavitch in Cyberspace and his Webmaster-son Michael. According to Rabbi Kazen, the Internet is "fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy that swords will be turned into plowshares. The network was created as a Cold War military system; now it's for worldwide education."

Second only to Lubavitch's sites on the Internet are the sites established by Breslov Chassidim **[http://www.breslov.org/]**. The many sites run by the followers of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov (1772-1810) contain classes, commentary on the weekly Torah portion and inspirational teachings by their beloved Rebbe, such as, "If you believe you can spoil, believe you can fix." I was particularly fascinated by the accounts of the massive annual Rosh Hashanah pilgrimage to Rebbe Nachman's grave in Uman, Ukraine **[http://www.breslov.com/]**. Discount travel information to Uman is available at the same site.

Although chassidic movements are usually identified with towns in eastern Europe, that is not always the case. The Bostoner Rebbe, Grand Rabbi Levi Yitzchok Horowitz **[http://www.jewishworldreview.com/0798/bostoner1.html]** leads his followers from both Boston and Israel **[http://www.ou.org/network/shuls/bostener.html]**.

One of the most surprising sites I came across is run by Satmar Chassidim **[http://www.satmar.com]**. These Chassidim are traditionally not nearly as extroverted as Lubavitchers, for example, and usually shun the use of modern technology for outreach. The authors of this Web site stress that their work is unofficial. Much of the site is devoted to news and photographs of the movement's leaders, along with coverage of what it calls "the largest Orthodox Jewish community on earth." In addition, the site contains articles critical of Zionism and the State of Israel.

The Satmar Web site is being rebuilt at the moment after having been unavailable for three months. I'm not sure whether the new site will recreate one of the most interesting home pages I've seen on the Internet. Visitors to the old Satmar Web site were greeted by a warning *in Yiddish only* that if you could understand the warning, then you shouldn't be spending your time on the Internet.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Despite the criticism, ICC is good for Jewish people

By SIMON ROSENBLUM

Much has been said in our Jewish world about the recent creation of a permanent International Criminal Court (ICC). Most of it has been negative, too negative, as a good deal of the criticism is based on worst-case scenarios and misinformation.

Guest Voices

The court, recently established by the world community at a month-long conference in Rome, will be given – subject to ratification by the governments of at least 60 countries – the "power to exercise its jurisdiction over persons for the most serious crimes of international concern." These crimes include genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and – subject to a precise definition yet to be determined – aggression.

First, it must be asked if such a court is good for the Jews. The answer in principle is an almost unanimous yes. Who is more attentive than we are to the horrors of genocide and the impunity with which the perpetrators of war crimes have acted. The international Jewish community has favored a kind of global Nuremberg for some time.

So why has the establishment of this particular court been viewed by many as a sorry day for Jews? Primarily because the ICC statute is said, due to Arab pressure, to single out Israel and label Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza as a war crime. No matter what one's personal views are regarding these settlements, it would obviously be a severe perversion of justice for an ICC to place these settlements on the same moral plane as, for example, genocide and ethnic cleansing in Rwanda and Bosnia.

But does the ICC as agreed upon in Rome really do this? Article 8 in the war crimes section of its statute clearly identifies "the transfer, directly or indirectly by the occupying power of parts of its civilian population into the territory it occupies" as a war crime. On the face of it, this could apply to the territory Israel acquired in the 1948 war as much as to the post-1967 settlements.

How, you might ask, did the Arabs get away with exerting pressure to insert this clause into the ICC mandate. Basically they didn't. This section, which is intended to deal with the crime of ethnic cleansing along with a great many others that one might question, was simply transferred into the document from the Geneva Convention.

That being said, this – and other sections which were moved over from the Geneva Convention – could indeed be the cause of frivolous claims, unnecessary investigations, and conceivably inappropriate convictions.

As Jews we have a legitimate concern here both as to how it affects Israel and over the credibility and effectiveness of the court itself. Will the court be likely to pursue inappropriate missions, or will it essentially stick to its knitting and strictly focus on the most heinous crimes? In all likelihood, the latter. But one can never discount the possibility of a rogue prosecutor. Obviously we must be on guard for such an eventuality, but at the same time, we must not throw out the baby with the bath water.

It may very well be that the ICC should have given itself a more restricted mandate. I, for one, fear that it may get too involved trying to prosecute wars of aggression, which is a highly subjective area where truth is very much in the eyes of the beholder. But the ICC statute as it stands will be, for better or worse, its governing text and there is no amendment procedure. The ratification process will easily and quickly receive the support of 60 or more nations.

That being understood, it might very well be possible and useful to get governments to append a letter to those ratifications. Such a letter — not an uncommon instrument in international diplomacy — would simply note the country's strong wish that the ICC stick to its essential mandate and only deal with "the most serious crimes of international concern." Such an initiative from "friends of the court" could play a most useful role in steering the court in its formative years.

United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan has called the birth of the ICC a "gift of hope" as "at long last we aim to prove we mean it when we say, never again." In that spirit, let us as Jews celebrate the creation of the court and help ensure that it functions in the manner that it was intended to.

Simon Rosenblum is national vice-chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress' Israel affairs committee. He writes here in a personal capacity.

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Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	7:35 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area.
The Toronto Board of Rabbis will periodically update the listings.
We hope to have information from the Vaad Harabonim about Orthodox synagogues in the very near future.

Dear Jewish Community Member:

Today our community is perched on the crest of a new century. We have a lot to be proud of and many more challenges to overcome.

Twenty years ago, about 120,000 Jews lived in Toronto. Now we are a booming community of at least 175,000. At the same time, the number of elderly, poor and vulnerable members of our community has sharply increased. For many of our young people, Jewish identity is in danger and more than one million Jews inside the unstable former Soviet Union are waiting to get out. Yet, over the past 10 years, our community, despite its success, has not kept pace with these challenges.

It's time for a bold, new approach. It's time to take a giant leap forward.

In consultation with our contributors, community leaders, agencies and schools, UJA Federation has launched a dramatic vision. The Campaign for Fifty.

With your help, we intend to raise an unprecedented $50 million annually by 2001. That's $13.5 million more than last year for innovative new projects to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews in danger around the world. Only UJA Federation is capable of undertaking such far-reaching initiatives.

Let's not underestimate ourselves. Decade after decade, as Israel suffered tragedies and celebrated triumphs, our community has overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges. Today, the challenge of meeting the new needs of a new century is of equal magnitude.

The following two pages provide a detailed outline of the Campaign for Fifty, through which our community will be helping those who can't ask for themselves.

Thank you for your commitment to UJA Federation on behalf of thousands in need. Please consider your gift today. Because no one gift changes more lives. And no other cause stands behind them all.

Brent Belzberg, Lawrence Tanenbaum
Chairs, Campaign for Fifty

No one gift changes more lives. UJA FEDERATION

Campaign for Fifty

A bold beginning.

The **Campaign for Fifty** is an ambitious, bold, new agenda to begin meeting the needs of a new century. To help the poor, frail, isolated and abused. To bring thousands of our young people back to Jewish life. To ensure a safe haven in Israel for Jews requiring rescue around the world.

Through the **Campaign for Fifty**, we intend to raise $50 million annually by 2001. That's $13.5 million more than we raised last year for innovative projects to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews in danger around the world.

Strengthening Identity

Too many members of our community have lost their attachment to Jewish life. To fortify their ties, UJA Federation will allocate **$6.5 million** in additional funds for programs such as:

- Enhanced Jewish supplementary school curriculum development and teacher training.
- Day school subsidies for more families in need.
- Opportunities for families to experience the beauty of Jewish life together.
- The Gift of Israel – a plan for families, enabling thousands of teens to personally experience Israel.
- Expansion of Toronto's outstanding participation in the March of the Living.

Assisting the vulnerable

Many in our extended family are suffering. Now, it's time to do more!

To help the vulnerable, UJA Federation will spend **$4.3 million** in additional funds on:

- Increased financial assistance for food, housing, child care, camp subsidies and cutting edge employment programs on behalf of Toronto's 21,000 Jewish poor.
- Access to special, day school education for severely challenged Jewish children.
- Greater access to counseling and crisis intervention for the growing number of women suffering family violence.
- Additional day care and home care programs for a larger population of frail, isolated elderly.
- Food baskets to nourish over 200,000 desperately poor seniors in the former Soviet Union.
- An enhanced hospice program for the terminally ill to live out their remaining days in peace and dignity.

Rescue

A Jew in danger is a Jew who must be rescued.

The **Campaign for Fifty** will allocate **$1.5 million** in new funds to further rescue efforts in the FSU by:

- Ensuring that every single Jew who wants to leave the former Soviet Union gets out.
- Helping the Jewish Agency set aside resources to swiftly free Jews from life threatening situations, anywhere in the world.
- Expanding support for the increasing number of FSU teenagers who are making aliyah without their parents.
- Providing funds to maintain 270 Hebrew language courses in the FSU and dozens of Jewish Agency camps, where 20,000 youngsters are celebrating their first taste of Judaism.

No one gift changes more lives

The **Campaign for Fifty** is an unprecedented initiative which extends the vision of our predecessors, who built this remarkable community.

Make your gift for the future today. Because no one gift changes more lives. And no other cause stands behind them all.

No one gift changes more lives. UJA FEDERATION

Greater Toronto Area

Israel expecting record tourist influx for year 2000

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Katsav dismissed as inaccurate a recent report by the Israel Hotel Association that the deadlocked Oslo peace process has led to a 20 percent drop in tourism during the past three years.

"The peace process has had no negative impact," declared Katsav, 53, who immigrated to Israel from Iran at the age of five with his family.

"Israel, for tourists, is a very attractive country. They love to come to Israel."

Katsav acknowledged that while terrorism has had an impact on tourism, the effect has not been "dramatic."

In the wake of a series of suicide bombings in Israel in February and March 1996, there was a falloff of 300,000 visitors.

He noted that tourism dropped by several percentage points as a result of last winter's standoff between the United States and Iraq over weapons' inspections.

Claiming that Israel is a safe destination, Katsav said that not a single tourist has been injured in a terrorist incident in recent years.

He said that terrorism was a more serious problem in Israel's first three decades of existence than today.

Katsav, who is also the deputy prime minister, said that Israel is determined to carry on with the stalled peace process.

"We have every intention to fulfil it. The problem is that (Yasser) Arafat doesn't respect the Oslo accord."

Listing what he called a major Palestinian infraction, Katsav said the Palestine National Council has yet to abrogate clauses in the PLO's charter calling for Israel's destruction.

Furthermore, he noted, the Palestinian police force in the autonomous areas exceeds its required size, and the Palestine Authority refuses to extradite 33 Palestinians who've murdered Jews.

Katsav predicted that Israeli forces would eventually redeploy from the West Bank, but only after the Palestinians honor their commitments. "There are no time lines," he warned, referring to future Israeli withdrawals.

As for the continuing inability of both sides to reach an agreement over a Palestinian airport and a harbor in the Gaza Strip, Katsav said that security problems are blocking implementation.

He claimed that neither the Har Choma housing project in eastern Jerusalem, nor the expansion of settlements beyond the Green Line, were obstacles in the peace process.

"We aren't taking land from the Palestinians. Ninety-eight percent of the Palestinians live under the jurisdiction of the Palestine Authority. The Palestinians have almost full autonomy."

As for the prospect of a Palestinian state in the territories, Katsav said, "We'll try to prevent it. It would be a big danger for Israel's existence. We are ready to give the Palestinians all possibilities except responsibility for foreign affairs and security."

Asked why Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had decided not to attend an official function in Norway marking the fifth anniversary of the Oslo accords, Katsav replied, "We are not boycotting this ceremony. The prime minister is very busy now.

"We're discussing redeployment. I see no problem that he won't be there. The time of ceremonies will come after we reach a real and permanent peace agreement with the Palestinians."

The Oslo process, he said, remains alive.

Katsav, the minister in charge of Israeli Arab affairs, conceded that Israel is still trying "to close the gap" between Jews and Arabs in terms of budgetary allocations, social services and employment opportunities.

"Due to security considerations and the absorption of Jewish refugees, we had no money to invest in Arab society," he explained. "Now we want to improve the situation."

Katsav said he has increased Arab muncipal budgets by $25 million and intends to create more jobs for Arabs in the civil service. As well, he hopes to improve the level of social services, open new schools, build better roads and develop industry in the Arab sector.

"It is still too early to induct Arabs in the Israel Defence Force," he said, acknowledging that the vast majority of Israeli Arab men are not conscripted. "It could be a conflict for them.

"I prefer national service for Arabs. We're working on it. In fact, I discussed this matter with Arab leaders a few weeks ago, and most support it."

Katsav said that 99 percent of Israeli Arabs are loyal to the state, while one percent "do not respect Israeli law."

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Teitelbaum takes over as new AGO director

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Matthew Teitelbaum, the incoming director of the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), has a life-long connection with that museum.

"The AGO was a staple of my childhood," said Teitelbaum, the chief curator, whose new appointment takes effect on Sept. 8.

"It was, in many ways, the institution which helped connect me to the world of art."

Teitelbaum was introduced to the AGO by his father, Mashel, an artist whose paintings are found in galleries across Canada, including the AGO.

(In 1992, five museums in Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor and Kitchener-Waterloo presented a retrospective of his works, and in one acrylic piece, entitled *Three Generations*, Mashel cradles the infant Matthew on an arm).

"I lived in a household with works of art around me all the time," he recalled in an interview shortly after the announcement that he would succeed Maxwell Anderson as director of the AGO. "The idea of art was as natural to me as breathing."

Teitelbaum, the AGO's first Jewish director, joined the museum in 1993 after having spent four years as the curator of Boston's Institute of Contemporary Arts.

Prior to that, he held similar positions at the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon, the city of his father's birth, and the London Regional Art Gallery in Ontario.

An authority on contemporary art, Teitelbaum, 42, was born and raised in Toronto, one of three children sired by Mashel and Ethel (a former judge on the Immigration Appeal Board).

Mashel, who died in 1985, was the son of Max, a Russian immigrant who lived in Kingston before settling down in Saskatoon as a dry goods merchant. Mashel's mother, Sarah Kilstein, was an American from Toledo, Ohio.

By Teitelbaum's estimate, Mashel, who was strongly influenced by German Expressionism and Abstract Expressionism, enjoyed "moments of commercial success" and the respect of his peers.

But in terms of earning a steady income, he was far from successful. To support his family, he worked as a set designer at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and ran an art school. When he died, he had $21 in his bank account.

Perhaps because of his father's travails, Teitelbaum studied history rather than art at Carleton University.

In 1980, however, he enrolled at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, England. "I wanted certain mysterious things about the art world explained," he said. "How reputations are formed, how artists create a voice of their own."

Teitelbaum graduated in 1982 with a graduate degree in modern European painting and sculpture. His thesis was on Ivon Hitchens and the British landscape tradition.

In 1981, midway through his course, he landed a summer job as an adult education officer at the AGO. Twelve years would elapse before he returned to the AGO, the eighth largest art museum in North America and the second biggest one in Canada after the National Gallery in Ottawa.

As the AGO's chief curator, a job he loved, Teitelbaum had a lot on his plate. His responsibilities ranged from conceiving and mounting exhibitions to developing annual budgets.

During this period, he tried to build a strong Canadian collection around artists like Betty Goodwin, Paterson Ewen and Greg Curnoe. Teitelbaum was of the opinion that contemporary Canadian art was worthy of study.

And in designing exhibitions,

Matthew Teitelbaum

Teitelbaum did his best to ensure that they were "more pleasurable and intellectually engaging" for the public.

As director, he has several objectives in mind.

"I want the AGO to increase its international profile; to be an increasingly effective advocate of Canadian art, at home and abroad; to ensure that it's a place where people have remarkable experiences with art; to strengthen initiatives to be multi-generational; to be more relevant to teaching communities; to attract viewers of all backgrounds."

Teitelbaum also hopes to aggressively build the collection, which comprises 24,000 works representing 1,000 years of European, Canadian, modern, contemporary and Inuit art.

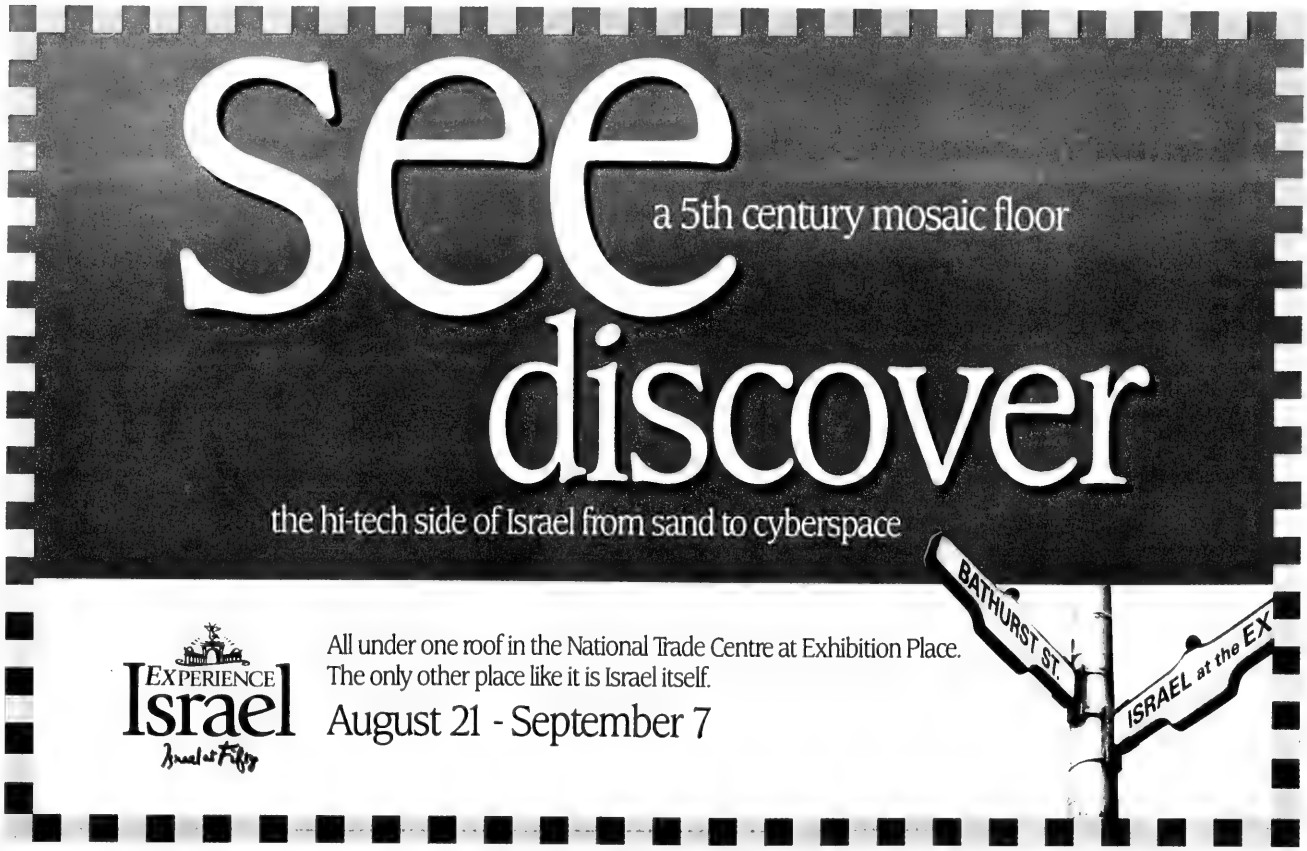
As well, he has every intention of continuing to mount so-called blockbusters, such as the current Courtauld exhibition of Impressionism.

The schedule for the next few months seems impressive. In early October, there will be an exhibit of 19th century Dutch paintings, and in mid-November, a survey of the works of Betty Goodwin gets under way.

In the spring of 1999, the AGO will present an exhibition on the theme of angels from the Vatican's museums.

Teitelbaum, who's married to educator Susan Cohen, with whom he has two boys (Max, 7, and Elijah, 5), is thrilled by his new appointment.

"It really is an honor to lead the AGO into the next century. It's more meaningful than I could have imagined. The AGO has been part of my life for so long."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Community Matters

HISTORIC CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Laughter, song and a dramatic new approach to fundraising signaled the beginning of UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty earlier this week at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Over 1,000 community members launched the historic drive to raise $50 million annually by 2001 - $13.5 million more than last year. The additional funds raised will be earmarked for new projects - $6.5 million to help strengthen Jewish identity, $4.3 million to assist the vulnerable, including 4,000 Jewish children living in poverty, and $1.5 million to rescue Jews from unstable regions such as the former Soviet Union.

UJA Federation's Campaign Leadership Team (left to right). Dr. Howard Price, Judy Engel, Glennie Lindenberg, Lawrence Tanenbaum, Brent Belzberg, Abe Glowinsky.

"This year we will push our campaign to new heights so that we can respond to the new realities of our community and meet the needs that have been set aside for too long," declared Brent Belzberg, who is co-chairing the Campaign for Fifty with Lawrence Tanenbaum.

"Today we have a new challenge - not one based on extreme crisis or perils of war, but rather the challenge facing a mature, caring community which is making choices about what kind of future we will build together," said Tanenbaum.

The audience was thrilled by reports from Tanenbaum and Belzberg that many donors have already committed to significantly increasing their UJA Federation gifts – some by more than 50%. Campaign for Fifty gifts have already increased by $3.5 million for a total of over $14 million to date.

But the Launch was not entirely focused on the business of fundraising. Participants were also treated to performances by the internationally acclaimed Yovel group from Israel and Tuvia Tsafir, popular Israeli comedian/impersonator .

"It was a real celebration of community and our commitment to the State of Israel," noted Barbara Bank who Co-Chaired the event with David Koschitzky. "Now we're ready to get to work."

Working with Campaign for Fifty Co-Chairs Belzberg and Tanenbaum are Vice-Chairs Howard Price, Glennie Lindenberg and Abe Glowinsky and Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel.

CAMPAIGNERS TOLD TO BE BOLD

Last week more than 300 UJA Federation campaigners got a lesson in thinking big as they prepare to raise the level of community giving to new heights through UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty.

"We're talking about a dramatic departure from past campaigns," UJA Federation Vice-President of Fundraising Ted Sokolsky told the crowds at several training sessions held throughout the city. "We've got to think big to reach an annual total of $50 million by 2001."

And thinking big, according to Sokolsky, means asking donors to increase their UJA Federation gifts right off the bat in order to meet the new needs of a new century. The Campaign, which was officially launched on August 31, has already raised $14 million - $3.5 million in increased gifts from leading donors.

Jonathan Miller shows campaigners the box of food rations that UJA Federation funded programs provide every 6 weeks for needy Jews in the FSU. Photos: Stephen Epstein

Despite last year's successful $36.5 million campaign, notes Brent Belzberg, who is co-chairing the Campaign for Fifty with Lawrence Tanenbaum, the community has failed to keep pace with its incredible growth and severe government cutbacks. Extensive consultations held earlier this year with key community leaders determined that an additional $13.5 million new dollars are needed to assist the vulnerable, strengthen Jewish identity and rescue Jews from unstable and dangerous regions all over the world.

UJA Federation campaigners were presented with new fundraising strategies to make the Campaign for Fifty a success.

Jonathan Miller, who is heading UJA Federation's canvasser training says "this is the year people will do what is right. They just need to be given the opportunity."

The first in a series of UJA Federation telethons will begin with Super Sunday, September 13. If you are interested in participating in one of UJA Federation's upcoming Super Sunday and Super Week telethons, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

FUND FOR MARCH OF THE LIVING

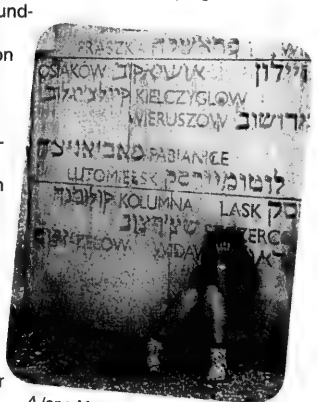
More Jewish Toronto high school students will experience a lesson in history few will forget thanks to a new March of the Living Endowment Fund set up by members of UJA Federation's Societies Cabinet.

The special $500,000 fund will be used to create more scholarships for Jewish youth to participate in the UJA Federation funded March which takes students to concentration camp sites in Poland before moving on to Israel. Last year 140 Toronto teens participated in the March.

The unique program is particularly important to Societies Cabinet members, many of whom are Holocaust survivors or escaped from Nazi persecution during World War II.

"We must make sure our children see for themselves what we went through," emphasizes Phil Skovronek, Past President of the Chenstochover Society. "They will continue to tell the world the story and lessons of the Holocaust."

Many Mutual Benefit Societies were established in Toronto following the arrival of thousands of Jews from Europe before and after WWII. Close to 6,000 UJA Federation Societies members raise over $700,000 for the annual campaign.



A lone March of the Living participant in a moment of quiet reflection by the wall of the Valley of Lost Communities at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem.

Community Matters

VISITING KIEV IS CARING IN ACTION

By Howard Lichtman

My connection to the former Soviet Union runs deep. My maternal grandparents were from

Howard Lichtman

Belarus, and when I told my father I was going on a mission to Kiev, he told me that he had been there during the War. In prison. While escaping the Germans in Poland, he crossed over into the Soviet Union and was arrested as a spy. He was jailed for a short while in a small town near Kiev and ultimately sent to Siberia, but that's another story.

Why is all this important? Because under different circumstances, I and many other North American Jews could be in the former Soviet Union today. It could be any one of us living there in need.

Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, is a city of 3 million people with a Jewish population of around 100,000. Ukraine itself has 500,000 Jews. Many people would be surprised to find out that Ukraine is the fifth largest Jewish country in the world after France.

Like Jews in other former Soviet countries, those in Ukraine suffered 70 years of oppression and forced assimilation.

The collapse of the Soviet empire thrust Ukraine into the throes of economic crisis. Jews are leaving today at the rate of 48,000 per year. This is not only because of anti-Semitism but because of their bleak, economic prospects. Unemployment is rampant, government, health and social services are collapsing, and there are thousands of elderly Jews suffering from malnutrition and lack of proper medical care.

Young people throughout the FSU are learning Hebrew at Jewish Agency run Ulpans to prepare them for aliyah.

So what are we, the Jewish people doing? What I saw on my visit to Kiev made me proud to be a member of the Jewish people, and proud to be a volunteer and contributor to UJA Federation. Through the Jewish Agency, we are assisting individuals in making aliyah to Israel. We visited ulpanot, where Jews are learning Hebrew and connecting with their Judaism for the first time. Everyone, from teenagers to people who are over 70 years old was studying Hebrew. They wanted to learn the language so they could speak to their children who had moved to Israel or to ultimately make aliyah themselves.

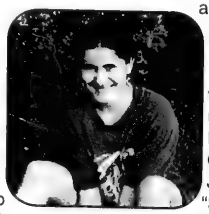
We also visited a very different type of classroom, where individuals who are making aliyah within the month learn what their experience will be when they land in Israel. We visited groups of parents whose kids have made aliyah without them. Through UJA Federation, family was facilitating their continued connection with their children.

If everyone could witness with their own eyes where our money goes in the former Soviet Union, we would gain a different level of appreciation for both how lucky we are to live as Jews in Canada, and the importance of our contributions to UJA Federation. We say that no one gift changes more lives. To see even one life changed should be enough.

Howard Lichtman is the Chair of UJA Federation's Marketing Advisory Committee

Volunteer Views

Andrea Kormendi likes to finish what she starts. But when it came to volunteering at the Bathurst Jewish Centre's Stroke Recovery Program, a UJA Federation funded initiative, Kormendi passed the finish line and went far beyond.



"I only had to volunteer for 20 hours in order to get my OAC credit," explains the 19-year-old Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto graduate. "But I found the work and the human contact so rewarding that I ended up more than doubling my hours."

Kormendi says she felt very appreciated when she would help stroke victims with everything from rehabilitation exercises to serving coffee and other refreshments twice a week at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. The Stroke Recovery Program, relies on volunteers like Kormendi all year round to assist full-time staff.

"Andrea is a very valued volunteer," notes BJC Director of Group Services Janice Roth. "She stayed on after she had completed her requirements to help fill in while many of our regular volunteers were on winter vacation."

If you would like to become a volunteer with the BJC Stroke Recovery Program call (416) 636-1880 ext. 229. For information about other volunteer opportunities in the community call Shelly Rotman at UJA Federation (416) 635-2883 ext. 137.

CNE Pavilion Houses The Best of Israel

There are only a few days left to discover some of Israel's most unique treasures - all under one roof – at the Israel at Fifty Pavilion at the CNE.

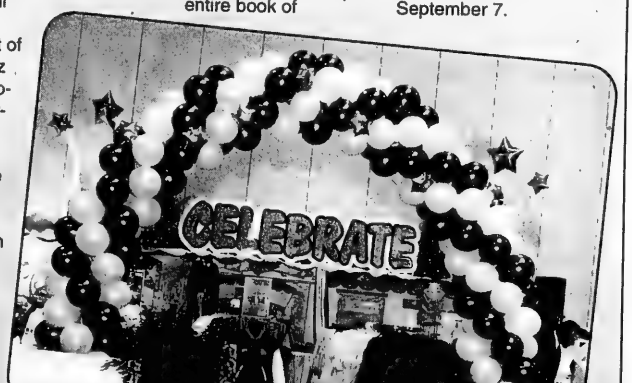
The Israel at Fifty marketplace features more than 60 vendors selling everything from one-of-a-kind crafts to the latest designs in Israeli footwear.

"It's the best of Israel," says Roz Witkin, who is co-chairing the marketplace with Francie Storm.

"Many of the items on display cannot be found anywhere else in Canada," adds Witkin. These include hand-made silver jewelry, tablecloths, hand-painted glassware and a wide selection of popular Israeli Dead Sea cosmetic products.

Leon Azoulay has been drawing large crowds with his rare microcaligraphic art. It can take up to a year for the artist, whose pieces have received world-wide acclaim, to complete his works using tiny Hebrew letters to illustrate designs. Azoulay even fits the entire book of Genesis on one 50cm x 70cm canvass.

The marketplace and other Pavilion attractions, including a 5th Century mosaic synagogue floor, a Negev Desert landscape and the Children's Discovery Museum, will be open at the National Trade Centre, Exhibit Hall B until September 7.



Shoppers can browse through a wide array of Israeli products and art at the Israel at Fifty Pavilion.

Community Matters, *a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Greater Toronto Area

Oberlander case switches venue to Kitchener

TORONTO — Canadian immigration policy in force at the time alleged war criminal Helmut Oberlander entered the country did not make simple membership in the Nazi SS a ground for exclusion, according to arguments advanced in Federal Court by defence lawyer Eric Hafemann.

Only "major offenders," "offenders" or "security risks" are mentioned in documents describing excluded individuals, Hafemann suggested during cross examination of William Kelly, who served as the RCMP officer in charge of European visa control from 1951-54.

A May 30, 1952 memo from Deputy Minister of Immigration Laval Fortier states that members of the SS, SD (the security arm of the SS), Abwehr (German intelligence) and Gestapo should be refused entry if they were "classified as a 'major offender or offender' under what was called an Allied Control Council Directive, adopted in 1946," the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record* reported.

Hafemann later told the newspaper that definition would not include Oberlander, who came to Canada in 1954.

The federal Justice and Immigration Departments are attempting to strip Oberlander, 74, of his Canadian citizenship as a prelude to deportation.

Government documents allege Oberlander, a resident of Kitchener, lied to immigration officials about his wartime activities. They claim he was a member of the Einsatzgruppen, Nazi SS killing units that murdered tens of thousands of Jews, Gypsies, communists and others designated enemies of Germany.

They also allege Oberlander, an ethnic German living in Ukraine, joined Einsatzkommando 10A as a 17-year-old interpreter. Justice department lawyer Peter Vita told Federal Court that Oberlander wore an SS uniform, carried a pistol and was involved in the interrogation of prisoners. Oberlander denies questioning prisoners for the Einsatzgruppen and claims he was "forced" to work as an interpreter for the German Security Service, a component of the SS.

Hafemann told the court that Oberlander and his wife Margaret will testify during the hearing.

The case switched venues to Kitchener earlier this week.

Apology for cemetery desecration

TORONTO — A 20-year-old with links to neo-Nazi organizations apologized here last week for toppling headstones in a Jewish cemetery in St. Catharines in April.

Warren Michael Soles stood in the prisoner's box and asked for forgiveness for desecrating the B'nai Israel cemetery April 25.

"I hope you find it in your hearts to forgive me and accept my apologies," he said.

But Sam Walters, president of B'nai Israel Congregation, said Soles should have expressed remorse the day after the attack.

Soles was to have been sentenced last week, but the judge postponed sentencing to Sept. 16.

Soles pleaded guilty in July to one charge of concealing a weapon, one charge of mischief causing damage over $5,000, and 43 counts of damaging gravestones – one for every tombstone knocked over in the attack.

Damage in the attack was estimated at between $5,000 and $8,000.

Police say Soles is affiliated with several neo-Nazi groups, and that he sports Nazi-style tattoos.

Israel at 50 pavilion events

The following is a list of the Jerusalem stage entertainment and event schedule for this week at the Israel At 50 pavilion at the Toronto CNE. All times and performances are subject to change without notice.

Thursday Sept. 3

11:00	Brian Katz
12:00	Shlomi Assaf
1:00	Naomi Bell
2:00	Brian Katz
3:00	Cantor Ron Graner
4:00	Amy Pataki – Moroccan Food Demo
5:00	Shlomi Assaf
6:00	Narayever Singers
7:00	Gloria Valentine/Nina Shaplisky

Friday, Sept. 4

11:30	Smadar & Miriam Meiri – Iraqi Food Demo
12:30	Yovel
1:30	Jerusalem Dancers
2:30	Jerusalem Dancers
4:00	Ettie Shuken – Food Demo
5:00	Yovel
6:00	Nina Shapilsky & Misha

Saturday, Sept. 5

12:30	Mezzetta Cafe & Restaurant Food Demo
3:00	Mezzetta Cafe & Restaurant Food Demo
4:00	Levon Ichkanian
5:00	Levon Ichkanian

Sunday, Sept. 6

All Day	Ashkenaz Day

Monday, Sept. 7

11:00	Judith Cohen
12:00	Judith Cohen
1:00	Alice Brownlee Kids Tree Show
2:00	Sephardi Fashion Show
3:00	Yovel
4:00	Shlomi Assaf
5:30	Yovel

United Synagogue Day School

The Board of Directors, administration, faculty, parents and students deeply mourn the untimely passing of

Myra Reichlin Webb ז"ל

beloved teacher, colleague, and friend

May her family be comforted among the mourners of Jerusalem and Zion

The family of the late

Helena Strasser ז"ל

wishes to acknowledge with grateful appreciation the many kind expressions of sympathy received following the recent passing of our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

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Yom Kippur - September 30th, 9 a.m.
For ticket information, call Carol at 416-789-3213

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SIGHTS

SCENES...

...from the Israel at 50 pavilion at the Canadian National Exibition (CNE), which closes Sept 7.

[Ron Csillag photos]

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On Campus

New Jewish group launched for young adults in Victoria

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

VICTORIA, B.C. — A new group for young Jewish adults is getting off the ground in Victoria.

Jean Dragushan said she didn't think twice when asked earlier this year to co-chair the new youth leadership outreach committee for the Victoria and Vancouver Island Jewish Federation.

The mother of two children in their early 20s, Dragushan is working with co-chair Rowena Peters, who also has two university-age children, and a committee of half a dozen people.

Graduate student Joel Freedman, 27, who was recently hired as adviser/coordinator for the group, is excited by the commitment the community is showing to its young people.

"I think it's a really important step the community has taken in making a formal link with university-age people in the community," he said in a phone interview from Victoria.

A native of Vancouver who has lived in Victoria on and off since 1992, Freedman was active in a now-defunct student group called Or Lapidim.

Although Or Lapidim enjoyed "some successful years," according to Dragushan, speaking by phone from her home in Victoria, "the lack of a paid person to act as a coordinator was a significant problem, because the student population is transient and people are involved with their studies."

The local federation was not yet established when Or Lapidim was formed. The Victoria and Vancouver Island Jewish Federation was organized about five years ago as an unofficial federation. It is not a member of UIA Federations Canada.

The new group will serve Jewish students at the University of Victoria, Camosun College and Royal Roads University, as well as their peers who are working or "in transition."

In a small community like Victoria, young people are seen as a particularly important resource, said Dragushan. She figures there are several thousand Jews in Victoria, although many do not affiliate with the Jewish community.

Freedman estimates there are up to 500 Jewish post-secondary students in Victoria. When Or Lapidim was last active, there were about 110 members. Over the past ten years the University of Victoria has nearly doubled its enrolment, and Freedman suspects there is a concomitant increase in the Jewish student population.

Dragushan hopes participants in the new group will continue to develop their Jewish identity. Maintaining a Jewish identity is harder in a small community, she noted, because there are fewer outlets – like a Jewish community centre, for example – where people can "give voice to" their Jewish identity.

"We have a wider goal," she added, "which is to help [young people] prepare to assume a role in the Jewish community at large, whether in Victoria or another community."

Victoria Jews can feel isolated from the rest of the Canadian Jewish community, noted Freedman. The flip side, he added, is that the community, being small, is "very tightly-knit and supportive."

"Our intention," said Freedman, "is that the group will offer a range of cultural, religious and educational activities. Incoming members will...direct it for themselves, with facilitation that I and others in the community can offer."

One upcoming program is a "Jewish orientation to Victoria," to take place the Sunday before Rosh Hashanah.

Anyone wishing further information can contact Freedman by e-mail at [freedman@uvic.ca] or contact the group by phone at 250-370-9488.

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL, SPECIAL AND GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF BATHURST JEWISH CENTRE

NOTICE is hereby given that the annual, special and general meeting of the members of the Bathurst Jewish Centre will be held at 4588 Bathurst Street, Jerusalem Room, North York, on the 8th day of October 1998, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock in the evening, to:

(a) accept as Members of the Corporation those Members listed in good standing tabled and delivered by the Secretary of the Corporation;

(b) election of Directors;

(c) approve the Financial Statements for the Corporation for the year ended June 30, 1998;

(d) appoint auditors and authorize the directors to fix their remuneration; and

(e) transact such further and other business as may properly be brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Copies of the Financial Statements and Auditors Report together with copies the slate of nominated directors, may be obtained from the Business Office of the Corporation between the hours of 9:00 am and 6:00 pm until the day of the annual meeting.

Dated the 1st day of September 1998

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dorothy Shoichet,
Secretary

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Prof. of Anthropology & History,
Brown University, Providence, RI;
author of *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara*
(the Italian-Jewish child who was forcibly converted by the Catholic Church)

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Endowment fund launched

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — A celebration by friends, relatives and former classmates, in honor of Nobel Laureate Myron Scholes, will officially launch the Hamilton Legacy Endowment Fund.

"The committee felt it would be great to officially launch the fund at an event where we have something wonderful to celebrate. We are so proud of Myron,whom we consider one of our own, and who has had such a profound impact on the world of finance.

"We hope the Legacy Endowment Fund will likewise have a profound positive impact on our community for many years to come," said Stanley Tick, legacy endowment fund chair.

Chair of the organizing committee is Molly Ann Schwarcz.

Scholes, who shared the 1997 Nobel Prize for economics with Robert Merton of Harvard University, was born in Timmins but grew up in Hamilton. He attended Beth Jacob Synagogue religious school and Westdale Collegiate. He graduated from MacMaster University with a BA in economics in 1962 and obtained his PhD at the University of Chicago. In 1969, he joined the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He was awarded the Nobel Prize for his part in developing the Black-Scholes option pricing model, a formula which prices stock options and derivatives, and revolutionized modern finance in the 1970s.

The fund was set up by Federation to provide funding for the many programs and projects now funded by the United Jewish Appeal (UJA), said federation executive director Patricia Tolkin Eppei.

Hamilton, she said, is part of the first tri-city endowment plan, the first ever such plan in Canada. The plan has four partners: the communities of Hamilton, London and Windsor and United Israel Appeal (UIA) Canada. Fund director is Frank Simkevitz.

The celebration takes place Sept. 16, 8 p.m., at the home of Irving Zucker.

Parents start new school

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A group of south Winnipeg parents, dissatisfied with the religious education offered by the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education, (BJE) is starting its own school this fall.

"We have eight 4 and 5-year-olds registered so far, with two or three more possibilities, and we have hired two teachers," says Dr. Debbie Gross, one of the parents involved.

The school is being housed in the newly renovated basement of the Herzlia Synagogue (where most of the families are members), but it will be operating under the aegis of Chabad's north Winnipeg Oholei Torah.

Rabbi Avrohom Altein and his wife Bracha, will be overseeing the morning davening and brachot and the weekly parsha lesson. Gross emphasizes, however, that this will not be a Chabad school.

"We will have a little more Hebrew and Zionism in our school than what Chabad usually teaches," she points out. "There will also be a lot of parental involvement in the classroom, especially in the first two months."

The plan is for the school to grow year by year, possibly up to a Grade 6 level.

The parents have not yet closed the door on the idea of returning to the BJE system if the BJE increases its religious content in the lower grades.

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From coast to coast

War crimes unit proceeding at record pace: Sher

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The War Crimes Unit in Ottawa has "turned the corner" and is trying harder than it ever has – and at a record pace – to revoke the citizenship of and deport Nazis who lied to get into Canada, a leading American Nazi hunter said here last week.

And it's doing this despite the unprecedented efforts of some Canadians of east European descent to protest the unit's latest impetus, which has resulted in some 15 deportation cases to date.

"If I didn't believe this was so, I wouldn't be here," Neal Sher, the former director of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), told a crowd of 400 at the Beth Israel Beth Aaron Synagogue.

Sher also revealed that the U.S. government could be getting set to renew the case against John Demjanjuk, the retired Cleveland auto worker accused and then acquitted by Israel of being Ivan the Terrible, the infamous Nazi guard at the Treblinka death camp.

"We have every reason to believe that the U.S.government will renew and continue the case," he said.

Last January, Sher was hired by the unit to lend his expertise, the result he said, of an appearance he made on the public television show, *The Editors*, that was embarrassing to the Canadian government.

Sher said his work with the unit has been to try to make it more proactive.

Now, he said, the office has become much more aggressive, with a changed staff and a more dedicated attitude.

It is processing cases at an even quicker pace than the OSI at the moment, he said.

"I wouldn't be on board," he said, "if the Canadian government was not serious."

"Whenever I set foot in the offices in Ottawa, I feel like I'm back home again at the OSI."

Sher would not elaborate on the measures he was taking to make the Unit more proactive, other than to say that the "possibilities are exciting and could bear terrific fruit."

The improvement of the unit has been such that the relationship between it and one of its harshest former critics, Canadian Jewish

Neal Sher

Congress [CJC], has "grown closer," Sher said.

He also praised CJC and the synagogue's Rabbi Reuben Poupko, for their efforts in rallying the Canadian Jewish community to lobby Ottawa for more efforts.

Sher, however, blasted organized efforts on the part of some east European groups to "close down" the unit.

As long as the unit was viewed as a "paper tiger," Sher said, "there was no need for them to go on the offensive." But once he came on board, Sher said, they began an intensive e-mail and letter-writing campaign that has not abated.

They claim that the government is targeting specific communities, he said. But "that's nonsense. They go after individuals," and they're doing a "disservice" to their own communities.

Asked later about the Demjanjuk case, in which a U.S. district court said OSI lawyers were guilty of misconduct by acting with a "reckless disregard for the truth," Sher bristled.

First, he said, although the Israeli Supreme Court acquitted Demjanjuk, it also concluded that he was involved in persecuting Jews in some other capacity.

Sher said a U.S. district court judge, whose name he did not disclose, attacked the OSI because its former director, Allan Ryan, travelled to Israel at Jewish community expense.

But Ryan had left the OSI three years earlier, Sher said.

The evening was also marked by the first address delivered in Montreal by new Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Moshe Ronen of Toronto.

In his prepared remarks, Ronen, while hopeful about Ottawa's apparent change of attitude, called Canada's previous history vis-à-vis war criminals, "a stain on our nation."

A child of survivors, Ronen pledged to continue to fight anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial, and to "push Canadian authorities to effective action."

To applause, Ronen said Jews "will never again be helpless and dependent. We will never again be dispensable. Jewish blood will never be spilled without a price.

"We can say this today, because Jewish life continues, with the State of Israel reborn."

The evening was attended by Israeli consul general Daniel Gal and also included remarks by Rabbi Poupko, CJC national director Jack Silverstone, Quebec region chair Dorothy Zalcman Howard, and Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre director Bill Surkis.

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Winnipeg Jewish Theatre schedule

The Winnipeg Jewish Theatre is entering its second decade with a series of five diverse plays that will appeal to many people.

Make Yourself At Home. This play written by Yitzhak Meshel and directed by Howard Rypp kicks off the season. The romantic comedy stars two Israeli actors and examines the unbreakable bond between Israel and the Diaspora.

(Sept. 9-12, Berney Theatre, Asper Jewish Community Centre.)

The Immigrant. Written by Mark Harelik and directed by Robb Paterson, this nostalgic biographical tale entertains with humor and charm. It is based on the life of Harelik's grandfather, one of a pair of European Jews who immigrate to a small North American town.

(Oct. 15-25, WJT Mainstage Season at the Warehouse Theatre.)

Diary of a Skokie Girl. Possessing a sweet, universal appeal, this play is sure to lift your winter blues. Comedian Caryn Bark wrote and stars in this one-woman show that chronicles the life of a young girl growing up in a Jewish neighborhood.

(Dec.2-6, Berney Theatre.)

Ghetto Tango. Written by Zalmen Mlotek and Adrienne Cooper, this is a powerful, sophisticated experience that received critical acclaim in Toronto, New York City and Amsterdam. The production celebrates the music composed in the '30s and '40s by European Jewish composers and sung in pre-war theatres, ghetto cabarets and partisan encampments.

(April 10, 11, Berney Theatre.)

Social Security. A middle-aged childless couple finds its existence shattered when the woman's sister drops their 80-year-old mother off "for a while." Writer Andrew Bergman uses his comic genius to put a hilarious spin on the dilemma. Bergman has written such screenplays as *Blazing Saddles* and *Fletch*. Directed by Kayla Gordon.

(May 6-16, WJT Mainstage).

Single-play tickets at the WJT Mainstage cost between $18-25 and $30-$44 for a two-play subscription.

Berney Theatre tickets for subscribers are $15, $28, and $36 for one, two or all three plays respectively. For non-subscribers tickets are $18 for each play.

Call 204-477-7478 or 204-477-7515 for ticket info to all events.

CORRECTION

There was an error in the caption under the photograph titled "School Girls Knit For Baycrest Residents" (*CJN*, Aug. 20).

The name of the teacher who organized the knitting project was Adrienne Kaplan.

The CJN regrets the error.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

השפעת לוינסקי על השלום:

אנשי נתניהו, כך מדווחים העתונים, נשמו לרווחה: פרשת לוינסקי מחלישה את הנשיא, ועל כן הוא לא ילחץ על ישראל להניע להסדר עם הפלשתינאים. פשוט לא יאומנו שלום עם הפלשתינאים לא צריך להיות האינטרסט של קלינטון אלא של הישראלים. כל יום נוסף ללא הסדר הוא יום נוסף של טרור, של פחד, של חיילים בני שמונה עשרה שלא יחזרו הביתה בשלום. בחדשים האחרונים מתגבר התסכול הפלשתינאי ואין כמעט שבוע בלי מעשה רצח של מתנחל בישוב כלשהוא ביהודה ושומרון. שוב משחקת ההיסטוריה לידיהם של הקיצוניים בשני הצדדים, שיכולים להגיד "אמרנו לכם,הם חיות ולא בני אדם". צריך לקוות שלמרות ההטרדות שירדו ועוד ירדו על ראשו של ביל קלינטון, תהיה לו התעוזה המדינית להמשיך וללחוץ למען שלום במזרח התיכון. אין ספק שההנהגה העכשווית, שההליפה את רבין ופרס, איננה מסוגלת להמשיך במסלול שנקבע באוסלו. לא בהכרה שנתניהו איננו מעוניין להתקדם, אך הוא מוקף ותלוי פוליטית באנשי ימין שבפירוש מתנגדים לתהליך השלום. אבל שישאר ביננו.

למה עשיתי את המוניאל בישראל:

כל ארבע שנים העולם עובר לדום. וכל מה שקורה על כדור הארץ יוצא לחופשה שנמשכת כמעט חודש. וההווה לשלושים הימים בהם אזרחי תבל חוץ מתושבי ארה"ב והפרובינציה הצפונית, מרותקים למסך הטלביזיה במעקב צמוד אחרי ארבעים וארבע רגלים מוצקות שרודפות על כרי דשא מטופחים אחרי כדור עגול. למי שעדיין לא ניחש - הכוונה למונדיאל. מאחר שאני מעריץ נלהב של האירוע המפואר, החלטתי השנה לעבור את החויה בארץ נאורה בה כדורגל זוכה להערכה ראויה. וכך מצאתי עצמי מרותק למסך הקטן של רשות השידור ויחד עם חברים מהילדות לא החמצתי אפילו משחק אחד. אפילו עשן הסיגריות (בישראל כולם מעשנים) וקיטורי הנשים לא הצליחו לפגוע בחוויה. ואני חייב לציין שהצפיה מלווה בפיצוחים, בורקס, גלידות וויכוחים ללא סוף. היה שווה כל אגורה ממחיר כרטיס הטיסה. וכאן כדאי להוסיף שבימי המשחקים מדינת ישראל כמעט שבקה חיים. על בתי הקולנוע ירדה שממה, ונורד דומה נפל בחלקם של בתי קפה, מסעדות פאבים ואתרי בילוי אחרים. אפילו כבישי ישראל שנראים בדרך כלל כמו חניונים, לבשו בגדי חג. גם בדרום לבנון שחילופי אש כבדים כבר מזמן הפכו להיות שם שיגרה, המרגמות, התותחים ומטעני הצד לקחו פסק זמן ועל השטח ירדה דממה בשעות השידורים מצרפת, שהרי גם לחיזבאללה יש סולם עדיפויות בו כדורגל קודם לאידיאל. וכאשר אירן ניצחה את הדוד סם כדורים נותבים האירו את שמי הגליל ואת שאגות השמחה אפשר היה לשמוע עד אילת. ושמעתי גם סיפור מעד ראיה שבחתונה אחת אומללה שנערכה לרוע המזל בערב שבו הולנד נפגשה עם ברזיל, מיד לאחר טקס החופה החתן, אבין ואבי הכלה הצטרפו לשאר האורחים ממין זכר ועצו במישחק על מסך בחדר סמוך. ורק בגס לא הסתימה החגיגה בגירושין. ולסיום אני מקוה שעד המונדיאל הבא יגלו הקנדים שחוץ מהוקי ובייסבול יש גם כדורגל, והמשחק יזכה כאן להערכה ראויה כך שלא נצטרך לטוס לישראל כדי להנות מהחוויה.

יהורם פירוצקי

THE GOVERNESS

זהו סרט בריטי על בחורה יהודית צעירה בלונדון של המאה ה - 19 שנאלצת להתחפש לנוצריה ולעבוד כמורה בצפון סקוטלנד. זהו סרט על מסורת יהודית, אנטישמיות, תשוקות הגוף ותשוקות הנפש. קייטי דרייבר הבריטית עושה עבודה מצויינית . והנקודה הישראלית: את פס הקול, שמורכב משירים יהודיים במסורת ספרדית מבצעת בצורה משכנעת עופרה חזה. שמונה בסולם קורן.

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HIGH RISK PREGNANCY A SUCCESS

Stella Gabriella, 22, who underwent a liver transplant at age 17, recently gave birth at the Women's Comprehensive Health Center of Rabin Medical Centre. She is the third recipient of a liver transplant to do so at the centre. Gabriella gave birth at the end of the 35th week of pregnancy. She is seen here with her newborn baby girl, Sivan, and Dr. Zvia Ben-Ari.

Research study to examine colon cancer among Jews

OTTAWA — A major medical research study on colon cancer is about to move into high gear in Ottawa.

The study will examine the incidence and some of the risk factors for colon (colorectal) cancer in Ottawa's Jewish community to determine if some individuals or families are more genetically predisposed than others to the disease.

Study leader Dr. Hartley Stern, research director of the Loeb Research Institute's Hereditary Colon Cancer Program and chief of surgery at the Ottawa Hospital, hopes identifying high-risk candidates will make possible the prevention of some occurrences of the disease.

The Jewish component of the study is significant: while the lifetime risk of colon cancer in North America's general population is approximately six percent, in some Ashkenazi Jewish communities the incidence may be two to three times higher.

Stern chose Ottawa's Jewish community because of its relatively stable and predominately Ashkenazi population. Ninety-five percent of Ottawa's 13,000 Jews are of Ashkenazi descent.

Stern hopes to identify those most likely to develop the disease by isolating its risk factors, particularly the 1307 APC mutation which occurs more frequently in the Ashkenazi Jewish population than in other groups.

Most importantly, the study offers an opportunity to measure the effectiveness of colonoscopy as a screening test for colon cancer, researchers say.

Cancer genetics is a relatively new field of research, and this study will be the first in North America to proactively target a Jewish community.

The project is being funded privately by members of the community.

The study's first stage will start with the circulation of an information brochure in Ottawa shuls during the High Holy Days.

Further information and a brief screening questionnaire will be mailed to adult members of the Jewish community shortly afterwards. After this initial screening, those who meet participation criteria will be asked to attend a group information session where a family history questionnaire will be provided and testing for the 1307 APC mutation will commence.

Genetic counselling will be offered to all participants to ensure the ramifications of taking part in the study are clearly understood. Participation is completely voluntary, but the more participants, the more valid and authoritative the results, researchers note.

A second five-to-six-year followup phase is expected.

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Garden tour planned to raise funds for hospital

TORONTO – The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation has launched its first Gardens of Inspiration-Town and Country Tour in celebration of the Max Tanenbaum Garden which recently opened on the hospital's rooftop.

The Max Tanenbaum Garden is a gift to Princess Margaret Hospital by the Tauba and Solomon Spiro Family Foundation for the use of patients, their families, staff and volunteers.

Tauba Spiro's father was the late Max Tanenbaum, a Jewish philanthropist.

The 8,000 foot garden, named in his memory, is located on the 16th floor of the Princess Margaret Hospital. It is the first and only hospital rooftop garden in Toronto.

The gardens were created by landscape architect Neil Turnbull, who will lead the tour in support of cancer care at Princess Margaret Hospital.

Its structure is based on a hexagon, which symbolizes the strength of rock crystals and the health and activity of the beehive. The hexagonal floor pattern, planters and seating areas are made of ipe, a fire-resistant, plantation-grown Brazilian dense hardwood.

The garden's chapel and lanterns were designed and fabricated by sculptors Lynda and Ron Baird.

The fundraising event will take place Sept. 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Participants will receive breakfast and a picnic lunch while touring two distinctly different gardens.

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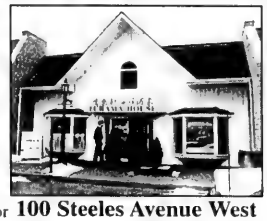

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Vatican silent on Auschwitz cross controversy

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — Ignoring pleas from Israel's chief rabbis, the Vatican has decided to stay on the sidelines in the escalating crisis over the more than 150 crosses placed by Polish Roman Catholic militants at Auschwitz.

A Vatican spokesperson said it was unlikely that Polish-born Pope John Paul II would make a pronouncement on the issue or that the Vatican would soon express a public position.

"The matter is not under the jurisdiction of the Vatican," the spokesperson said in an interview. "We refer everyone to the Polish bishops."

But neither the Polish bishops nor the Polish government has so far been able to defuse a crisis that has chilled Polish-Jewish relations, embarrassed Poland internationally and increasingly assumed powerful nationalist and anti-Semitic overtones.

Last week, Roman Catholic militants defied the Polish Bishops Council, the highest body of the Polish Roman Catholic Church, and erected two more wooden crosses outside the Auschwitz walls.

Kazimierz Switon, the leader of the militants, complained in an interview with CNN that "Jews cannot tell Poles what to do" on their own soil.

The CNN report, seen all over the world, also showed skinheads erecting crosses at the site.

The Polish Bishops Council had called for the removal of the 150 crosses that have been set up there in the past month and urged that no more be erected.

They said, however, that a 26-foot-high cross that has stood there since 1988, and which was used by the pope during a mass at Birkenau in 1979, should stay in place.

The bishops warned in a statement that the crisis is hurting both the Polish Church and Poland itself.

"Escalating the conflict brings harm to the church and turns against our homeland," the statement said. It added that the campaign of erecting crosses at Auschwitz "painfully harms the different sensitivity of our brothers, the Jews."

Poland's chief rabbi, Rabbi Pinchas Menachem Joskowicz, rejected the bishops' stand, reiterating that all crosses, including the papal cross, must go. The presence of any cross prevents Jews from praying at Auschwitz, he said.

"We Jews suffered there the most, so I think it would be bad if in this sacred place we could not pray for our nation, our relatives, our friends and for all who suffered there," said Rabbi Joskowicz, a Holocaust survivor.

At least 1.5 million people, some 90 percent of them Jews, were killed by the Nazis at Auschwitz.

Throughout the world, Auschwitz is regarded as the symbol of the Holocaust and the biggest Jewish graveyard. Jews say no religious symbols should be placed there.

But tens of thousands of Polish Catholics were also killed at Auschwitz, and Poles regard the camp as the symbol of Polish suffering under the Nazis.

The militants began placing the crosses last month, ostensibly to protest the possible removal of the so-called papal cross to another location. They also say the crosses commemorate 152 Catholic Poles killed there by the Nazis.

Polish officials and church leaders have come under pressure from Israel and from Jewish organizations in the United States to resolve the crisis. The American pressure is coming from a coalition of groups led by Miles Lerman, chair of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

The coalition has been attempting to work out a deal with the Polish government on how to protect and preserve Auschwitz-Birkenau, but has made removal of the crosses a prerequisite to further discussions.

Death threats prompt increased security for PM

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Security around Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has increased in the wake of death threats from right-wing extremists opposed to his ceding any more of the West Bank to the Palestinians.

Taking the threats seriously, the premier has begun wearing a bullet-proof vest and is limiting his public appearances, according to Israeli media reports.

The Shin Bet has also beefed up protection for other top Israeli officials, including President Ezer Weizman and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Netanyahu's spokesperson, David Bar-Illan, cited the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin as a reason for taking the threats seriously.

Jewish extremists in the West Bank town of Hebron are among those being questioned by the Shin Bet for allegedly being behind some of the threats.

Tensions involving Hebron's Jewish settlers have increased after a rabbi was slain in his mobile home by a suspected Palestinian intruder.

Last Sunday, Israel lifted a 24-hour curfew on Palestinians living in the Israeli-controlled part of Hebron. The curfew, which affected some 30,000 Palestinians, was imposed after the slaying of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anan. Israel lifted a closure on travel to and from Hebron last week.

There is also growing concern among security officials that right-wing extremists may try to sabotage Islamic sites on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem to create a crisis with the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, Transportation Minister Shaul Yahalom of the National Religious Party demanded at last week's cabinet session that the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations be suspended entirely until the Palestinian Authority cracks down on terrorists.

Netanyahu responded with some unusually positive words about the self-rule government: Contrary to the situation in the past, he said, there is now no evidence of co-operation between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas militants.

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CORRECTION

In the article, "JNF shaliach heads home" (Aug. 13), the name of the honoree at the Negev Dinner in Kelona, B.C., was spelled incorrectly. It should have been Mel Kotler. *The CJN* regrets the error.

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Bomb injures at least 21

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Israeli police lead an injured woman from the scene of a recent terrorist bombing near Tel Aviv's main synagogue. [Reuters photo]

JERUSALEM — Israeli officials stepped up security in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem after a bomb filled with nails exploded on a busy Tel Aviv street during a morning rush hour last week.

At least 21 people were injured in the attack, including two young children.

The bombing occurred amid reports earlier in the week that progress had been achieved in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

In the wake of the attack, police reinforcements were dispatched to beaches, shopping and entertainment centres, and pedestrian malls in the country's two largest cities. Security checks at Ben-Gurion Airport were intensified.

Israeli leaders of all political stripes were soon demanding that the Palestinian Authority (PA) condemn the attack.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat did so – but only in a private conversation with Knesset member Saleh Tareef of the Labor party.

He said he condemns those who attack Israeli citizens. In the past, Palestinian officials, including Arafat, have made a distinction between Israelis and settlers.

The Palestinian leader also said the explosion may have been the work of common criminals, not terrorists.

Arafat told Tareef that he did not share the optimistic reports published earlier in the week that Israel and the Palestinians were nearing agreement for a further Israeli redeployment in the West Bank. He said there is still a long way to go "because of [Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu's positions."

Meanwhile Netanyahu warned that unless the PA acts against terrorism "in both deeds and words," there will be no agreement.

He made the comment to reporters while visiting the hospital bedside of one of the attack's victims, Michal Matityah.

The prime minister pointed out that although Arafat has denounced attacks on Israeli citizens, the Palestinian leader has not yet condemned the murders earlier this month of two Israelis in the West Bank because the victims were settlers.

The bomb that exploded last week had been placed in a garbage can at one of Tel Aviv's busiest intersections, the corner of Allenby Street and Rothschild Boulevard.

It was the first attack in Tel Aviv since March 21, 1997, when a Hamas suicide bomber detonated an explosion at the Cafe Apropo, killing three Israelis and wounding 47 others.

"Suddenly a very strong explosion occurred," recalled David Cohen, who was sitting inside a coffee house when the bomb exploded about five feet away. Cohen was only slightly injured.

Only one of the victims, Matityahu, required hospitalization at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv. All the others suffered light injuries.

The explosion, which shattered windows in some 80 apartments and 10 stores, caused damage estimated at $400,000.

Hamas leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin said the explosion was probably the work of Jewish extremists seeking to derail the peace process.

One day before the explosion, Yassin called for attacks on Israel to retaliate for last week's U.S. missile strikes in Sudan and Afghanistan.

A few hours after the explosion in Tel Aviv, thousands of Israelis gathered in the West Bank city of Hebron to mark the end of the shivah period for Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anan, who was killed in his home last week by a suspected Palestinian intruder.

Angry mourners attacked Palestinian reporters who were on the scene to cover the ceremony.

Clashes involving Jewish settlers and Palestinians in Hebron have increased since Ra'anan's murder. Tensions there escalated after the Israeli army responded to the killing by imposing a round-the-clock curfew on the estimated 30,000 Palestinians living in the Israeli-controlled part of the heavily Arab city.

Meanwhile, Israeli officials have disclosed that security forces recently uncovered an underground cell of 20 Palestinians operating in the Hebron region.

The group reportedly confessed to carrying out several shootings on Jewish targets in the West Bank. The cell is said to be part of the Abu-Mussa group, which had split from the mainstream Fatah party and is headquartered in Damascus.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Katyusha attacks test Israel's resolve in Lebanon

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel's continued commitment to its military presence in southern Lebanon has been tested again following a series of Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee.

Scores of rockets fell last week in Kiryat Shmona and other targets in northern Israel, leaving 14 Israelis wounded and a number of houses damaged. Hezbollah took responsibility for the attacks.

Five hours before the rockets landed, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai warned the Shiite Amal militia and Hezbollah not to try to retaliate.

The rocket barrage came after Israeli helicopters made a raid near the southern Lebanese city of Tyre, killing Hussam al-Amin, a high-level official with Amal, which is generally less militant than Hezbollah.

The Israeli operation appears to have united Amal and Hezbollah, which are often at odds. The two Shiite groups reportedly launched the Katyusha barrage jointly.

Residents of Kiryat Shmona survey damage after a Katyusha rocket slammed into the northern border town. [Reuters/RNS photo]

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convened several top advisers to discuss an initiative he has pushed for months: an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon in exchange for guarantees that the Lebanese government would be responsible for security in the area.

Netanyahu is reportedly planning to discuss the initiative during a planned visit to New York in September, when the UN General Assembly convenes for its annual session.

Although Israel anticipated the possibility of a rocket assault after its helicopter raid, residents of Kiryat Shmona were instructed to take cover in shelters only after the first rockets were fired.

Two wedding ceremonies were interrupted by the assault, as the celebrants fled for cover.

Israel condemned the rocket attacks, saying they were contrary to the understandings reached in a ceasefire brokered by the United States in April 1996 in an effort to protect civilians on both sides of the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Israeli officials maintain this week's operation against al-Amin did not violate those understandings because it was aimed at a military person and not at civilians.

Hezbollah officials claimed in turn that Lebanese villagers were hurt during exchanges of gunfire in southern Lebanon.

Israel's opposition leader, Ehud Barak of the Labor party, gave qualified support to the Israeli helicopter operation that led to the Katyusha reprisals.

He said that if the army saw fit to attack al-Amin at this time and in this fashion, he was confident that it had to be done. But at the same time, he stressed that it is necessary to find a political solution for southern Lebanon.

The situation in Lebanon was high on the agenda of Israel's inner cabinet meeting last week. Most of the ministers said Israel should act with restraint in the wake of the rocket assaults and try to restore quiet to the region.

Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, however, said Israel should launch reprisal raids against infrastructure targets, such as power plants, in and around Beirut.

"As long as Jewish families lose their sons in Lebanon, there is no reason why there should be business as usual in Beirut and why they should enjoy the regular supply of electricity," said Kahalani, who is a fierce advocate of settlements in the northern Golan region.

Some military experts said they saw no strategic advantages to the killing of al-Amin.

Trouble in Russia feared

[Cont'd. from page 1]

in Russia.

Sharon Zeiler, director of the Toronto regional office, said JIAS clients here are calling the office to find out how loved ones and relatives can be brought out.

"There's a lot of anxiety. People are concerned," Zeiler said.

The agency, she added, will likely see another spike in immigration from Russia six or eight months from now, as those escaping the current turmoil begin to reach Canada.

HIAS, the international arm of JIAS, has cited anecdotal evidence of ethnic attacks by skinheads, religious discrimination in the workplace, and a pervasive feeling of uneasiness about the durability of human rights protections.

Braun agreed, saying any sensitivities toward minorities in Russia are likely to "evaporate" as the situation deteriorates.

"Negative feelings toward Jews will be amplified," he said, adding that conspiracy theorists – "and there are legions of them" – will look to [blame] certain groups."

High profile Jews in Russia, including first deputy minister Boris Nemtsov, and Boris Beresofsky, a billionaire media mogul, will likely become targets of anti-Semitism, Braun said.

Gennady Zhuganov, the communist leader who wants increased power in exchange for his support of Chernomyrdin, has a long history of being associated with anti-Semites, Braun noted.

So does foreign minister Yevgeny Primakov, who is "rabidly anti-Semitic and anti-Israel," and who is likely to survive current developments.

But Braun does not foresee a return to communism.

"What worries me is some form of authoritarian mix of both the extreme right and the communists."

Mark Levin, executive director of the U.S.-based National Conference on Soviet Jewry, articulated similar concerns about Russia's political and economic uncertainty.

"There are a lot of Jews in the elite of the business and political worlds," he said. "And Jews have always proven to be convenient" targets for societal frustrations in the region.

With reporting by Ron Csillag in Toronto.

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Oslo needs resuscitation

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

On Sept. 13, 1993, Israel and the PLO signed a historic document known as the Declaration of Principles (DoP), calling a halt to their undeclared war and recognizing each other's existence.

The DoP, the result of many months of secret negotiations in Norway, paved the way for the Oslo peace process, a series of bilateral negotiations designed to provide land for the Palestinians and security for the Israelis.

Five years on, Oslo is badly battered and in dire need of resuscitation, despite the best efforts of the United States to revive it.

Oslo has been in a near-comatose state for about 18 months now, having been buffeted by Palestinian terrorism and Israeli unilateral acts, both of which have produced a crisis of confidence and a virtual breakdown of mutual trust.

Such is the situation that Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, and Yasser Arafat, the president of the Palestinian Authority, are barely on speaking terms, and have not had a meeting in almost a year.

Last week, a flurry of reports suggested that the two sides may be close to breaking the impasse and thus revitalizing Oslo. In a shift of policy, Israel was reportedly ready to accept a long-standing American proposal for a phased 13 percent redeployment from the West Bank in exchange for a further Palestinian crackdown on terrorism.

If this turns out to be the case, Israel and the Palestinian Authority can proceed to final status negotiations, which are more than two years behind schedule.

Oslo, from the outset, has been excoriated by Palestinian and Israeli detractors. Palestinians contend that it does not truly address the issues of Israeli settlements, Palestinian statehood and the rights of refugees to return to their former homes. Israelis, notably those against territorial compromise, claim that it endangers the long-term future of the country.

In fact, Oslo has benefited Israel and the Palestinians. Oslo established a framework for co-existence and cooperation. It prompted Jordan to sign a peace treaty with Israel, and encouraged Morocco, Tunisia, Oman and Qatar to enter into relations with Israel. It also induced Turkey to form a quasi-alliance with Israel, and produced a climate conducive to greater foreign investment in Israel.

As a result of Israeli withdrawals, the Palestinians currently have full or partial control of 27 percent of the West Bank and 60 percent of the Gaza Strip. Oslo, too, has put huge sums of money for development at their disposal, and enabled them to forge official ties with the United States, the only superpower.

Oslo's downside is manifestly clear. The suicide bombings unleashed by Palestinian opponents of the accords, mainly Islamic fundamentalists, have taken a shocking toll of Israeli lives and exacerbated profound rifts in Israeli society, fissures which led to Yitzhak Rabin's assassination in November 1995.

The spate of terrorism, having forced Israel to periodically seal off the autonomous Palestinian areas, has in turn engendered bitterness and dashed hopes for prosperity among ordinary Palestinians.

Netanyahu's profoundly ambivalent approach to Oslo, combining distaste with pragmatism, has widened the chasm between Israelis and Palestinians. Elected on a platform espousing "peace with security," he has slowed down the pace of the process and put the Palestinians on notice that they must lower their expectations.

For a variety of reasons, Netanyahu has taken provocative unilateral steps which have breached the spirit, though not the letter, of Oslo. Har Choma, the planned residential housing neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem, has inflamed Palestinian opinion. So has the expansion of settlements beyond the Green Line.

The Palestinians, for their part, have not consistently fought terrorism, and their hostile propaganda and disinclination to completely revise their national covenant calls into question their commitment to abide fully by the Oslo agreements.

Diary lawsuit threatened

[Cont'd. from page 1]

the previously expurgated sections, was published in the United States, but it is now possible that a new edition will be produced.

Following are the excerpts from Anne Frank's diary that appeared in *Het Parool*:

"Dear Kitty,

"Since I seem to have plenty of time to think these days... my thoughts turned quite naturally to father and mother's marriage. They always held it up to me as an example of an ideal marriage... I get the impression that father married mother because he found her suitable to occupy the place as his wife... It can't be easy for a woman who loves her husband to know that she'll never come first in his heart... Father respects mother and loves her, but it's not the love that I imagine in a marriage...

"Father isn't in love, he kisses her the way he kisses us, and he never holds her up as an example, because he can't. He sometimes looks at her teasingly or mockingly, but never lovingly... She loves him more than she loves anyone else, and it is hard to accept that this sort of love will always be unrequited."

The Week in Israel

Aug. 24

• The government announced it would supply the Palestinian Authority (PA) with several large tanks of water to help relieve shortages in the self-rule areas.

Aug. 25

• A new agreement between Israel and the PA could be signed in Washington on the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Oslo accords, U.S. diplomatic sources were quoted as saying in Israeli the media.

Aug. 26

• The National Religious Party demanded that the government halt all negotiations with the Palestinians "as long as acts of terror are still being perpetrated."

Aug. 27

• Construction of a Jewish neighborhood in Ras al Amud in east Jerusalem will begin soon, Yossi Kaugman, of Ateret Kohanim Yeshiva announced today.

• While visiting victims of the bomb blast in Tel Aviv, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said "There will be no redeployment agreement unless the Palestinian Authority, in word and in deed, fights terror everywhere, whether in Hebron or Tel Aviv."

Aug. 28

• The General Security Service and the army announced they had uncovered a large terror cell belonging to the Syrian-based Abu Musa faction, operating in the Hebron area.

50 Years Ago

JERUSALEM, *Sept. 1* — The military administration will soon be ended in Jerusalem to make way for the establishment of the city as the capital of Israel, military governor Dr. Bernard Joseph today told the first meeting of the advisory council to the military administration. The council is composed of most of the political parties in the city.

David Remez, Israeli communications minister and member of the cabinet committee on Jerusalem, told the Council that the Israeli Supreme Court would be permanently seated in Jerusalem. He also revealed that the Jewish Agency executive's offices would be returned to Jerusalem.

With files from the JTA and JPFS

Israel & the Jewish World

Former UN arms inspector denies working for Israel

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — A seven-year veteran of the U.N. inspection team monitoring weapons in Iraq is denying that he shared classified information on Saddam Hussein's weapons program with various countries, including Israel.

Scott Ritter, who is under investigation by the FBI for allegedly leaking classified U.S. documents, has meanwhile quit the UN weapons inspection commission for Iraq, known as UNSCOM. In a scathing resignation letter, he accused the Security Council and the United States of making a "mockery" of the program.

Israeli officials had no direct comment on the charges. One Israeli official said the Clinton administration notified the Israeli Embassy in Washington earlier this week about the investigation.

When asked whether he is an Israeli agent, Ritter, who did not respond to a request for an interview, told CNN that there is "no truth to that whatsoever."

Ritter's colleagues reportedly said the FBI probe contributed to his decision to leave the UN post. These colleagues also defended Ritter, telling the *Washington Post* that he stands on solid ground in his fight against the FBI.

Sources said Ritter's information-sharing was explicitly authorized by the head of the weapons inspection program, Richard Butler,

FBI investigating leaks

and his predecessor. In addition, because Ritter did not maintain his American security clearances, any U.S. information provided to him was declassified, the *Post* reported.

Butler did not comment directly on the FBI investigation. He did however, call Ritter a "man of integrity."

Ritter is likely to face questions next week at a speaking engagement at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

Ritter worked at UNSCOM's New York headquarters from 1991 to 1998. During the past two years, he frequently drew the ire of Iraqi officials as he tried to uncover Iraqi attempts to conceal its remaining capabilities to develop missiles and weapons of mass destruction.

After Ritter resigned, Iraq claimed to have exposed his links to the Mossad and the Central Intelligence Agency.

"The resignation of the American-Zionist intelligence officer Scott Ritter from the Special Commission is because his connection with the Zionist Mossad was uncovered," the Iraqi Ministry of Culture and Information said in a statement.

"Scott Ritter is an intelligence officer at the American army and had taken part in the American imperialist aggression against Iraq in 1991," the statement said. "All plans of the special commission and its programs, and the behavior of its chairman and its competent members are hatched in American and Zionist intelligence rooms."

מזל טוב

Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Mazel tov on your second birthday Abby. Love, Sabba Benny, Bubbie Glenda and aunties Nini and Bo.

Lin Goodman and Harry & Fran Goodman announce the engagement of their daughter Dana to Ronen, son of Avraham & Semona Ianco of Israel. Grandmother is Ada Eisen.

Mazel tov to Cara (née Rotenberg) and Richard Kowal on their marriage which took place on April 5.

Harriet & Morris Altman and Gloria & Joel Clamen announce Marc & Elysse's engagement. Proud grandparents are Ethel & Lewis J.E. Moses and Max Clamen (Montreal).

Warm wishes to Jesse Ship on his high school graduation. Wishing you all the best for university. Proud parents Viviane & Saul Ship, brother Noam.

Mazel tov to Nadine Papernick on graduating from chemical engineering, University of Toronto. We're proud of you. Diane, Steve, Aron & Bubbie Helen Rosenberg.

Ann & Charles King, who were married April 8, 1941 in Montreal at the Portuguese Synagogue, recently celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary.

Mazel tov to Emil & Helen Finder on your 50th wedding anniversary. With love from your children and grandchildren.

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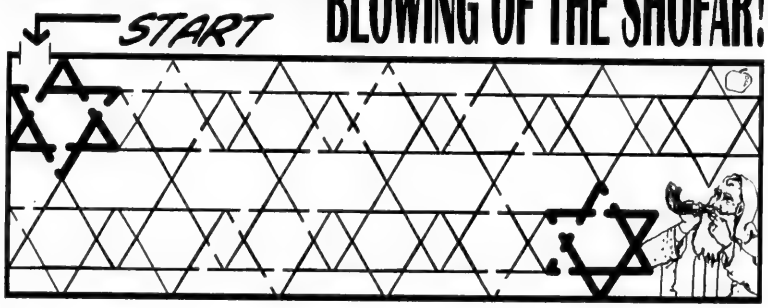

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Discovery Place now at the Ex

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

An exciting new museum just for kids is going to open next month at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. But you don't have to wait until then to see it.

Just go to the Israel 50 exhibit at the CNE, and you will find it all set up.

The name of the museum is My Jewish Discovery Place Children's Museum, and it will open officially on October 18. It is a hands-on museum, which means that you don't just look at the exhibits, like you do in most museums - you can actually touch things, play with things, and have a really good time.

There are all sorts of different sections. In People Helping People, sponsored by Mount Sinai Hospital, you can travel to the "hospital" in a mini-ambulance or mini-helicopter, try on casts, use a stethoscope, deal with an emergency, and make a get-well card for someone who is sick.

You can put on a space suit, explore outer space, and find Hebrew letters in the stars. Reena is sponsoring You, Me and Dignity. In that section, you can see what it is like to have a disability, and how technology can help. You can try to identify something using your sense of touch, try a braille typewriter, try a wheelchair, or learn sign language as deaf people do or how to use a TTY machine (which lets deaf people use the telephone).

Children can play in Noah's Ark, which sounds like a lot of fun, thanks to Jewish Family & Child Service. In the ark, you can even put on a costume and pretend to be an elephant, or watch a puppet show.

At The Shabbat Table, which a lady named Helen Finder-Guttman sponsored, people will learn how to light candles, say kiddush, and braid challah.

Have you ever bought trees for Israel, or put money in the Jewish National Fund (JNF) blue box? JNF is supporting a special exhibit on

Israel, called Happy Birthday Dear Israel (remember - this is Israel's 50th birthday). It will be fun to pick oranges on a kibbutz, put a note in the Kotel, and find out about all the plants and animals that you would find in Israel.

At Torah Time, you can tie tzitzit knots (by using a kind of macrame) go to a child-size shul, and try on tfillin.

There will be special events for the different holidays, storytelling, arts and crafts, dancing, and singalongs.

The whole museum is supposed to be for children between 3 and 11, but older kids will have a great time here, and so will your parents. It is really for the whole family to enjoy.

Once the museum is operating, there will be school tours, group programs, and all sorts of special events and programs.

My Jewish Discovery Place Children's Museum was started in Los Angeles. That museum has sent exhibits all over the United States and Canada, and now a permanent exhibit will remain in Toronto.

The museum will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 to 5, Friday 10 to 2, and on Sunday from 10 to 3. Admission will be $2 per person, whether you are a child or an adult.

If you want more information, call 636-1880, ext. 456.

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CJ Kids

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WE WISH ALL OF YOU A SWEET YEAR! CAN YOU FIND THE 5 APPLES HIDDEN ON THIS PAGE?
HONEY
MENDY
by Barry Grossman and Stan Goldberg

BE A MENSCH

Miriam Venis presents the first Miriam Venis Award to Joshua Landau and Yoelit Lipinsky for menschlichkeit (doing the right thing).

MENDY IN BOOK MARKS BY EVAN SCHER

MENDY, HOW MANY BOOKS CAN YOU CARRY AT ONE TIME?
PLENTY, I'LL SHOW YOU!
Copyright © Mendy Comics 1998
UH OH!
KEEP PILING THEM ON!
HA HA HA
COULD SOMEONE FIND A MEDICAL BOOK IN THIS PILE?

CONCERNED KIDS

The Concerned Kids is a group that uses puppets to educate young people about social issues. The group goes to schools and uses their puppets to talk about subjects like drugs, AIDS, being responsible and peer pressure. Their goal is to help young people make the right choices when faced with these issues.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People holiday deadlines for September:

Tuesday, Sept. 8, for Sept. 17 issue; Monday, Sept. 14, for Sept. 24; Wednesday, Sept. 23, for Oct. 1; Monday, Sept. 28, for Oct. 8

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Sept. 6

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling, 7:30 p.m., Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen or tell. $4. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Tuesday, Sept. 8

PEACE AND ENVIRONMENT

The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL) workshop on Israel's environmental perils and prospect – will peace help? with **Dr. Noam Gressel**, director, Arava Institute of Environmental Studies, 8-9 p.m., Lipa Green Building. RSVP **Shai** 663-3221.

COEJL is currently organizing a pilot project in Canada, developing a network of Jewish institutions and individuals interested in Jewish environmentalism, in cooperation with Canadian Jewish Congress.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue continuing education and Chai Shalom pre-High Holy Day Lunch and Learn, 10:15 a.m. Topic, Does God Care? Tickets $5 at shul office. RSVP **Tema Wasserman** 905-770-0355 or shul 633-3838.

REENA PLAYERS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood presents All You Wanted to Know About the Reena Foundation by the Reena Players and their commentator, 8 p.m. Guests welcome. $3. 633-5500.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

CHIEF BOOTHBY AT CJC

Toronto Police Services Chief **David Boothby** addresses the first regional executive meeting of the new administration of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, 6:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building. Topic – Policing in Toronto and the Ethnic Communities as We Approach the Year 2000. Ontario attorney general **Charles Harnick** will bring greetings from Ontario government. **Lewis Levendel** CJC director of Communications, 635-2883, ext. 148.

JUDAIC TEXTILES

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles first meeting of the season, Demystifying Design with **Temma Gentles** and **Elaine Genesoce**, 8 p.m., Lodzer Holocaust Congregation, 10 Heaton St. **Sarita** 789-1145.

ISRAEL STAMP CLUB

Canadian Association for Israel Philately (CAFIP) meeting, 7 p.m., Lubavitch Centre (this meeting only), 44 Edinburgh Dr. **Joseph** 635-1749. New members welcome.

Thursday, Sept. 10

ORT LUNCHEON

Toronto ORT Golden Circle Luncheon, noon, at the home of **Maxine Granovsky Gluskin** and **Ira Gluskin,** 118 Forest Hill Rd. Guests of honor: **Bonnie Goldstein** and **Jaclyn Shulman,** editors of *Voices from the Heart* celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary. Honorary co-chairs **Julia Koschitzky, Karen Morton.** Reserve 787-0339.

THEATRE AUDITIONS

Medina Theatre Ensemble auditions for the Holocaust play *Sands* by **Marian Andre.** 7 p.m. members, 8 p.m. non-members, B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. 785-1074.

ABOUT HIGH HOLY DAYS

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich speaks about the High Holy Days at Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., 2 p.m. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

[Cont'd on page 39]

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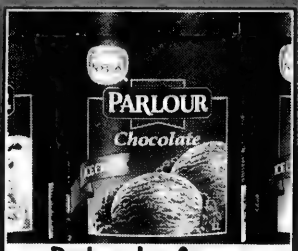

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What's New

[Cont'd from page 38]

And What Else Is New

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

Canadian Council for Reform Judaism services led by **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein** (north location) and **Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz** (south location). With participation of Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and Downtown Reform Minyan. 905-709-1894.

Yonge Shul: Rosh Hashanah at Berlin Night Club and Yom kippur at Rochampton Hotel. $75 if registered by Sept. 8. Singles and families welcome. In partnership with the Village Shul. 787-2444.

Markham Street Shul: Free Learning Non-Service for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with **Rabbi Michael Skobac** of Jews for Judaism, 397 Markham St. **Paul** 530-0070.

Baycrest Terrace Reform Congregation: Tickets $40 available in Terrace lobby from Sept. 8, daily 10 a.m. to noon. 780-9900.

Simcoe County Jewish Association: Services conducted in **Barrie** by **Rabbi Bernard Baskin.** 705-721-6126 voice mail.

Or Hadash Synagogue: Reform congregation, 1110 Stellar Dr., Newmarket. All Jewish families in York Region invited to participate. New members welcome. 905-898-2220.

GALA CONCERT

Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital Gala Concert with violinist **Jacques Israelievitch,** concert master of Toronto Symphony; cellist **Shauna Rolston**, and pianist **John Arpin** Sunday, Sept. 13, 7:30 p.m., Ford Centre, George Weston Hall. Guest of honor is **Dr. Stanley Greben**. Proceeds go to the hospital's research into Alzheimer and Parkinson diseases. 256-4222.

ISRAEL AND THE MEDIA

Beth Sholom Brotherhood and Sisterhood annual breakfast honoring Israel's 50th anniversary in conjunction with State of Israel Bonds, featuring **Linda Scherzer**, former CNN reporter, speaking on Israel and the Media, Sunday Sept. 13, 10:30 p.m. $12. Reserve. 783-6103.

STUDY LUNCHEON

Beth Tzedec Shabbat Study Luncheon, Saturday, Sept. 12, following services, **Prof. David Kertzer**, Brown University, Providence, R.I., speaks on The Inquisition, the Jews and the Secrets of the Vatican. Reservations (paid) by Sept. 9. 781-3514, ext. 13.

OSTROVITZER MEMORIAL

Gathering in memory of victims murdered by the Nazis in Ostrowiec and vicinity, Sunday, Sept. 13, 11 a.m., Lambton Cemetery, Royal York Rd. Speakers **Stephen Speisman** and **Israel Gurfinkel**. In case of rain, 14 Viewmount Ave. **Al Speisman** 785-5688.

BIBLE-TANACH CLASS

Weekly Bible-Tanach class, Thursdays 9:10 a.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, resumes Sept. 10. Group to study the Book of Samuel I, in English, led by **Aaron Nussbaum**. 633-8097.

JEWISH FAMILY SQUEEZE

Soleil Sisterhood presents **Ben Schlesinger**, author of *The Family Squeeze: Surviving the Sandwich Generation*, discussing issues of coping with aging parents and living with the teenage generation, Sunday, Sept. 13, 2 p.m., 2399 Folkway Dr., Mississauga. **Marilyn Block** 905-275-7709.

ADULT EDUCATION

Lech L'Cha: Where Are You Going? Exploring Personal Journeys Through the Life Stories of Our Matriarchs and Patriarchs, Beth Tikvah Synagogue 12-week study with **Rachael Turkienicz**, Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m., Sept. 9 to Dec. 2 (excluding Sept. 30). Non-members $5 per session.

PRAY & LEARN

Pray & Learn led by **Elliot Malamet** resumes at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue Sept. 12 at 9:30 a.m. and continues Shabbat mornings throughout the year. All levels welcome. Tickets for High Holy Days also available. **Carol** 789-3213.

PRAYING WITH MEANING

An examination of the High Holy Day prayer book with **Aryeh Pamensky.** Become familiar with the main prayers. Wednesdays Sept. 9 and 16, 8 p.m. at Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

NEWS FROM GUELPH.

Beth Isaiah Synagogue Richard Youngman Scholar in Residence lecture with **Rachael Turkienicz**. Topic for Selichot is The Thunder of Jewish Prayer, Saturday, Sept. 12, 8:30 p.m. Services, reception follow. 57 Surrey St., Guelph.

PASSING THE TORCH

Federation of Jewish Child Survivors/Hidden Children of the Holocaust annual conference Oct. 16-19 in the Washington area. The second generation and kindertransport will also be involved. Reserve. 635-2883, ext. 153.

Transportation by bus available. **Luba** 783-5582.

BB SINGLES LODGE

B'nai Brith Singles Lodge (40 to 60) movie night Saturday, Sept. 12, 8:30 p.m., 15 Hove St. Members $4, non-members $10. RSVP 633-6224, ext. 351.

SUPPORT GROUP

Senior Care's eight-session support group for adult children caring for a parent with Alzheimer disease or a related disorder, begins Monday, Sept. 14. Register. 635-2860.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215

Living With Teens: Who is This Stranger in My House? begins Oct. 28; Bereavement for Younger Persons Who Have Lost a Spouse, begins Sept. 3; Separation/Divorce & Looking Ahead, begins Sept. 9; Social Skills Groups for Children (7-17 years), begins Oct.20; Parenting When Your Child Has an Eating Disorder, begins in the fall.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Morris Winchevsky School's Sunday School classes (kindergarten to Grade 7) 1998-99 season begins Sept. 13, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Advance registration. 789-5502.

SINGLES SCENE

Upcoming events, ages 25-36 and 36-55. Under auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Rhonda** 731-9441.

Sept. 9, Making Rosh Hashanah Meaningful, 7:30 p.m. ; Oct. 7, 36-55 group, Sukkah/CoffeeHouse 7:30 p.m. $2; Oct. 24, singles Shabbat services, luncheon, speaker. $10. Tickets available Oct. 1-20.

ART CLASSES

Koffler Centre of the Arts adult art classes in Ceramics, Drawing and Painting, Sculpture, Creative Writing, Film Studies. Classes for children and young adults in Ceramics, Drawing and Painting, Sculpture. Registration open for all programs. 636-1880, ext. 269.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group installation dinner and variety dancing Tuesday, Sept. 8. Dinner 7 p.m., followed by installation of officers directed by **Dr. Phil Simon**, entertainment by violinist **Rufat Amiraliev** and pianist **Alexander Lavkovich**. $15. RSVP **Cherry** 221-3433, ext. 300.

Association of Jewish Seniors yom tov dinner Sunday, Sept. 27, 5:30 p.m., Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Tickets $18 at the Centre, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to noon, or Senior Care, 530 Wilson Ave. Reserve. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: *Man of La Mancha* , Stratford Oct. 27; Trip to Israel in November. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m.,Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building. Sept. 3, sing-along, **Yitzchak Argeman;** Sept. 10, lecture by orthopedic surgeon **Dr. Niki Wolfson** in Hebrew about arthritis; Sept. 17, bingo and other games; Sept. 24, video *Songs of Gabi Berlin* . **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sept. 9, Casino Niagara; Sept. 14, Town Hall Square; Sept. 15, Be Heart Smart, 10 a.m., taking care of your blood pressure, all welcome; Oct. 15 and 28, Casino Rama; Nov. 22-25, Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel. $449 Canadian. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Centre is offering kosher meals for the High Holy Days. $7.50 each meal. Order for as many days as desired, no later than Sept. 11. **Sonia Krass** ext. 114.

The School of Paris with **Edith Altschuler**, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. **Bookie Kwart**.

Therapeutic Touch with nurse **Florence Baum** Tuesday, Sept. 8, 11:30-1 p.m. **Joan** ext. 126.

Hearing Aid Checkup, **Barry Katz** Tuesday, Sept. 8, 12:15 p.m.

Parkinson's Support Group Tuesday, Sept. 8, 1:15 p.m., occupational therapist **Gilda Waltman** presents Tips on Managing Daily Living Challenges. **Ruth** ext. 105.

Arthritis Management Clinic , **Bev Tobe,** therapist with Arthritis Society, Thursday, Sept. 10, 1-5 p.m. Make appointment at Wellness Desk, ext. 105.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Sept. 8 is a lecture. **Anna**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Registration is now being taken for fall session of BJC 55+ courses, **Yvonne** ext. 259.

Ballroom Dancing – learn to waltz, tango, fox trot, cha cha (partner not necessary), starting Monday, Sept. 14, 10 weeks, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Needlecrafts – crochet, knitting, crewel, all levels, starting Tuesday, Sept. 15, 10 weeks, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beginners Bridge starts Tuesday, Oct. 20, 8 weeks, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Limited toddler daycare spaces for children 18 months to 30 months for September and October. Swimming, music enrichment, fun centre gym time. ext. 248.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Seniors Club season opening event, Thursday, Sept. 10, 2 p.m. Learn about upcoming season. Talk by fitness coordinator on The Importance of Fitness for Seniors. **Judy**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 26

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FOOD IDEAS FOR

ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah a time for sweet dishes

By JUDITH GELLER MARLOW
Special to The CJN

Rosh Hashanah customs include preparing sweet dishes and eating round challah.

Sephardi traditions also include eating black-eyed peas, chick peas, rice and couscous. Green vegetables and olives are an important part of the holiday tradition.

Nothing bitter tasting should be served this time of year.

The following recipes may be incorporated into your High Holy Day menu.

ROAST SALMON WITH SPICED ONIONS AND CURRANTS

½ cup currants
¼ cup kosher cognac
4 tbsp. olive oil
4 large onions, sliced ¼ inch thick (about 6 cups)
½ tsp. cinnamon
½ tsp. freshly grated nutmeg
½ tsp. salt, plus additional for the fish
¼ tsp. freshly ground pepper, plus additional for the fish
4 salmon fillets, about 3 oz. each for an appetizer, 6 oz. each for a main course
½ cup pareve chicken stock

Soak currants in cognac and ¼ cup water until softened and plump, about 30 minutes.

Heat oil in a large saute pan or skillet over medium heat. Add onions and cook until very tender and translucent, about 20 minutes. Stir in the spices, reduce the heat to low and cook for just a few minutes to meld the flavors. Stir in the currants, and salt and pepper. Taste and adjust seasonings. Set aside.

Preheat the oven to 450. Divide the onion mixture into 4 piles in a baking dish. Place each salmon fillet on top of a pile of onions and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Spoon the pareve chicken stock over the salmon and bake until the fish is just cooked through, 7-12 minutes, depending on the thickness of the fillets.

Vegetarians may use a vegetable or fish stock instead of chicken stock.

Also, you may poach or broil the salmon fillets and then serve the warm onion mixture on top as a sauce.Garnish the plate with leafy baby greens.

ORANGES WITH ORANGE ZEST AND HONEY

6 large oranges
½ cup water
1 cup sugar
¼ cup honey
¼ cup kosher orange liqueur
2 tbsp. chopped fresh mint
¼ cup chopped pistachios or almonds

Remove the bright orange zest of the oranges with a potato peeler (try not to get the bitter white pith) and cut into thin julienne strips. Bring a saucepan of water to a boil, add the julienne and blanch 2-3 minutes. Drain and refresh in cold water. Set aside.

Cut off all the white pith from the oranges with a small knife. Then remove the segments by cutting between the membranes. Place the peeled orange segments in a bowl and set aside.

Combine the water, sugar and honey in a saucepan and cook over high heat, stirring, until the sugar has dissolved. Continue cooking until the syrup thickens and measures about 230 on a candy thermometer. Let the syrup cool for a few minutes, stir in the blanched zest and pour over the orange segments. Add the orange liqueur, the mint, or nuts, if you like. Serve at room temperature. Serves 6.

RICE & CHEESE CROQUETTES WITH TOMATO AND GREEN OLIVE SAUCE

Croquettes:
3 cups cooked and cooled short-grain rice
1 cup shredded kosher mozzarella
1 chopped fresh oregano leaves (or ½ tsp. dried)
3 large eggs
½ cup grated kosher Parmesan
1 cup dry bread crumbs
olive oil for frying

For the sauce:
2 tbsp. olive oil
½ cup chopped onion
1 large clove garlic, peeled
28 oz. can whole plum tomatoes with juice
2 tbsp. each chopped fresh basil and parsley (or 1 tbsp. dried)
1 tbsp. chopped fresh oregano leaves (or ½ tsp. dried)
salt and ground pepper
½ cup sliced, pitted green olives

In a mixing bowl, combine the rice, mozzarella and oregano. Mix well. Add 1 of the eggs and stir to thoroughly combine. In a small bowl, beat the remaining 2 eggs lightly. Place the Parmesan and

[Cont'd. on page 41]

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MENU #2
Gefilte Fish & Horseradish,
Chicken Soup & Matzo Balls,
Roast Chicken,
Roast Brisket of Beef,
Lockshen Pudding,
Pan Roast Potatoes,
Kasha & Bows,
Carrots Tzimmes,
New Dills, Cole Slaw,
Honey Cake, Chala,
Mohn Cookies,
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Vegetarian Lasagna
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FOOD IDEAS FOR ROSH HASHANAH

Sweet dishes grace table at High Holidays

[Cont'd. from page 40]

bread crumbs on separate pieces of waxed paper. Line a tray or baking sheet with waxed paper.

Pick up some of the rice mixture in your hand and squeeze it until it holds together. If it won't hold together, stir a tbsp. of flour into the rice mixture. Form the lump in your hand into a patty and dredge it gently in the Parmesan, coating both sides. Shake off the excess.

Coat the croquette with the beaten egg, then the bread crumbs and place it on the prepared tray. Don't worry if the edges are ragged at this point. Continue making and coating croquettes until all the rice mixture is used. You should have 8 3-inch or 12 2-inch croquettes.

Place the tray in the refrigerator and chill for 1 to 3 hours.

Heat the oil in a saucepan over medium heat. Saute the onion until tender and translucent, 3 to 5 minutes. Add the garlic and saute 1 minute more.

Add the tomatoes, basil, oregano, salt and pepper. Raise the heat and bring the sauce to a boil, breaking up the tomatoes against the side of the pan to break them up, for 15-20 minutes, or until thickening somewhat.

Stir in the olives and heat 2 minutes more. Serve immediately over fried croquettes or cover and set aside to be gently reheated at serving time.

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Remove the croquettes from the refrigerator and smooth any rough edges between your palms. Fry the croquettes until golden, 3-5 minutes a side.

Drain on paper towels. Serve immediately with tomato-olive sauce, garnished with parsley. Serves 4-6.

Judith Geller Marlow is the founder of Simply Divine, a kosher caterer and events planner in New York.

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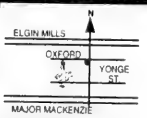

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Plenty of uses for apples

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

As the holidays draw closer, our thoughts are drawn to the year just past, and then inevitably, what foods we are going to serve.

I wish everyone a happy, healthy sweet year, as well as a year filled with great recipes. With this in mind I raided my files for the best apple recipes I could find, and as my new year's gift I'm giving them to you.

GRATED APPLE PIE

1¼ cups sugar
3 tbsp. flour
½ tsp. cinnamon
½ tsp. nutmeg
2 eggs, beaten
½ cup melted margarine
1 tsp. vanilla
3 cup (4 medium) grated apples
1 pie shell, unbaked

Preheat oven to 400. Combine sugar, flour, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Add eggs, margarine, and vanilla. Fold in apples. Pour mixture into pie shell. Bake for 10 minutes. Lower temperature to 350 and bake for 60 to 65 minutes. Cool.

APPLE ACORN SQUASH SOUP

4 lb. butternut or acorn squash
3 cup chicken broth (or vegetable broth to keep it pareve)
¼ cup margarine
1 large onion diced
4 tart apples peeled and diced
salt to taste

Peel squash: cut into large chunks, removing and discarding all seeds and fibers. Put broth into large saucepan or soup pot and add squash pieces. Bring to a boil over high heat; then lower heat, cover and simmer 20-25 min. or until squash is very tender.

Meanwhile, melt margarine in a large skillet or saucepan over med-high heat; then saute onion until tender, but not browned. Add the apples and saute until tender.

In batches, using a blender or food processor fitted with steel blade, process apples, onion, and baked squash broth so the mixture can be easily pureed. (Reserve the remaining broth.)

Stir the pureed mixture back into the pot containing the reserved broth. If the soup is too thick, stir in additional broth as desired. (The soup may be made ahead to this point.) Shortly before serving, reheat the soup, stirring often. Season with salt if desired.

APPLE BANANA BREAD

½ cup butter or margarine softened
2 cup flour
¼ cup brown sugar
1 tsp. baking powder
¼ cup sugar
1 tbsp. baking soda
2 eggs
½ tsp. cinnamon
3 tbsp. sour cream
2 apples cored, chopped
1 banana, mashed
½ cup walnuts chopped
1 tsp. vanilla

Preheat oven to 350. Cream butter and sugars and beat in eggs. Stir in sour cream, banana and vanilla.

In separate bowl, combine flour, baking powder, soda and cinnamon. Gradually add to butter mixture. Gently stir in apples and nuts. Spoon into greased bread pan and bake 1 hour.

APPLE PIZZA

Crust
2 ¾ cup flour
1 package dry yeast
3 tbsp. sugar
½ tsp. salt
½ cup water
¼ cup milk
¼ cup butter
1 egg

Apple Topping
2 tbsp. butter
2 large tart apples
½ cup sugar
2 tbsp. flour
1 tsp. cinnamon

Cheese Topping
4 oz. cream cheese
2 tbsp. sugar
1 tbsp. lemon juice
¼ tsp. nutmeg

Streusel Topping
⅓ cup flour
⅓ cup sugar
¼ cup soft butter

Blend 1½ cup flour, yeast, sugar and salt in a large mixing bowl. Heat water, milk and butter until very warm; add to flour mixture and

[Cont'd. on page 43]

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Apples add flair to number of holiday dishes

[Cont'd. from page 42]

beat three minutes.

By hand, stir in enough flour to make a soft dough. Cover and let rise 15 minutes.

Pat dough onto a large oiled pizza pan, forming a rim around the edge. Mix the cheese topping and spread it on.

Peel and slice apples. Melt butter in skillet; add apples, sugar, flour and cinnamon. Simmer 15 minutes, then set aside to cool. Spread apple topping over cheese.

In a separate bowl mix the streusel topping ingredients together and sprinkle it over the top. Cover and let rise for 15 min. Bake at 375, 25-30 minutes. Serve warm or cold.

APPLE CHICKEN SALAD

Marinade:
¼ cup frozen apple juice concentrate, thawed
2 tbsp. oil
2 tbsp. soy sauce
1 tbsp. kosher white wine vinegar
1 tbsp. dried savory, crushed
4 boneless skinless chicken breast halves

Dressing:
¼ cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
¼ cup apple juice concentrate
¼ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper

Salad:
3 cups torn romaine lettuce
2 cups torn red leaf lettuce
½ cups broken pecans or walnuts
⅓ cup red onion, diced
2 medium apples, cored & sliced

For marinade: In a small bowl combine the apple juice concentrate, salad oil, soy sauce, vinegar, and savory.

For chicken: Place chicken breasts in a plastic bag in a shallow dish. Pour marinade over chicken. Close bag. Refrigerate about 4 hours, turning once. Remove meat, reserving marinade. Pat chicken dry with paper towels.

Place chicken on a rack of an unheated broiler pan. Broil about 4 to 6 inches from heat for 8 to 10 minutes or until tender, brushing occasionally with reserved marinade. (Or grill chicken on an uncovered grill directly over medium-hot coals for 20 to 25 minutes or until tender, turning once.) Remove from heat. Cut chicken into strips. Cover and chill 2 to 24 hours.

For dressing: In a small bowl combine mayonnaise or salad dressing, apple juice concentrate, salt and pepper.

In a large bowl, combine the romaine, red leaf lettuce, pecans or walnuts, and onion. Divide salad greens among 4 dinner plates. Arrange chicken and apples over greens. Drizzle salad dressing over salads.

APPLE-GLAZED BARBECUED CHICKEN

For even more flavor, try marinating the chicken in the glaze before grilling.

1 6-ounce can frozen apple juice concentrate, thawed
¼ cup firmly packed brown sugar
¼ cup ketchup
1 tablespoon cider vinegar
1 teaspoon dried thyme, crumbled
⅛ teaspoon hot pepper sauce (such as Tabasco)
1 3-pound chicken cut into 4 pieces
salt and pepper
vegetable oil

Combine the apple juice, brown sugar, ketchup, vinegar, thyme and hot sauce in heavy small saucepan. Stir over medium heat until sugar dissolves.

Prepare barbecue (medium-high heat). Brush chicken with oil. Season generously with salt and pepper. Grill until chicken is almost cooked through, turning occasionally, about 20 minutes. Brush with glaze and continue grilling until chicken is tender and cooked through, brushing chicken frequently with glaze and turning occasionally, about 10 minutes longer.

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Holocaust-themed movies part of T.O. Film Festival

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO—This year's Toronto International Film Festival, running from Sept. 10-19, features several films of Jewish interest.

They are *Apt Pupil*, *The Giraffe*, *Life is Beautiful* and *Fragments*Jerusalem*.

Apt Pupil, directed by Bryan Singer of *The Usual Suspects* fame, is based on a novella by Stephen King.

Starring Ian McKellen and Brad Renfro, it portrays the warped and terrifying relationship between a 16-year-old boy and his mild-mannered neighbor, a Nazi war criminal who has swept his unsavory past under the rug.

Like *Apt Pupil*, *The Giraffe*, a German-Swiss production directed byDani Levy, unfolds against the backdrop of the Holocaust.

A thriller about two families living in post-war Germany, it turns on the tension between one generation's desire to protect its secrets and another's desire to conceal them.

Another movie dealing with the Holocaust, Robert Benigni's *Life is Beautiful*, is set in Italy.

This bitter-sweet film demonstrates the power of laughter to bolster sagging spirits, even under the weight of terrible events.

The festival's only Israeli film, *Fragments* Jerusalem*, is a six-hour epic which traces a Jewish family's roots in that city.

In the words of director Ron Havilio, it is "an attempt to remember people and places which time, wars and the pace of modern life have erased."

Havilio, who spent more than a decade making this documentary, sifts through artifacts, home movies, paintings and photographs to create a portrait of Jerusalem from the waning days of Ottoman rule and the Yishuv's struggle for independence to the post-Six Day War period.

The festival is also presenting a film from Lebanon by Zaid Doueiri entitled *West Beirut*. It is about three adolescents growing up in that strife-torn metropolis.

Piers Handling, the festival director, told a news conference last week that 311 films from 53 countries will be screened.

Of these, 144 films will have their world and North American premieres at the 23rd edition of the festival.

Popular singer David Broza in car accident

Popular Israeli singer-songwriter David Broza was recently involved in a serious car accident.

The incident occurred about three weeks ago after a late-night concert at Avdat, Israel, marking the Tu b'Av Night of Love festivities. The car Broza was riding in crashed into electric poles when the driver fell asleep.

Broza, 43, suffered five broken ribs, a broken shoulder, head injuries and a punctured lung. Perhaps the most serious injury, however, was partial paralysis in both his hands.

Broza is well-known for his flamenco-influenced guitar playing.

Although Broza has cancelled all performances for the remainder of the year, doctors believe Broza's hands will recover and he will be able to play again.

Singer Ronit Schachar and Broza's stage crew were also in the car but escaped injury.

Broza was conscious while being rushed to Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot and remembers singing as the medical staff tended to his injuries.

He spent 12 days in hospital and is recuperating in Israel. He is unable to return to his home in New Jersey due to a punctured lung.

Broza has performed frequently in Canada recently. His last appearance here was a Toronto concert with Canadian performers Marc Jordan and Amy Sky in October 1997. He has recorded many albums in English and Hebrew.

Broza's Canadian concert promoter Corey Ross will forward any letters of support from his fans. Letters can be sent to Corey Ross Productions Inc., 9 Humewood Dr. #39, Toronto, Ont. M6C 1C9.

David Broza was seriously injured in a car accident.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

FROM BROADWAY TO KLEZMER II

The musical revue *From Broadway to Klezmer II and More* comes to North York's Leah Posluns Theatre for two performances only at 1 and 7 p.m. on Sept. 6. The revue features professional singing sensations, virtuoso violinists, a comedy routine, a dancer and **Paul Mathew** with his nine-piece band.

Tickets $12 in advance, $15 at the door. Available at Lasting Impressions (635-0720) and other locations.

***

Concert for Israeli Hospital: The Canadian Friends of Esrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital are hosting a gala concert featuring violinist **Jacques Israelievitch**, concert master of the TSO, cellist **Shauna Rolston** and composer-pianist **John Arpin**.

Guest of honor is **Dr. Stanley Greben**. Proceeds to go to Esrath Nashim-Herzog's research into Alzheimer and Parkinson disease.

Sept. 13, Ford Centre, George Weston Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. 256-4222.

* * *

Saving Private Ryan: The camera pans across a row of graves of soldiers killed in the Allied landing at the Omaha Beach, Normandy on D-Day. Amidst the rows of crosses, several Jewish stars are visible. These are only a few of numerous Jewish touches in Steven Spielberg's latest masterpiece, *Saving Private Ryan*.

One of the troupe of eight soldiers who go behind enemy lines to rescue Ryan is Pvt. Stanley Mellish, played by 27-year-old actor **Adam Goldberg** of Los Angeles. Allusions are made to the Jews in several scenes involving Mellish, including one in which he confronts a line of German prisoners of war and proudly proclaims that he, one of their captors, is "ein Jude, ein Jude, ein Jude."

Goldberg, the son of a Jewish father and Catholic mother, also appears in the upcoming **Ron Howard** film *ed TV* and has signed a contract with ABC-TV for his own television series.

***

Arts in Brief:

• **The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir** invites new singers in all voice ranges for the coming season. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, 7:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 9. Winchevsky Centre, 595 Cranbrooke Ave. (north of Lawrence, east of Bathurst). Sophie, 444-2332 or Ben/Jean 489-7681.

• Escapades, a photography exhibit by **Beverley Abramson**, continues to Sept. 29 at The Rosedale Diner, 1164 Yonge St. 923-3122.

• Koffler Centre School of Dance is offering a new curriculum combining ballet, jazz, creative and tap. Course guide, 636-1880, ext. 273.

***

Visual Arts Notes: Relics, an exhibition of works by **Jonathan Phillip Sheinbaum**, is on view at Propeller Gallery, 96 Spadina Ave., Suite 303. 504-7142.

• From Abstraction to Realism, a show at Marcia Rafelman Fine Arts, features seven artists who have agreed to give a portion of sales in support of Israel at 50; also two photographers, **David Cowles** and **Motty Levy**, whose works explore Jewish life, past and present. 10 Clarendon Ave. Until Sept. 14. 920-4468.

***

Trudy Desmond

In the Spotlight: Mellow, melancholy, jazzy, syncopated…there are plenty of fascinating rhythms and creative phrasings in singer **Trudy Desmond's** new CD, *My One and Only: A Gershwin Celebration*.

Recorded to honor the centenary of George Gershwin's birth, the CD contains innovative contemporary arrangements of classic tunes such as *I Got Rhythm, Somebody Loves Me, They All Laughed* and *Nice Work If You Can Get It*.

Musicians include **Bill Mays, Neil Swainson, Ed Bickert, Don Thompson** and **Ted Quinlan**.

The Brooklyn-born Desmond, whose education included 10 years in a yeshiva, lives some of the time in Toronto, but lately she's been on the road with a jazz trio doing a string of live performances.

"I have never performed music so universally loved as Gershwin," she said. "He's allowed me to reach to a different audience. Because if people are nervous about jazz, Gershwin is the common denominator."

My One and Only is Desmond's fourth CD and the easiest one for her to record: the whole project was completed in only a couple of months. "It was just kind of meant to be," she said, adding that the music presented no obstacles to jazzier interpretations.

"That's the beauty of Gershwin's work. The internal structure of his writing allows you to easily slide from style to style without insulting the style of his writing."

The centenary of George Gershwin's birth falls on Sept. 26. Desmond is scheduled to perform in Sault Ste. Marie on that date.

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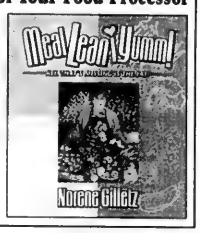

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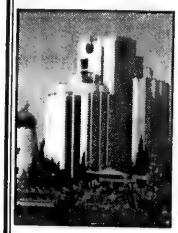
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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

THE GETTY AND OTHER LOS ANGELES MUSEUMS

Like the recently opened Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, the new $1 billion Getty Centre made international headlines when it opened last winter in Los Angeles.

Set on a hill in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains, along the historic Sepulveda Pass, the unique arts and cultural institution can be seen for miles, and in turn, offers panoramic views of the region from downtown Los Angeles to the Pacific Ocean.

Admission is free to this exquisitely designed complex of six buildings, which house many important works of art. Prize-winning architect Richard Meier described the 110-acre hilltop of the Getty Centre as "the most beautiful site I have ever been invited to build on."

In his design, Meier integrated the curves of the mountains with the squareness of the urban grid, and maintained the sense of spaciousness by keeping the architecture open so as not to block the magnificent view. He used generous amounts of travertine, a stone richly textured with fossils, as well as metal panels and railings to heighten the desired synthesis between the natural and urban environments.

The Getty's permanent collections are housed in five two-story pavilions around a central open courtyard that features fountains, reflecting pools and shade trees. Visitors walk from gallery to gallery, viewing the works of art at their own pace and in whatever order they like.

The paintings include works by Fra Bartolommeo, Mantegna, Pontormo, Rubens, Van Dyck, Poussin, Goya, Van Gogh, Monet, Renoir, Degas and Cezanne; there are also drawings by Michelangelo, Leonardo, Raphael and many others. Other items on view include French-made furniture from the 17th and 18th centuries, tapestries from Gobelins and Beauvais, and sculpture by Cellini, Bernini, Houdon and Canova.

Like the famous Getty Villa in Malibu which is closed for extensive renovations, the Getty Centre requires visitors with cars to reserve parking spots in advance; although the waiting list is months long, spaces sometimes become available due to cancellations.

Since the museum expects to greet roughly 1.3 million visitors in its first year, there can be a long wait to board the free tram up and back down the hill. At times, visitors must also queue to enter the gift shop and even the washrooms. The centre boasts a variety of creative food establishments; an excursion of at least three hours is recommended. 310-440-7360.

***

More L.A. Museums: Another worthy gallery established by an American mogul and dripping with opulence is the Armand Hammer Museum of Art at 10899 Wilshire Blvd at Westwood Blvd. Hammer, an oil magnate who died in 1990, had promised his personal collection of art to the L.A. County Museum of Art but decided instead to found his own museum. The collection includes works by Toulouse Lautrec, Degas, Rembrandt and Van Gogh, and can easily be viewed in two hours.

The above-mentioned L.A. County Museum of Art (5905 Wilshire Blvd.) is closed on Wednesdays, but when I unknowingly arrived there by cab on a Wednesday afternoon, I was not too perturbed. This, after all, is the stretch of Wilshire Boulevard known as Museum Row.

Soon I was examining the George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries. This fascinating museum (5801 Wilshire Blvd.) displays the skeletal remains of prehistoric animals caught in the oozing tar pits that once covered the neighborhood. The well-preserved skeletal remains of sloths, vultures, mastodons, camels, bears, lizards and even human beings have been retrieved from the La Brea swamp.

At 5900 Wilshire Blvd. is the Carole & Barry Kaye Museum of Miniatures; which bills itself as "the biggest little collection in the world." In this eccentric but fun institution you'll find highly detailed models of everything from the Titanic to the historic palaces of Europe. There are also miniature dollhouses, dolls, cars, furniture, and micro-miniatures such as a camel caravan carved inside the eye of a needle.

The 4-year-old Petersen Automotive Museum, at 6060 Wilshire Blvd., displays more than 200 cars and motorcycles.

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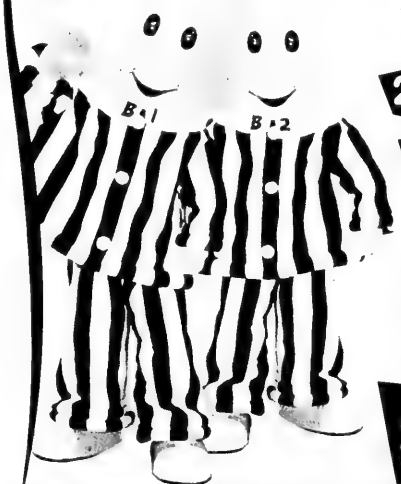
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Canadian gov't. promotes Territories investment

Will open trade office in Ramallah

BY JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Canadian government is implementing policies and investing resources to boost economic relations between Canada and the Palestinian Authority (PA).

In recent years, there have been several examples of Canada's expanding role in Gaza and the West Bank. Since the Declaration of Principles was signed in 1993, Canada has allocated $95 million to the West Bank and Gaza for a series of projects, primarily through the United Nations.

When the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement was negotiated, goods produced in Gaza and the West Bank were given the same preferential treatment as those produced in Israel.

According to participants in a February 1997 Canadian trade delegation to Israel, government officials encouraged the delegation to also consider business possibilities in the PA region.

In July 1998, following the direction of an update from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), the Canadian Embassy in Tel Aviv led a Palestinian trade and investment mission to Canada.

Currently, the document says, a memorandum of understanding on economic cooperation and trade with the PA is being prepared for Canada's minister for International Trade.

A Canadian office staffed by one employee will be opening in Ramallah, in the PA region, in October, says Dexter Bishop, a spokesperson for DFAIT. The office will provide trade advice and economic assistance.

Many opportunities for Canadians in Gaza and the West Bank will likely involve Israeli firms, as Israelis are already doing business in various sectors there.

Bishop says the first step for companies looking at the area is to contact the department's Middle East North Africa Bureau in Ottawa, which will provide background information for doing business in the region.

The next step is to contact the Canadian Embassy in Tel Aviv to get names of contacts and information about joint venture possibilities and ongoing Canadian economic activity in the region.

Because joint ventures in the PA region require 51 percent local ownership, Bishop says the third and most important step is to "know your partners well.

"Business practices may not resemble our own. Partnership is vital. [Under the rules, Canadians are minority shareholders and] one has to move with that in mind," he says.

While early entrants in the area assume a higher risk than those who come later, such entrepreneurial pioneers "have a better chance of becoming known," Bishop says.

DFAIT was quite bullish on economic opportunities under Palestinian/Israeli control in the aftermath of the Oslo peace accords.

"While the Palestinian economy is smaller and less developed than that of Israel, for some [Canadian exporters], opportunities may be greater," the department wrote in its December 1996 document, *Focus on Israel*.

There are a number of industrial sectors in which aggressive Canadian companies can profit. One is upgrading municipal infrastructure.

"These offer good opportunities for the construction sector," *Focus on Israel* pointed out.

Other areas of opportunity include processed food and cut flowers. In vertical markets where Palestinian industries are more developed, strategic alliances are the route to take. This is particularly true in the garment industry, agriculture, pharmaceuticals and health products.

DFAIT officials emphasize the importance of relationship marketing and the need to visit prospective business partners. "Papers, brochures and faxes will be ignored if there is not a face behind them."

The Canadian International Development Agency has provided sanitation equipment to the City of Gaza, while the Montreal firm Hydrosult has provided advice, specifications and construction supervision in Gaza.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities helped Rafah to plan its sewage system, and a further three-year project with Rafah will provide $2.5 million worth of technical assistance and equipment procurement.

The PA has expressed strong interest in a joint venture between Nova Scotia Power and Trycana Development Inc., and has asked them to bid on a sole sources basis to build the World Bank/IFC Gaza power generation project.

A document released by the Israel Economic Mission in Toronto points out that while progress is being made on the economic front, "it is clear that progress is dependent, first and foremost, on a stable security situation as well as cooperation by the Palestinians and the international community."

In a recent report produced by DFAIT, new concerns were raised about the moribund pace of economic development in Gaza and the West Bank. The stalemate in the peace process was blamed.

"Trade potential with the West Bank and Gaza has been severely hampered by difficulties in the peace process," the report says.

DFAIT officials point out that closure of areas under the PA, failure to reach agreement on a corridor between Gaza and the West Bank and the opening of an airport and seaport in Gaza "have had a serious impact on the Palestinian economy."

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8:45AM	10:15AM	5:30PM

								DEPARTURE
MORNING								
1	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)						9:45AM	5:00PM
2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)						10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)		10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)		10:15AM	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)			10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss Golden Sq.Ctr (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)		10:45AM	6:00PM
AFTERNOON								
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)						2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)						2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)		2:15PM	Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)			2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre		5:15PM	1:00AM
MIDNIGHT								
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)						7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)		9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)						10:30PM	5:00AM

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Business Profile

Information is bank economist's daily bread

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the understated vernacular of bankers, Joshua (Josh) Mendelsohn deals with "risk management."

Innocuous though it may sound, the phrase, pregnant with portentous implications, goes to the heart of Mendelsohn's job at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

As senior vice-president and chief economist, his task is "to help CIBC manage its risk position and to support the officers of the bank in making key decisions."

In this way, Mendelsohn, supported by a group of 16 staff economists, advises senior management and helps enhance profitability.

Judging by the bank's record-breaking profits of recent years, it appears that Mendelsohn and his crew are more than earning their keep.

The bank, he allowed, could function "without us" for a while. But the subtext is clear. In the lyrical words of the rock band America, CIBC needs him like the flowers need the rain.

Mendelsohn, 51, joined the CIBC in 1977 as an economist in its banking and financial analysis sector. A graduate of the City University of New York and McGill, he had previously worked for the C.D. Howe Research Institute and Bell Canada.

At the former, he conducted research on financial markets and institutions and fiscal policy. At the latter, he analyzed domestic and international markets.

In his current capacity as CIBC's chief economist, to which he was appointed in 1992, Mendelsohn is responsible for managing national and international activities of its economics division.

Apart from counselling management on economic trends and policies, he puts out *Observations*, a monthly journal of forecasts and analysis, along with a number of periodic publications covering everything from the state of financial markets to provincial government finances.

Mendelsohn, whose cramped, book-filled 51st-floor office in Commerce Court West offers a panoramic view of downtown Toronto's skyscrapers and the verdant islands on Lake Ontario, confers regularly with the chair of the bank, the frequency depending upon Canadian and global developments.

"If I have to brief him on something, I pick up the phone," he said. "It could be a couple of times a week to once a month."

As well, he reports to CIBC's board. Last year, before the precipitous collapse of Thailand's baht, he warned board members of a looming crisis in Asia.

Mendelsohn, chair of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's Economic Policy committee, also dispenses advice to federal and provincial governments, whether in discussions with members of the civil service or before finance committees.

On occasion, he speaks to Finance Minister Paul Martin and his provincial counterparts.

"They want to get a sense of what people in the marketplace are thinking," said Mendelsohn. "We provide advice to governments because better government policy leads to better economic performance for the country as a whole and, as a result, the bank will perform better."

Do they listen?

"In some cases, they take us seriously," he said.

Otherwise, they merely convey that impression, Mendelsohn wryly suggested.

Last but not least, he responds to journalist's questions and customer queries. "If we can help our clients succeed, that will mean more and better business for CIBC. At the end of the day, it is our job to help people make decisions, inside the bank and externally."

Beyond performing these roles, Mendelsohn, who works about 65 hours a week, sits on a special advisory panel of the Ontario Jobs and Investment Board.

The panel is expected to recommend strategies and actions on how Ontario's economy can be more innovative in terms of future growth and competitiveness.

For a man who constantly monitors international developments, information – both raw and processed – is Mendelsohn's daily bread.

Though he runs the risk of being inundated by information overload, Mendelsohn is nothing if not a prodigious reader.

He reads specialized economic journals and devours Canadian, American and British newspapers and magazines from *The Globe and Mail* and *The New York Times* to *The Financial Post* and *The Economist*.

Not content with only these sources, he scans Reuter's wire service and pores over statistical releases from about 75 countries and data from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

When the need arises, he calls far-flung contacts around the universe for a keener perspective of this or that trend.

And, of course, he seeks the expertise of CIBC's corps of in-house specialists.

Juggling this jumble of data, he sorts out the wheat from the chaff. "You have to be able to bring the pieces together," he explained. "The trick is to identify what's relevant or is likely to be relevant in the future."

Mendelsohn, who also studied political science at the undergraduate level, maintains that a topflight economist must have a broad outlook. He or she must have an understanding of politics, international affairs, psychology, sociology and history. "And an interest in science and technology doesn't hurt either."

Joshua Mendelsohn

Citing two examples, Mendelsohn pointed out that President Bill Clinton's travails in the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal, as well as Japan's reluctance to take appropriate measures to revitalize its economy because of the special nature of its society, could have a bearing on financial developments.

In his opinion, economics is *not* a science. "It isn't exact. You're ultimately dealing with human beings and, therefore, you don't have a controlled experiment."

Mendelsohn, an acolyte of Joseph Schumpeter and John Maynard Keynes, among others, was originally attracted to the "dismal science" by a Brooklyn College professor who had a talent for enlivening it.

He was born and raised in Tel Aviv, the son of Morris and Lea, a couple who met and married when Israel was still a British mandate.

In the late 1920s, Mendelsohn's grandfather, a Zionist, bought citrus groves around Ra'nana, on the coastal plain, and eventually Morris settled in Palestine to tend to them.

During the mid-1950s, the Mendelsohns left Israel and decamped in New York City, where Morris made a living as a jeweller.

Mendelsohn, whose command of Hebrew remains undimmed, attended a yeshiva in Flatbush. Recalling the seminary's regime of mental gymnastics, he observed, "A lot of good people in economics have studied the Talmud."

Mendelsohn and his wife Eileen, a chartered general accountant, have two children, Matthew, 25, and Lauren, 19. When he is not working, he enjoys puttering around his garden, reading and travelling. The family belongs to Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Mendelsohn, the CIBC's first Jewish chief economist, believes that Canadians should be "reasonably concerned" by the ongoing turmoil in Asia.

"The crisis in Asia has not turned out to be a bump in the road," he said. "It's not resolving itself quickly."

In the past few months, the situation has deteriorated and affected Japan, Canada, Russia and emerging economies in Brazil, Chile and South Africa.

And if China devalues its currency, the problems could worsen, he said.

The "Asian flu" has had a marked effect on Canada because commodity demand and prices have declined. British Columbia has been hardest hit by the fallout, while the Canadian dollar has depreciated to its lowest ever level.

"The sharply weaker dollar poses long-term risks to the Canadian economy. A weak currency is a serious threat not only to the country's economic performance but ultimately to Canadians' standard of living. There are no grounds for complacency."

During the interview, he accused the Bank of Canada of "benign neglect," contending it should raise the interest rates to prop up the dollar.

How much further will the dollar plummet before stability is restored? For once, he was at a loss. "Frankly, I don't know."

Conceivably, it could fall below 60 cents, he observed, adding, "We do need tax cuts over the long term."

Assuming that the American economy remains healthy, he does not expect Canada to plunge into a recession any time soon.

"The worst thing that could happen next year is a slowdown." Mendelsohn forecasts that Canada's growth rate, projected to be in the 3.5 percent range this year, will fall to 2.7 percent in 1999.

Asked if he has any advice for the average investor, Mendelsohn cautioned that he is not an investment counsellor. But with this proviso in mind, he said, "If you're young enough, you can be more invested in the stock and equity market. If you're older, you have to be more conservative."

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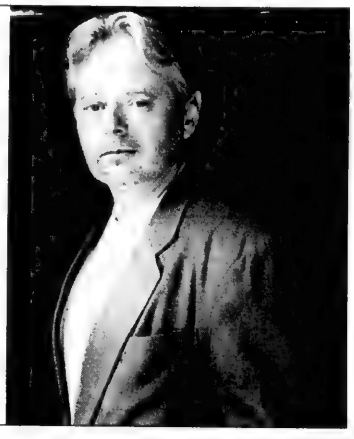

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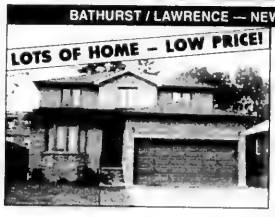

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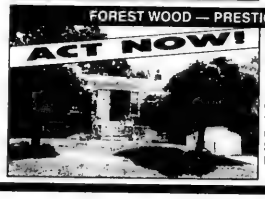

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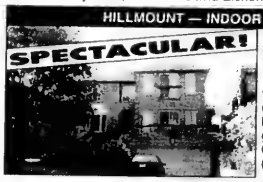

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If you put in $100,000, the value should be between $600,000 - $650,000. Check it out! Call Jeffrey Joseph*

WARREN RD./ST. CLAIR $1,095,000
Handsome Tudor on 50'x180' lot. 6000 sq. ft., 6 bdrms., den & family room. Grand in every way. S. Solomon*

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York Mills/Sandfield. Contemporary design 5,000 sq. ft. Unique design; open concept. Call Cheryl Graff*

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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$299,000. 3 bedrooms, large principal rooms, sep. ent. to finished basement.
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Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

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3 bedroom detached, family room, fireplace, bsmt. with hot tub, jacuzzi, 4 baths, great condition! Look! Buy!
SALLY ROSEN, Sale Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

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Home Sellers
Highest CASH Price Paid

If you have a bungalow or a property suitable for development along the Yonge Street central core of Toronto, we have purchasers who will pay market value, with a closing date suitable to you. No pressure. All calls confidential. CALL US while the market is HOT.

New Home Buyers

We have 12 new custom homes soon to be completed ranging in price from 500K - 700K along the Yonge Street central core. Quality builders, new home warrantees. Will customize to your needs. (Not intended to solicit properties already for sale.)

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Sales Reps. - RE/MAX Unique Inc. (416) 928-6833

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
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OVERBROOK WILMINGTON
Split lvl., 3 bdrm., 3 bths., fam. rm., w/out. fin. bsmnt., dble gar.

• • •

SHEPPARD ALLEN RD.
New, quality built 4 bdrm., 4 bths., liv. & din. comb., fam. rm., kit., w/out to deck, fin. bsmnt., don't miss!

• • •

WILMINGTON SHEPPARD
3 bdrm. bung., huge liv. & din., stained hrdwd. floors, finished bsmnt., steps to all.

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BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
2-3 bdrms + 1-1 bdrm. apts., balcs., garages + pkg., good income.

• • •

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath. N/Steeles - Lux. builders home, 4+1 bdrm., 5+1 bth., open concept, 3 car garage, 62'x300'. $660K. 905-882-1549.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

STUNNING PENTHOUSE ON THE LAKE

- elegant principal rooms for entertaining
- marble fireplace and hardwood floors
- 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a family room
- offered at $1,650,000. A gem!

ROSLYN AVERY
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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Finch, 133 Torresdale, corner ste., 3 bdrm., 2 bth., carpet, CAC, fitness fac., pkg., bus stop front. 416-665-4020.

Bathurst-Wilson 150 Neptune 3 bdrm. 2 bath, 5 appl. 2nd fl. Shabbat ele. $1325 783-6831.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles, seeking a roommate to share furn. penthouse condo, kosher, n/smkr, recreational facilities. 416-665-4121.

Seeking grad student/young prof. to share apt. at Lawrence & Bathurst area. Call 784-0606.

Seeking young prof./grad student to share an apt. with, n/smkr Jamie at 416-324-2262.

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

Responsible female avail. to house sit as Sept. 1. Kosher preferred. Refs. avail. 783-5348

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Seasonal rental North Miami, 1 bdrm apt. on waterway $2200 mthly. 1-561-483-5799.

Singer Island, 2 bdrm. apt., appl., avail. Jan, Feb, March. Joe at 249-0762, 905-833-1974.

Sunrise Lakes, 1 br., 1 1/2 bth. condo. Jan. 15. 905-889-5009.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Boca Raton, Century Village, lge. 1 bdrm. condo. Call between 1pm -11pm. 782-7086.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Lady wanted to share condo at Century Village, Deerfield Bch. Own room w/TV. Close to shopping, shul, pool. 416-630-6250.

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

I'll drive your car to Florida, Nov.1, early 40's. 25 yrs accident & claim free driving record. Refs. avail. Call 416-486-1748.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

DIAMOND PERSONNEL
Professionally Screened
Nannies
Housekeepers
and Health Care
Companions
Since 1988
416 730-8866

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

JACKSON'S POINT 110 FT. DIRECTLY ON LAKE SIMCOE

Large 15 rm. 4 bath, cottage incl. 8 bdrms, master ensuite/jacuzzi and balcony, 34' long sun rm overlooking pool and lake. Town services, only one block from Synagogue and close to Briars Golf Club and resort. Vendor very motivated!
MLS #TC6310. **Call Bob Howes, Prudential Renascent Realty at (416) 213-7228, Ext. 323.**

$399,900

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Eglinton & Bathurst -Luxury 2 bdrms 2 washrooms, balcony, pkg, 1100 sq. ft., s. exposure $1285/mo. 416-241-7616.

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lge. 3 bdrm. + den, wrap around balc., southern exp., CAC, immediate. 416-783-0542, 416-787-9451.

123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT

Towers of Mullet Bay, St. Maarten, 1 bdrm., full liv/din rm, kit., sleeps 4, golf incl, security. Dec. 5-12, 1998. $1,400/wk US. Call 954-341-6178 or email to: amherstw@worlnet.att.net

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
Luxury Condos
Large selection of 1, 2 & 3 selection of condos, townhomes, and villas.
WE HAVE THEM ALL!
Call or write for further information.
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Boca, Century Village, 2 bdr., 2 bth. Min. 4 mos.905-764-5388

Bonaventure - 2 br., 2 bth., del. remodeled, microwave, 2 TV, broadloom, sleeps 6, AC, ceiling fans all rms., ready to move in, golf, tennis, pool. 733-1019.

Miami Beach, on the ocean, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., furn. recently, 4-6 months. 416-968-7143.

Palm Aire, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furnished, main flr., 3 months min., avail Oct 1-Apr 30. Call 416-496-2900.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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138 FURN. FLOR. PROP. FOR SALE/RENT

WILLIAMS ISLAND. Mediterranean Village
Beautiful 2 bdr., 2 bth., decorator furn. condo in low rise villa style bldg. Gorgeous view of private pool/yacht club, 2 balc., concierge/valet, 24hr. sec., priv. pkg., close to restaurants, shopping etc. Avail. for sale or rental on mo./seas/yrly basis or rent to own. Call 416-587-4899.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Polish exper. cleaning lady, refs. Call 247-4157.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

City of Vaughan By-Law Enforcement Officer - Parking (Part-time) 98-108
The City Above Toronto

This position is responsible for monitoring compliance with City By-laws, particularly Parking, Sign, and portion of Zoning By-laws, including identifying, investigation and reporting offences; and enforcing such By-laws in accordance with applicable legislation/regulations, as appropriate.

The successful candidate will be a Secondary School Graduate with Post Secondary courses in Law Enforcement/Investigative Studies Discipline. Minimum of two (2) years related experience, preferably in a municipal environment. Working knowledge of Municipal By-laws, enforcement process, the Provincial Offences and Highway Traffic Acts and court proceeding. Good organizational and report writing skills, accompanied with computer literacy and the ability to deal courteously and effectively with the public and staff. Valid Class "G" driver's license, in good standing. Availability to work rotating shifts.

To be considered for this challenging opportunity, please forward your curriculum vitae by September 11, 1998 quoting File 98-108, to: **City of Vaughan, Human Resources Department, 2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, Ont., L6A 1T1. Fax: (905) 832-8575.**

Personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1980 c 302 (as amended), and will be used to detemine qualifications for employment with The Corporation of the City of Vaughan or Vaughan Hydro. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Director of Human Resources, 2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, Ont L6A 1T1, (905) 832-2281

Hebrew & Judaic Studies teachers req'd. for Conservative Sunday Hebrew School. Call 416-226-0111 for information.

Tutor required to learn Polish lanquage. 905-660-6502.

Marketing assistant. No sales. Typing and office exp. F/T. Will train.Fax resume 416-406-6531

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Exp. Lady seeks p/t job to care for elderly, kids, light housekeeping, midnight shifts, weekends, refs. 416-287-0415.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour, minimum 4 hours. Fully insured. 7 days a week. *Call Sharon* 416-783-8068.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

Nannies/caregivers for elderly & disabled seek live-in or out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in and live-out Caregivers.
Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

*** Need Help For the High Holidays?** Top Agency will provide prof. support from serving to preparation of foods, cleaning & child care. Relax & enjoy your special holiday with the assistance of **No. 1 Domestic Service**. Call today to book an appointment. **Call 416-224-9907.**

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded. Sylvia, 416-740-3034.

Ann Quality Cleaning Services. Exp. cleaning ladies. Also cleaning homes after renovations & painting, using our own products. Polish, Russian and English speaking,refs.744-0659

Cleaning lady with refs. avail. eves & weekends. 782-8240.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

English speaking Filipino nanny req'd for new born, live-in or live-out. 905-761-6595, Jodi.

Exp nanny/housekeeper req'd w/valid drivers license. Live-in or out. Refs. 416-920-7905.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

Looking For The Perfect Senior Care? Sincere, exp., quality senior caregivers, HCA, nurses avail. F/t, P/t. Bonded, refs. **Call # 1 Domestics. 416-224-9907.**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

It only takes 1 match to light a fire! 2 engagements/mo. **BPT.** Ruth Friedman at 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1645 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

"Penny, I served you coffee, at Beth Tikvah. Comedy night, Thursday, August 20, 1998. Please call Philip 638-6783."

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Winnipeggers are forming a national lobby organization. If you are a Jewish Holocaust survivor who has been denied restitution please write: Sheila Smith, 366 Matheson Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2W 0C8.

270 PERSONALS

2 tickets req'd for Holidays at **Pride of Israel**. 416-736-6776.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

DJM, late 50's, athletic, 5' 10", attractive, wordly, passionate, sensitive, well traveled, old fashion values loves art & culture seeks SJF independent, honest and sincere for friendship leading to longterm relationship. CJN Box # 7089.

Gay (male) - If you want love, intimacy, friendship and fun, write and tell me about yourself and let's get together for coffee. Reply to CJN Box # 7088.

Senior male seeks female life partner or companionship, 60-65, Hungarian speaking pref. Reply to CJN Box # 7090.

Big hearted, 23 yr. old SJM, 5'8", 150 lbs, physically fit, looking for his big hearted 18-25 SJF soul mate. CJN Box # 7065

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
- CUSTOMER SERVICE -

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

To Listen & Respond To Ads call 1-900-451-4552 Ext.# 65
The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute
To Place Your FREE Ad call 905-276-6167 Ext.# 65

The Meeting Place

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

Women seeking Men

STRAIGHT FORWARD
Divorced, mother of 1, 35, 5'3", long brown hair, blue eyes, honest, affectionate, straight forward, enjoy movies, music, travelling, long walks, outdoor activities. Seeking a male with similar interests for long term relationship AD#1499

SEARCH FOR YOU
Very attractive, intelligent, Jewish female. Seeking an unattached, established, honest, kind, affectionate gentleman, non smoker, 55-65 AD#1490

CALL ME
Single Jewish mom, 35, fit, attractive. Seeking a single Jewish dad, who is sports oriented & fun loving AD#1491

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 30 something, petite, cute, athletic, creative, loves kids. Seeks a Jewish male, 35-45, with similar interests and values AD#1476

CALL ME
Single Jewish female, professional, attractive, enjoys movies, theater, long walks, dining, exercise, quiet evenings, family oriented. Seeks a male, who is easy going, for friendship possible long term AD#1477

VIVACIOUS LADY
Lady, late 40's, pretty, good figure 5'4", hazel eyes, blondish hair, enjoys cooking, quiet evenings, romantic walks, dining and dancing. Seeks male, 48, 58, handsome, established caring AD#1478

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

LIFE LONG PARTNER
Single female, Jewish, professional, pretty smile and eyes, enjoys conversation, laughter. Seeks gentleman, 38-45, with good sense of humour and zest for life AD#1482

FRIENDSHIP
Single female, 44, 5'5", 155lbs, attractive, short brown hair and green eyes, tanned complexion, good natured. Seeks gentleman with same qualities AD#1483

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOUR
Single Jewish female, 5'3", enjoys movies, art, bike riding, mother of 2 kids. Seeks a gentleman, 42-52, kind, sincere, non-smoker AD#1573

ROMANTIC MOMENTS
Single female, 50, caring, sincere, employed, enjoys travelling, dinning out, working out, aerobics. Seeking for a male to share romantic moments AD#1512

ENJOYS THE ARTS
Single beautiful female, 5'7", 138lbs, hazel eyes, good figure, enjoys dancing, movies, music, dancing and dining, theatre and the arts AD#1463

CHARMING
Single jewish female, 5'7", 138lbs, tall, attractive, intelligent, affectionate, charming, enjoys music, dinning out, theatre, movies. Seeking a male, 41-52, that's intelligent, caring, sincere and financially secure AD#1464

INDEPENDENT
Single female, 26, petite, enjoys long walks on the beach, movies. Seeking a Jewish male 28-33 that's kind, sensitive, outgoing, ambitious and independent AD#1438

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 49, loving, caring, loyal, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, dancing, long walks, travelling, seeking a male, 49-57 for lasting relationship Ad# 1420

COMEDY CLUBS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", dark hair, green eyes, warm, down to earth, enjoys movies, camping, music, dinning out, bowling, theatre, concerts, comedy clubs. Seeking a male, 30-43, with similar interests AD#1466

NEW EXPERIENCES
Single Jewish female, 24, 4'8", slim, non-smoker, going to college, enjoys sports, music, basketball. Seeking a male that's caring, compassionate, trustworthy, considering, with similar interests, open to new experiences AD#1467

NIFTY 50'S
Refined lady, early 50's. Seeks male up to 65 for serious, genuine relationship AD#1472

LOVELY LADY
Lovely lady, good character, considerate, sincere. Seeks a gentleman up to 64, for serious relationship or good friends AD#1536

LOOKING FOR FRIENDS
Single female, 50, living in the North York area, is seeking other females interested in evenings out, coffee, theatre and good conversation AD# 1454

POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP
Divorced female, 46, professional, non-smoker, fun loving is seeking a professional male, Jewish, non-smoker, responsible, outgoing, divorced AD#1457

NIFTY FIFTY'S
Widow, 54, no dependents, financially sound, enjoys movies, theater, long romantic walks. Seeking a financially stable male with good sense of humour AD#1510

RESPECTFUL
Single Jewish female, 29, professional, 5'5", 130lbs, attractive brunette. Seeking a Jewish male, 29-34, that's attractive, respectful, with a sweet disposition looking for the love of his life AD#1439

CHILDREN WELCOME
Single Jewish female, attractive mom, 5'5", brown hair and eyes, sincere, kind. Seeking a tall attractive Jewish male 40-50 years, traditional, kind, loves life AD#1473

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single female in 50's, widow, non-smoker, romantic, great sense of humour, financially secure, enjoys dining out, movies, long walks, travelling. Seeking a Jewish male with similar interests AD#1449

Men seeking Women

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 57", professional, nonsmoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling. Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile AD#1485

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, mid 40's, conservative looking, stock marketing investor, has business degree, enjoy dancing. Seeking a female, non-slim is OK, children welcome AD#1486

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single male, 50, 5'10", 184lbs, handsome, well built, responsible, financially secure, honest, sincere, non-smoker, non-drinker, well established. Seeking a Jewish female, 40-50, with similar interests AD#1465

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music, movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth. Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship AD#1469

NIFTY 50'S
Single white male, 56, self-employed, caring and sincere, enjoys travelling, movies, quiet romantic evenings. Seeks a compassionate, loving, sensitive lady AD# 1480

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, 45, with a business degree, conservative looking, enjoys dancing, has good sense of humour. Seeking a female, doesn't have to be slim, children are OK AD#1405

SHARE LIFE'S BEAUTIES
Single male 55, tall, attractive, European, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, affectionate, enjoys dancing, singing. Seeking a petite attractive female with similar interests to share life's beauties AD#1458

ATHLETIC ROMANTIC
Tall single male, 54, attractive, non-smoker, easy going, athletic, self-employed. Enjoys quiet evenings, sports, movies, music. Seeking a single Jewish female, 38+, non-smoker, attractive with similar values AD#1453

LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP
Gentleman, 39, 5'7", enjoys music, movies, sports, good sense of humour, seeks that special lady for romantic times, loves to cuddle AD#1462

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'7", enjoy music, movies, dining, dancing, seeking cuddly lady to enjoy the finer things in life AD# 1433

WELL BUILT
Single male, 59, 5'10", 182lbs, well built, handsome, good sense of humour, non-smoker,nondrinker, enjoy dancing, travelling, cooking, music, seeking a female, 45-52 with similar interests Ad# 1398

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Single Jewish male, 30, brown hair, brown eyes, variety of interests, sports, movies, concerts, always willing to try something new, seeking a lady with similar interests Ad# 1414

OUTGOING & CARING
Single male, outgoing, caring, enjoy live theatre, seeking a female for a relationship, someone who is honest, trustworthy, loyal, good listener & communicator Ad# 1379

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Gentleman, sincere, sentimental, affectionate, love to cuddle, enjoy movies, music, romantic times & winters in Florida, seeking a slim, attractive lady, 55+ with similar interests Ad# 1383

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest, not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere Ad# 1364

WHAT A CATCH
Single Jewish male, 33, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, handsome, spontaneous, enjoy dining, dancing, movies, outdoor activities, travelling, seeking a single Jewish female 28-34, attractive, slim, easy going, brunette Ad# 1387

AN ORIGINAL
Gentleman, kind, sincere, intelligent, easy going, professional, enjoy dining, dancing, quiet evenings, seeking lady with similar interests for long term old fashioned relationship Ad# 1409

STAND BY ME
Gentleman, 26, Jewish, police officer in Toronto area, educated, hoping to return to college, seeking good natured lady with good sense of humour, no more broken hearts Ad# 1368

AMBITIOUS
Single male, 30, ambitious, outgoing, enjoy travelling, sports, long walks, dining out, seeking a warm, compassionate female who is sensitive & outgoing Ad# 1370

DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY
Very conservative gentleman, 5'8", stock analyst, enjoy art auctions, drives in the country, looking for a lady or single moms, you don't have to be slim Ad# 1348

GREAT TIMES TOGETHER
Single Jewish male, 63, 5'9", 160 lbs., like to give a lot of tender loving care, enjoy arts, sports, seeking a slim Jewish lady who is elegant & proud of her Jewish heritage & religion Ad# 1357

GOOD CONVERSATION
Single Jewish male, 56, enjoy travelling, movies, walks, have a good sense of humour, goo conversation & romantic, seeking a female who is attractive with similar interests Ad# 1372

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

MAH JONG set for sale, beautiful. Call 905-886-5968.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

I want to buy MAH JONGG set. Call 416-496-2041.

Sterling Israeli Kiddush cups with filigree work & Eilat stone wanted. 416-667-0855.

330 OBITUARIES

DRUBICH, Charles - on Aug. 8, 1998, late of 239 Brighton Ave.
HIRSCH, Myra - on Aug. 8, 1998, late of 351 Christie St.
SOPMAN, Archie - on Aug. 8, 1998, late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W., #1601.
STEINHARDT, Stella - on Aug. 8, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MENDELSSOHN, Joyce - on Aug. 9, 1998, late of 3 Fairway Heights Cres.
CUKIER, Mordchai - on Aug. 10, 1998, late of 76 Acton Ave.
TESKEY, Lenore - on Aug. 10, 1998, late of 33 Drewry Ave.
WOLBROM, Blanche - on Aug. 10, 1998, late of 1 Clark Ave. W., PH #10.
SMITH, Hyman - on Aug. 11, 1998, late of 900 Yonge St., #604.
ZABITSKY, Kate - on Aug. 12, 1998, late of 330 Spadina Rd., #1102.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
New Year cards now available
Phone: (416) 487-5246

330 OBITUARIES

GELLER, Annie - on Aug. 14, 1998, late of 1195 Queen St. E.
GORBATSKI, Semen - on Aug. 14, 1998, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd., #1208.
SHER, Ray - on Aug. 16, 1998, late of 3900 Yonge St., #701.
GREEN, Moe - on Aug. 17, 1998, late of 55 Ameer, #903.
WEEKES, John - on Aug. 17, 1998, late of 176 Winding Lane.
SPIESMAN, Irving - on Aug. 18, 1998, late of 550 Glencairn Ave., #503.
MARGEL, Pola - on Aug. 19, 1998, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
KIRSCHNER, Toni - on Aug. 20, 1998, late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W., #1405.
SAMUELS, Ben - on Aug. 20, 1998, late of 355 St. Clair Ave., #2304.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

SINGER, Fred - on Aug. 21, 1998, late of 14 Kainona Ave.
SHUCHAT, Bill - on Aug. 22, 1998, late of 30 Monteith St.
BRICKS, Max - on Aug. 23, 1998, late of 166 Cocksfield Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BERG, Rose - on Aug. 11, 1998, late of 55 Neptune Dr., #101.
LEARNER, Charlotte - on Aug. 18, 1998, late of 140 Sherway.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
TRADITIONAL GRAVESIDE SERVICE

IZENBERG GOLDBERG *Monuments*
Serving the Jewish community for over 80 years
- Finest quality memorials crafted in our own factory - under our supervision
- Very reasonable prices

MONUMENTS CAN BE PREPARED WITHIN SHLOSHIM

EXPERIENCE QUALITY - SERVICE
3173 BATHURST ST.
(just north of Lawrence)
(416) 787-0319

FELZEN, Jerry Jacob - on Aug. 5, 1998.
BERAHA, David - on Aug. 6, 1998.
DERMER, Bertha - on Aug. 6, 1998.
MENDELSON, Sue Helen - on Aug. 6, 1998.
ESBIN, Alexander - on Aug. 7, 1998, late of 16 Peveril Hill Rd. S.
BUSHUEV, Irene - on Aug. 8, 1998, late of 10 Torresdale Ave.
ANISFELD, Samuel - on Aug. 9, 1998, late of 27 Sunshine St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

STRASSER, Helena - on Aug. 9, 1998, late of 100 Canyon Ave.
WOHL, Miriam - on Aug. 9, 1998.
IOFFE, Vladimir - on Aug. 11, 1998.
SHREIBER, Bebe (Rebecca) - on Aug. 11, 1998, late of 120 Promenade Circle.
BEINERMAN, Harry - on Aug. 12, 1998.
CHERNOS, Hilda - on Aug. 12, 1998.
HOFFMAN, Sylvia - on Aug. 13, 1998.

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ROBERTS, Frank - on Aug. 13, 1998, late of 1 Chipsted Rd.
KORN, Frederick (Fred) - on Aug. 14, 1998, late of 5 Old Sheppard Ave.
ROMAIN, Isidore (Sid) - on Aug. 14, 1998, late of 38 Canyon Creek Ave.
SHAFIER, Faina - on Aug. 14, 1998, late of 765 Steeles Ave. W.
CITRIN, Gennady - on Aug. 15, 1998, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
GULA, Morris - on Aug. 16, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
HOROWICZ, Israel- on Aug. 17, 1998.
ZALKEN, Howard Raymond - on Aug. 17, 1998.
ARBUS, Mary - on Aug. 18, 1998, late of 209 Glenholme Ave.
BEYDER, Yekaterina - on Aug. 18, 1998, late of 155 Antibes Dr.
LONDON, Ann - on Aug. 18, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BILLINKOFF, Yetta - on Aug. 19, 1998, late of 745 York Mills Rd.
COPNICK, Allen Gerald - on Aug. 19, 1998, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
MINOVITCH, Haim Harry - on Aug. 19, 1998, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
MILNE, Manuel Norman - on Aug. 20, 1998, late of 2075 Bayview Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

Deena Kravetsky

Deena Kravetsky, life long partner of Philip Kravetsky, passed away on Saturday, August 22, 1998 at Seven Oaks General Hospital in Winnipeg. The day of her passing was the first day of *Rosh Chodesh Elul*, 5758. It was the Shabbos of the last week of her 76th year.

Deena was born in Halifax, N.S. on August 26, 1922 (*Ulul 2,5682*) to Toba and Kopel Zlatin. She was raised and educated in Halifax and after completing high school worked with her parents in their business, Tower Grocery, in Halifax. She also worked as a volunteer at the Jewish Serviceman's canteen. It was while working at the canteen in October, 1944 that she met RCAF Cpt. Philip Kravetsky. They were married on February 21, 1945 and in early 1946, shortly after Phil was discharged from the Air Force, they moved to Winnipeg, Phil's home town.

Deena and Phil shared a belief in community service and soon after moving to Winnipeg, Deena, while raising her family, became involved in volunteer work. In the early years she was an active worker for Pioneer women of Canada (now *Na'amat Canada*) and served as president of Omna chapter. Throughout the '60's she served on the executive of the Talmud Torah/Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate P.T.A., chairing many of its committees and serving as president from 1965-1967. She was on the Building Committee of the Hebrew Sick Benefit Association during the planning, development and construction of HSBA Gardens, one of the first elderly person's housing projects undertaken by a Jewish Community organization. Deena was a founding member of Chavurat Tefillah/Fellowship of Prayer Synagogue and served for many years as a director, including 3 terms as president of the congregation. She was a member of Mizrachi/Emunah Women of Canada and acted in a variety of capacities within the Sarah Herson-Atid Chapter, as well as in the National organization, including many years as regional vice-president.

Deena's volunteer work extended to less formal and more personal service. She was part of a small group of women who began working toward building a proper women's *Mikvah* for Winnipeg and was one of the originators of the Winnipeg Mikvah Fund. The work of this small group of women contributed significantly to the establishment of the Chabad Mikvah in 1978. Deena was one of the first and longest serving volunteer attendants for *Taharas Hamishpacha*; retiring from that service only when she became too ill to carry on. She was a tireless worker in the preparation and staging of countless teas, dinners, fundraisers, and other functions, for the many organizations to which she belonged. She was also the unofficial baker of birthday cakes for the children of Oholei Torah School, the cook baker, and often the server for many special kiddushes at the Lubavitcher Shule, Chabad House, and Chavurat Tefillah; she willingly lent her kitchen skills to the making of special events for many friends and acquaintances. As an avid reader she put her skills to work offering her time as a resource assistant and volunteer tutor at Ralph Brown School, in the late 70's.

Her determination to make Kosher food more readily available in Winnipeg led her to start the Elite Snack Shop in 1968 and run it for several years thereafter. In more recent years she was a volunteer delivery person for the Kosher Meals-On-Wheels program.

Deena was also a member of the Sam Melamed Bikur Cholim Society, in which capacity she was a regular visitor of the sick in hospitals and nursing homes.

She will be remembered by the many students, travellers, and newcomers to the city as someone who welcomed them into her home on Shabbos and Yom Tov.

Besides Phil, her loving and dedicated husband of 53 years, left with the benefit of her life's labours on their behalf, her shining example, and many cherished memories are her children: Michelle and David Hamer of Sharon Mass., Shayna and Dov Patkin of Jerusalem, Bas-Sheva and Eliyohu Simmonds of Winnipeg, Rocky and Barb'ra Kravetsky of Winnipeg, Sandra and David Friedman of Baltimore, Md., Mark and Sharon Kravetsky of Winnipeg, Charles and Ilene Kravetsky of Kitchener, Ont., Ahuva Kratvetsky of Winnipeg, and Jack Kravetsky of Winnipeg; Her grandchildren (and great-grand-children): Deborah, Paige and Yael Hamer; Naomi and Mattis Krishevky (Sara, Faige Liba, Eliezer, Moshe Leib, Frayda, Yisroel and Toibe) Yocheved and Avrohom Sammet (Sora Rivkah, Esther Malka, Aharon, Eliezer, Yitzchok Yehoshua), Miriam and Zvi Valershtein (Sima), Eliezer and Devorah Patkin (Pinchas, Sora Ettel, Malka, and Toibe), Aron Yehuda and Gittel Patkin (Moshe Aryeh and Eliezer), Brocha Malka and Moshe Krishevsky (Sarah Ettel and Avrohom Yitzchak), Yoseph Chaim, Shifra Leah, Simma Toba, Moshe David and Gita Raisa Patkin; Yacov, Chana, Sora Ettel, Eliezer, Avigdor, Avrohom, Zalmon Shimon, Tzvi Hirsch, Yoisef Moishe, Tuba, and Hinda Rivka Simmonds; Ya'ir Aryeh, Nachliel Dror, Chedva Leah, Netanel Moshe, Esther Tirza, Atara Tova, Yehuda Nachum, Nechama Mindle, Chaya Riva, Tehila Keren Friedman; Mayer, Rosie, Tobie, Bayla, Leib, Mordy, and Noah Kravetsky; David Martin, Theodore Cecil and Andrew Michael Kravetsky.

Deena's eldest grand daughter, Naomi Krishevsky, gave birth to a baby girl on Tuesday, August 25, in Jerusalem. Her newest great grand daughter will be named this shabbos (August 29).

Deena was predeceased by her parents and by her brothers, Charlie Zlatin of Montreal, Mike Zlatin, and Morris Zlatin of Halifax. She is survived by her sister, Esther Rabinovitch of Albany, New York and her Sister-in-law Jean Zlatin of Halifax. Also surviving her are many nieces, nephews, and members of her husband's family.

Funeral services and preparations were conducted at Chesed Shel Emes Chapel, Executive director, Rena Boroditsky, attended to the intricacies of burial with special attention and care. *Tahara* was performed with care and respect by Bonnie Ash, Karen Richter, and Tobi Schulman of the Ladies Chevra Kaddisha. Her husband and children acted as Shomrim and Tehillim were also recited during Shemirah by Rabbi Avrohom Altein, Shmuel Altein, Tzvi-Hirsch Altein, Avigdor Simmonds, and Zalmon Shimon Simmonds.

The funeral service was conducted by Rabbi Avrohom Altein, Director of the Lubavitch Centre and Rabbi of Bais Midrash Ashkenazie; with the participation of Rabbi Yitzchok Charytan, Jewish chaplain of Manitoba; and Deena's son-in-law David Friedman. Pallbearers were her sons-in-law David Hamer, David Friedman, and Eliyohu Simmonds, her grandsons Avigdor Simmonds and Netanel Friedman and her nephew, Warren Cooper. Burial was at Shaarey Zedek Cemetery.

Shiva was sat 54 Meredith Bay, Winnipeg.

Deena was a supporter of many good causes and would be honoured by support for any worthy cause in her memory.

Thai Nishmasa tsrura b'tzror ha chaim - may her soul be bound up in the bonds of eternal life.

BLEIER, Ernest - on Aug. 21, 1998, late of 36 Silverton Ave.
WEBB, Myra - on Aug. 21, 1998, late of 69 Robingrove Rd.
BECK, Rosa - on Aug. 22, 1998.
PECHURA, Mark - on Aug. 22, 1998, late of 97 Alameda Circle.
RABINOWICZ, Yona - on Aug. 24, 1998, late of 17 Sprucewood Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Irving *(Itzchak)* Belzberg ז"ל
will take place
Monday, Sept. 7th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JULIUS FUSS ז"ל
will take place
Monday, Sept. 7th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Shalom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DAVID KIRSCHBAUM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 1:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Beth Radom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SOL KINRYS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GORDON LEVINE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 6th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

Israel & the Jewish World

Space: the next frontier for the IDF?

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The air force needs to extend its reach into space, Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliahu said in an interview with *Air Force* magazine last week.

"In the future, we will need to correct the historical definition which says that the air force operates in the air, and decide that the air force also operates in space," he said.

Ben-Eliahu said an IAF presence in space would contribute in a variety of areas of combat, and not necessarily against distant enemies.

"You can't link this activity only with actions against far-off enemy nations. Space will also help us in actions in the immediate fronts," Ben-Eliahu said. He said that space allowed a better and further view, since it is not hampered by atmospheric disturbances.

"Planes are often limited, and their operation is a function of the limits of human ability and the territory. Communication with satellites is easier and less restricted.

"The entry of the IAF into space is perceived as entering a separate area from that in which we have operated until now. But a closer look shows the difference is only an extension of the activity we are carrying out in the atmosphere [now]."

Ben-Eliahu added that Israel was able to enter space, and this would contribute to the nation and advance local industries. Israel currently has one satellite, the Ofek-3, and Ben-Eliahu said he is interested in adding another one.

The launch of the Ofek-4, which according to foreign reports, is a spy satellite, failed recently and the Ofek-3 is currently operating beyond its intended life span.

"I hope that in the future we will have more than just one Ofek in the sky. To achieve efficient coverage, the Ofek has to be backed by a series of similar satellites," Ben-Eliahu said.

335 UNVEILINGS

Yad Vashem Monuments

UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, SEPT. 6

ALBERT FEATHERMAN ז"ל
Bathurst Lawn
Piotrokov Tomiashov Section (19A)
10:30 a.m.

MOISHE GALANT ז"ל
Roselawn
Talmud Torah Section(15)
11:00 a.m.

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
NELLIE LEVINE ז"ל
will take place
Monday, Sept. 7th, *(Labour Day)* 12:00 noon
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth Tzedec Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HAROLD PERLMUTTER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 6th, 10:30 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Sons of Abraham Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HOWARD ORFUS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 6th, 1:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument in loving memory of the late
ALTER WEISBLOOM ז"ל
will take place
Monday, Sept. 7th, *(Labour Day)* 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Apter Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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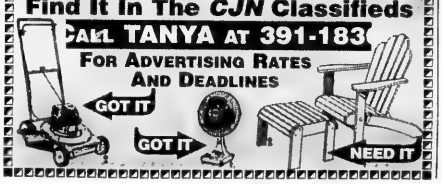

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Beach volleyballers strike paydirt in the sand

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Beach volleyball ace Steven Balaban doesn't like to say he and his teammates took their opponents a little too lightly at the Maccabi JCC Youth Games, but once they saw the opposition in action, they knew they could go through the tournament undefeated.

Lucky for the four boys from Toronto they were able to do just that, racking up an impressive 21-0 record en route to a gold medal victory at the recently concluded games in Detroit.

Chicago was the only team that presented the volleyballers from TO with any trouble, but in nine games versus the team from the Windy City, Toronto was tested only once. That came in a semi-final in which Toronto squeaked out a 17-16 nail-biter in Game 2 of the best of three series.

A loss would have evened the series at 1-1 but as it was, Chicago got the opportunity to take revenge as they again lined up against Toronto in the best of five final. Toronto won that series with ease, taking three straight games by scores of 15-6, 15-7 and 15-8.

Other teams participating in the event included Detroit, Ottawa, Rochester and a second contingent from Toronto.

What allowed volleyballers Balaban, Ian Friedman, Daniel Shermer and Aaron Goldberg to dominate the tournament, was their overall talent level, Balaban contended. Other teams relied on a single top player complemented by two or three lesser talents. The Toronto team was more balanced, and featured both himself and Shermer as spikers, Friedman as the set-up man and Goldberg blocking shots.

"We all used each other; we had lots of weapons so the other teams didn't know where we were coming from," he said.

Add to that plenty of preparation - they practiced at Beach Blast, an indoor facility in Toronto, for weeks in advance of the games – and an 11th place showing in the Ontario midget finals (under 15) by Balaban and Shermer, and their victory was certainly no fluke.

Key men on the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) Blues beach volleyball team, Shermer and Balaban met Goldberg and Friedman during tryouts for the youth team three months ago. They clicked pretty quickly.

Balaban, 15, plays indoor volleyball for York Mills Collegiate but was attracted to the beach variety because of the "diving and athleticism" the sport demands.

In recent years, beach volleyball has taken off in popularity and Balaban believes it's due to the ease of playing on a forgiving surface. "It's easier to dive for the ball and move around in the sand," he suggested.

Balaban was enthusiastic about his first Maccabi experience, saying the opening ceremonies in the Palace of Auburn Hills, home of the Detroit Pistons, was especially memorable. Being part of a group of 3,000 athletes from Canada, the United States, Mexico, Israel and Britain marching into the stadium was a "great, unbelievable" feeling, he said.

The Toronto JCC's beach volleyball gold contingent includes (from left) Elana Skop (coach), Ian Friedman, Daniel Shermer, Steven Balaban, Aaron Goldberg and Anne Shermer (coach).

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Pan Am Maccabi Games on tap

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It may be three years before the next Maccabiah Games in Israel, but that doesn't mean the Maccabi machinery has been left on 'idle'.

Far from it. In fact, Maccabi Canada offialdom has already begun to plan the next big event in their four-year calendar: the 1999 Maccabi Pan American Games in Mexico City.

Canada will send only about 100 athletes to Mexico, far less than the 250 who went to Israel in 1997 but double the contingent sent to Argentina for the Pan Ams in 1996.

Canada will join other Western Hemisphere countries sending teams, including the United States, Colombia, Argentina, Venezuela and Brazil as well as contingents from Israel, Australia and Britain. Altogether, 20 countries will be represented at the games.

The Canadian team will consist of men, women, junior boys and girls and masters athletes. Like the other participants, Canada is making a deliberate effort to bolster its female representation at the Mexico City games. In the past, the Canadian team has been under-represented when it came to female participation, said Allen Gerskup, vice-chair of Maccabi Canada's national athletic committee.

"Traditionally, we haven't had a lot of girls. That's our problem. One sport I'd like to take is girls' basketball, but they're not offering it," he said.

(Canada was one of only a handful of countries to field a female basketball team at last summer's games in Israel, the first time the Maccabiah Games including women's basketball.)

Instead, Gerskup is hoping to find enough female athletes to fill a junior girls softball team while adding female contingents to the bowling, tennis, swimming, gymnastics and golf teams.

Canadians are also expected to compete in: men's softball, junior boys baseball, soccer (the full field, outdoor variety), rugby, masters basketball and 10-pin bowling.

Other sports on offer in Mexico city include: track and field, squash, volleyball (men and women), waterpolo, judo and karate. Junior competition is limited to athletes between 14 and 17 years of age while masters events are dedicated to seasoned athletes 35 and up.

Athletes will be expected to ante-up $3,000 a piece for the unsubsidized games, Gerskup said.

For more information, Gerskup can be reached at 630-7799.

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The Inside Back

One cheer for the Swiss

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

No sooner was the ink dry on Swiss banks' accepted offer of $1.25 billion (US) to settle all Holocaust-era claims, than Jewish organizations scrambled to figure out how to disburse the money. There was talk of committees, toll-free telephone numbers and more committees. Maybe Sergio Karas, the Toronto lawyer who represents the 25 Canadian claimants, was right when he said that the Swiss had made a deft move: by coughing up a relatively paltry sum, they shifted this from a Swiss problem to a Jewish problem.

Maybe the banks did play it smart. They low-balled an initial offer to settle out of court at $600 million. The World Jewish Congress wanted twice that. Fine, said the banking gnomes of Zurich and Bern, and magnanimously signed over what any person, working stiff or not, would regard as a mountain of cash.

But consider: for just one percent of their combined assets in the United States alone – and without so much as denting their triple-A Moody's ratings – the Union Bank of Switzerland and Credit Suisse made the whole problem go away, and dumped it straight into the laps of Jewish bureaucrats in New York.

It is thus now up to Jewish groups (Canadian Jewish Congress in this country) to address the unseemly task of who gets what.

And in no way should this settlement be construed as a signal of culpability on the part of the Swiss government. Last week, the Swiss National Bank announced it would not be contributing a single franc to the fund, saying that while it "regrets the dark side of its conduct" during the war, it had already met its obligations under international law.

And all along, the super-defensive Swiss insisted on using the word compensation to describe the settlement. One rumor had it that during the tough negotiations, a lawyer representing the banks told his American counterparts, "Use the word 'restitution,' and the deal is off."

The Swiss have had an understandably difficult time in trying to keep the tarnish off their reputation, fending off charges, not just of money-laundering, but of outright collaboration with the Nazis to safeguard their beloved "neutrality." That has become doubtless harder with the publication about a year ago of *Switzerland: A War-time Island – Aid and Rescue Activities, 1939-1946* by Swiss-born Jewish activist Heini Bornstein, now a kibbutznik in Israel.

The book isn't about banking or gold. It's about compassion, and it's not a pretty picture. According to Bornstein, who organized secret rescue efforts in Switzerland during the war, the Swiss government had a policy on only one group of refugees. Guess which.

From 1933 to 1939, the Swiss took in 8,000 Jews and turned away 40,000. During the war itself, the government admitted 20,000 and turned over tens of thousands of Jews to the SS. In all, Jews accounted for less than 10 percent of all refugees Bern accepted during the Nazi era.

To compound its dismal record (Canada's was worse, it should be stated), the government made Switzerland's 18,000-member Jewish community financially responsible for Jewish refugees, despite the fact that it picked up the tab for all other refugees. Anyone who wasn't sponsored was shipped off to a work camp in the Swiss countryside.

And did you know this? It was Switzerland's idea, Bornstein charges, to stamp the passports of German Jews with a "J" and to include on them the mocking Jewish names "Israel" for men and "Sarah" for women, a proposal the Nazis snapped up.

Now, instead of contrition, rectified school curricula and an honest commitment to the truth, the Swiss have dismissed the ugliest episode in their history with a cheque.

Like many others, I once clung to a picture of Switzerland as a pristine, even-handed place that wisely stays out of grubby conflicts; and sticks to making watches and money. Another quaint image bites the dust.

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CRANBERRY APPLE KUGEL

1 cup jellied cranberry sauce	1/4 cup flour
6 Macintosh apples	1/3 cup sugar
Topping:	1/3 cup brown sugar
3/4 cup oats	1/2 cup melted margarine
1/2 cup flour	cinnamon, to taste

Mix cranberry sauce, flour, and sugar. Peel, core, and slice apples thinly. Mix the apples into the cranberry mixture. Put apple mixture into an ungreased 8" pan

Combine topping ingredients and spoon over kugel. Bake in a 350°F oven for 45 mintutes. Serve cold.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am writing concerning my mother who is having a difficult time coping with her declining eyesight. She is 95 years old and has medical problems. My mother has severe angina, suffers with frequent transient ischemic attacks and is prone to bleeding ulcers. She has been in and out of hospital with congestive heart failure several times over the past year and a half.

My mother also has a hearing problem. She has difficulty walking and must use a walker. She has cataracts in both eyes, and her ophthalmologist told her that due to her severe cardiac condition and advanced age, surgical removal of cataracts is not an option.

My mother appears to be very depressed and lacks motivation. She is socially isolated and has no interest in getting involved with activities. She frequently falls asleep in her chair during the day. She, of course, denies this. As a result, she has difficulty sleeping at night. How can I help her?

LS

Dear LS,

Your mother would benefit greatly from a geriatric assessment to determine the cause of her lack of interest. I would suggest that you ask her physician to make a referral to the geriatric clinic at the hospital she frequents.

It would appear that her visual impairment may be linked to her lack of interest and motivation. A second opinion for feasibility of cataract surgery should be requested. Should surgery not be an option, then a low vision clinic at the hospital or your local association for the blind could be explored. Some suggestions for visual aids might help your mother better adapt to her visual limitations.

To alleviate her isolation and provide stimulation, you may want to explore various agencies in your community and request a volunteer friendly visitor.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal*

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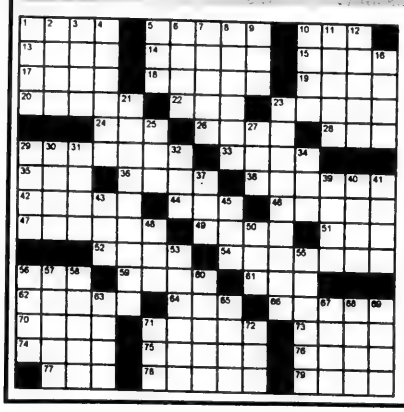

Across

1. Bets (Eng.)
5. Kill biblically
10. Alephbet member
13. USA to Israel
14. Desert sweetspot
15. "Exodus" author
17. Tuches?
18. Measures
19. Seraphim wings?
20. Seven (Heb.)
22. Container
23. Actress Molly
24. Taxmen
26. Hebrew Letter
28. Shaw or Shamsky
29. Prophet of the return
33. Kop (Eng.)
35. Solomon's mine product
36. Inheritor
38. PLO leader
42. Where Bubbe went?
44. Son of (Seph.)
46. Meshugge (Eng.)
47. El Al specialty
49. Mt. Gilboa flower
51. Jerusalem to Tiberias (dir.)
52. Laban's eldest
54. UJA cards
56. Barney Ross move
59. Schmooz (Eng.)
61. Actor Cobb
62. Tu B'Shvat activity
64. Netanya specialty
66. Murray lesson
70. Ache
71. "Never __" Kahane book
73. Acted the Galeel
74. Leah to Joseph
75. Amulet
76. Employ
77. "__ Kapital" Marx work
78. Leah to Rachel?
79. Noah's rainbow

Down

1. Greenberg tools
2. Eilat, old style
3. Holocaust voice
4. Finance writer Porter
5. Grass
6. Chagall
7. Asimov
8. Military post of Judea
9. Eat (Yid.)
10. Actor Paul
11. Writer Jong
12. Pre-adult
16. Transmitted
21. Moshe Safdie
23. Sadducees opponents
25. Her
27. Pod member
29. Leah and Zilpah
30. Jan Peerce specialty
31. Eden wear?
32. Patriarchs
34. Bilhah's boy
37. Al Rosen stat
39. Diller's hubby
40. Diary writer Frank
41. Tets (Eng.)
43. Radioman Allen
45. Political Party
48. Slang affirmation
50. Needs chicken soup?
53. Tenth minor prophet
55. Yad Vashem remembrance
56. Book publisher
57. Amidah sometimes
58. Table tennis champ
60. Orgs. for Koufax
63. Biblical fishing tools
65. Maiden title
67. 1,003
68. Baseball Spy
69. Magic Carpet base
71. Sighs
72. Negative

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut.
(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

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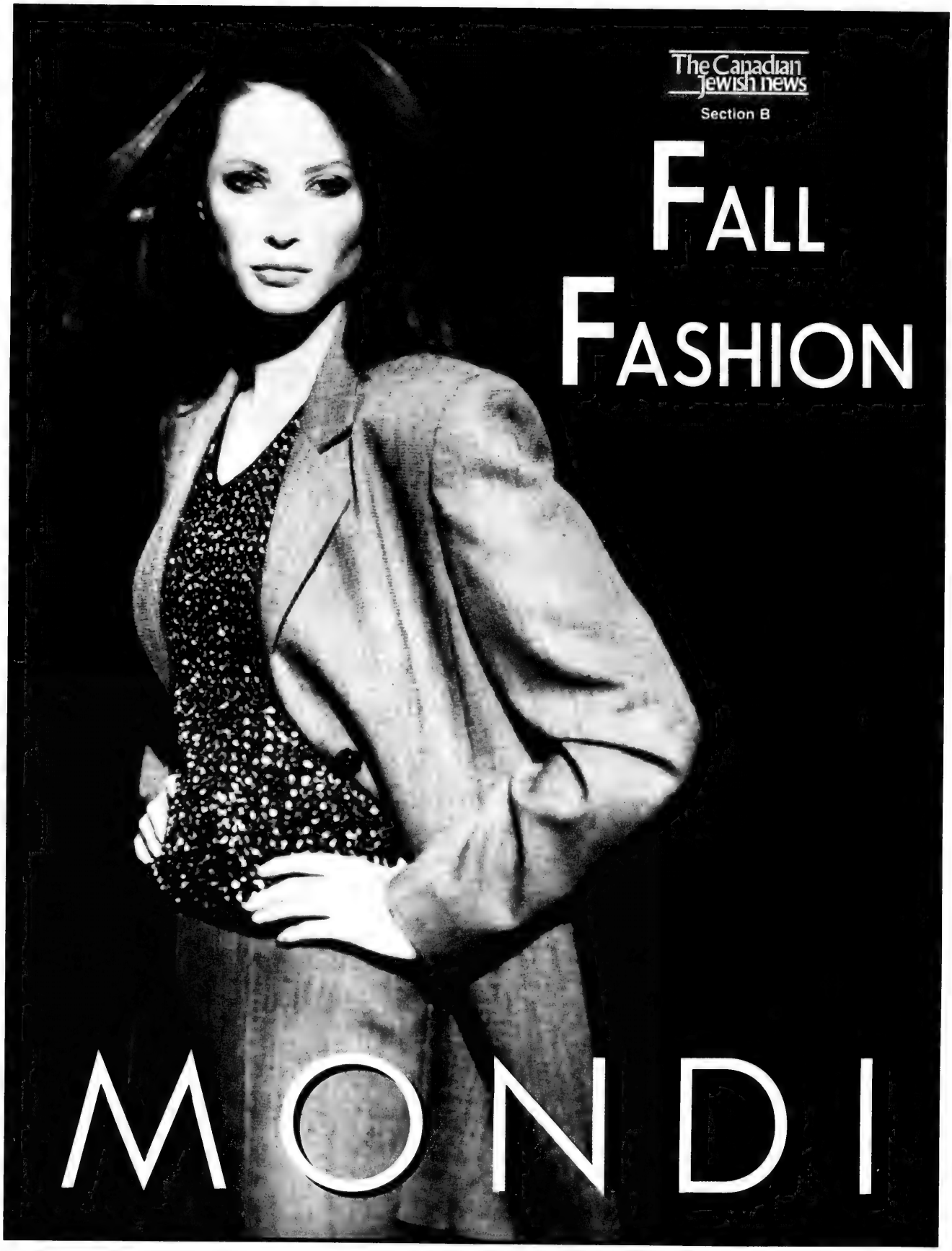
The Canadian Jewish news
Section B

FALL FASHION



MONDI

Fall Fashion

Charity fundraiser pays homage to Diana

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

Thousands of admirers of Princess Diana are making the pilgrimage to the Dresses for Humanity exhibit to pay homage to the much beloved princess.

The exhibit, which features 20 opulent dresses – cocktail dresses and evening gowns – worn by Diana at various state, charity and private functions, is being held at the Thomson Gallery at the Bay's flagship store at Queen and Yonge Streets until Oct. 4.

The exhibit, operating under the auspices of the People's Princess Charitable Foundation, will be on a two-year-long world tour to raise funds for charities associated with causes supported by the late princess, among them cancer, AIDS and children's health.

Local charities benefitting from the proceeds of the Bay exhibit, the only Canadian stop on the tour, include Casey House Hospice, Corrine Boyer Fund for Ovarian Cancer Treatment and Research, and Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital.

On the cover:
Mondi's smooth almond green and deep rich moor green in a refined elegant feminine cut

Worn on a trip to India.

The "Travolta" gown.

The dresses in the exhibit are part of the collection of 79 dresses that were auctioned for charity– $5.6 million (US) was raised – at Christie's in New York City in June 1997, just two months before Diana died in a car crash.

Each dress fetched between $19,000 and $222,500, the latter sum was for the dark blue velvet dress worn when Diana danced with John Travolta at a White House dinner in 1985.

The purchaser of this famous "Travolta" gown was Maureen Rorech, a Tampa businesswoman who now heads the People's Princess Charitable Foundation. She successfully bid on 13 of the dresses, later purchasing a 14th. Her collection became the basis of the travelling evening dress exhibit.

The exhibition clearly confirms that Diana was every stitch a royal, with a wardrobe definitely fit for a princess. All but one of the 20 dresses were made specifically for her in British couture houses, and each one was executed with exquisite detailing.

For example, it took three women three weeks to complete the beading on a halter-neck, embroidered, champagne silk evening gown worn by the princess in 1997 on her first public appearance after her divorce from Prince Charles.

[Cont'd. on page B-3]

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Fall Fashion

Charity fundraiser pays homage to Princess Diana

[Cont'd. from page B-2]

This gown, like most of the dresses in the exhibit, was designed by Catherine Walker, the princess' favorite designer.

One of the most impressive dresses by Walker was a pink, wild silk gown with a gathered skirt worn on a 1992 tour of India. The strapless bodice, which was close-fitting to the hips, was embroidered with pink and white flowers to emulate the centuries-old Mughal motifs. It was layered with green sequins, gold and glass beads and gold braiding, and was paired with a bolero jacket with the same beading and embroidery on the bodice, and a subtle contrasting beaded border along the neckline.

Walker also designed the two beaded silk cocktail dresses – simple shift style – which were worn by Diana at the galas for her dress auction in 1997. One can see that many of the dresses worn by Diana in the '90s were more chic and tailored than the gowns she favored in the earlier years of her public life.

According to exhibition organizers, Diana was a perfect U.K. size 8 – she had broad shoulders, a full bustline and narrow hips – and so the dresses were designed to accentuate her natural physical assets.

The blue, silk velvet "Travolta" dress, the most famous in the collection, was designed by Victor Edelstein, who was inspired by an Edwardian dinner dress. The wide V-neck bodice, with off-the-shoulder straps, was intricately draped to the hips over a gently gathered skirt with a slight bustle. Rorech will be donating this dress to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. She will offer the other 13 dresses to Diana's children, Prince William and Prince Harry, after the tour.

Rorech said she hopes to raise $100 million (US) from the exhibition.

WARMTH FOR WOMEN CAMPAIGN

Over the last two years over 1,200 women have felt a little warmer during the cold winter months, thanks to J. Michaels' Warmth For Women coat trade-in event, a charitable campaign that helps provide warm clothing for women who use the services provided by women's shelters across Canada.

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The perils of dressing kids

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

When it comes to making a fashion statement, size matters – at least for my sons it does, and the bigger and sloppier the clothing, the better.

They can swim in their shorts and T-shirts and they'll only wear jeans that reach the ground and trail dirt.

Thank goodness Leigh, 11, and Evan, 8, are not yet knowledgeable about name brands (except for shoes – they've got to have Nikes), so I can get away with Brand X clothes...for now. As for my youngest son, it's strictly hand-me-downs. At six, Matthew is pretty oblivious to fashion.

So far I don't have to break the bank to outfit my kids for school. But many parents aren't so lucky, particularly parents of teen and pre-teen girls. For this group, shopping for school clothes is very serious business.

"Everything has to be just right," says Sarah Laiken of Thornhill, mother of Rosalyn, 17, and Rebecca, 13. "I bought all the right clothes for camp so hopefully they won't want a lot of new things, but I probably won't get that lucky. It had to be certain clothes for camp.

"It had to be the right jeans — flared or bell bottom. I had to go to the right jean store.

"Rebecca likes all the brand names. We saw a Nike cap. She had to have that hat. I can't tell you how many caps I have in the house. Why can't they wear those? It has to be Nike."

Another Thornhill mother, Bev Bergman, says her youngest daughter, Randi, 13, loves new clothes. "She likes the little cropped tops. I won't let her wear them. She likes tight-fitting and we compromise between tight and baggy. Her taste is what's in the magazines. But it's not appropriate for her lifestyle. She can't wear those kinds of things to Associated."

Carolyn Libman, a mother of three who also resides in Thornhill, says she gets away pretty cheaply with her seven-year-old son Robby. "I just take out a bag of hand-me-downs from my nephews," she says. But she stresses that it's a completely different story with daughters Jenny, 13, and Sarah 11.

Getting ready for school entails making the mandatory rounds of Thornhill malls to check out the different clothing stores, Libman explains. The girls also hold plenty of consultations with friends on what's cool before any serious purchases are made.

Sarah (left) with big sister Jenny, who's modelling a T-shirt with cartoon character Elmo. [Carolyn Blackman photo]

Jenny, a Grade 8 student, is pretty clear about what clothes she wants – blue jeans – flared or bell bottoms are absolutely compulsory. The jeans fit snug on the top, but hang loose on the legs. Long-sleeved solid-colored T-shirts falling just below the waist are worn with jeans.

Hot logos include Old Navy, Nike and Adidas, she adds. "People also like stuff with cartoon characters."

Running shoes made by Nike or Reebok are another fashion necessity, she says. She also owns a pair of platform shoes – "black, not too high" – for special occasions. She says she rarely wears skirts, but for shul she'll be wearing a straight black skirt above the knee paired with a plain button-down shirt.

Younger sister Sarah says she chooses her clothing based on what "my friends say is in and what I like." Flared and bell bottom jeans, medium length T-shirts in solid colors and name brand running shoes will anchor her wardrobe.

She also favors Manager flared overalls – they're on her wish list – as well as plaid shirts worn over T-shirts and a corduroy version of the popular Canadian Olympic team hat. Hospital pants with messages inscribed on the seat are also hot items.

Accessory items on the list reflect the style of her 11-year old peers which Jenny says no self-respecting 13-year-old would consider wearing, among them: knapsacks in the shape of cartoon characters; friendship necklaces; jelly bracelets; plastic bangles with

[Cont'd. on page B-5]

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Fall Fashion

Don't wear cropped tops in school

[Cont'd. from page B-4]

sparkles in bright colors; and thin silver guitar string bracelets.

"You have to wear six or seven bracelets at a time," Sarah explains.

Items at the makeup counter in vogue for preteens include hair mascara, body glitter for the eyelids, nail polish in pastel shades of blue, and clear mascara, she adds.

Across town in Riverdale, an urban neighborhood in Toronto's east end, Amanda Wyman, Becca Young and Meredith Kinoshita, all 13, hold court on what's cool for fall.

Wyman says she chooses a mix of vintage and new clothes. She says she's looking for loose-fitting comfortable jeans – corduroy or chino-style. The girls decide that cargo pants – wide pants with many pockets – bell-bottom jeans and flared sweat pant are definitely in vogue.

Tank and cropped tops are popular, but not necessarily welcomed garments in their schools, Wyman notes. She says she'll opt for T-shirts that go below the waist.

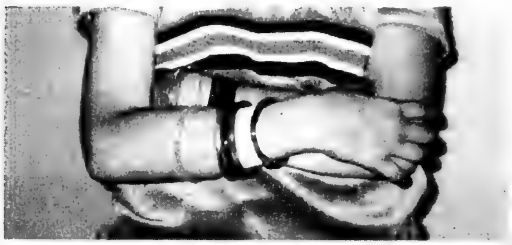
Zippered sweaters and sweatshirts with hoods are also big this year, she says. "I love hoods."

The butterfly motif embroidered on jeans, and as accessories in the hair, are appealing, but Wyman laments that they're becoming too common-place.

"Unfortunately you see too much of it." Small backpacks as purses are out of fashion, she notes. "I have one but I don't wear it any more. A shoulder bag looks a lot classier."

Wyman says she likes to wear long skirts down to the ankle. "They're really comfortable and I think they look good."

Other items considered cool by the three teens: down vests, chunky shoes with big heels, and running shoes. Comfort is more important than name-brand running shoes, but for some of their peers it's really important, the three say. "You can tell which people like brand names," says Wyman.



Sarah likes to wear six or seven bracelets at a time.

Mondi Sport featuring soft denim and black in easy pieces for your modern lifestyle.

A new look for popular men's clothier

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Shops and cafes have come and gone on the trendy Danforth strip known as Greek Town, but Korry's Clothiers has been a familiar landmark in this east end neighborhood for over three decades.

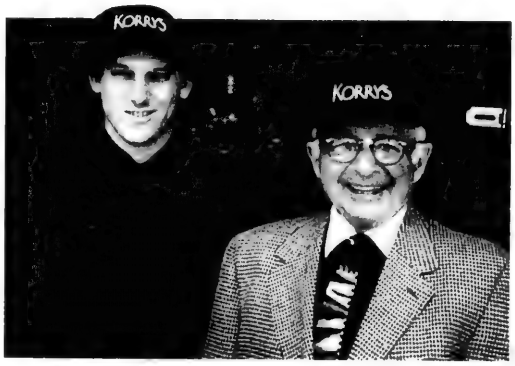
Anybody visiting Korry's this summer may have noticed the storefront draped in drop cloths while the store underwent a facelift. President Saul Korman is very excited about unveiling the store's new glass and stone exterior this month. "We're getting ready for the new millennium," he says.

"I always said renovate, motivate or evaporate. You've got to keep a business up to date — You can't be stale. You've got to motivate yourself, your staff, everybody, otherwise you'll evaporate or disappear. Your competition will eat you up alive."

He says Korry's needed to get a new look to fit in with the stylishness of the Danforth neighborhood, which has grown increasingly fashionable since the 1980s. Korman predicts the area will soon become the trendiest shopping district in Toronto and wants Korry's, one of the city's best-known men's clothiers, "to look the best on the street."

Korman stresses that while Korry's will get a new look, the basic philosophy of the store – carrying a mix of private and designer labels – will be the same.

"We cater to people of all budgets. They can start with our private in-house label – it's good value – and as their income grows, they can move to designer suits by Hugo Boss, Arnold Brant and Canali. As their budget grows, we grow with them."



Saul Korman (right) with son Michael.

He says advertising draws people from all over the city. "Once they come in, they all come back. We spend a lot of money on advertising."

Indeed, Korman's gravelly voice on advertising spots on Toronto radio stations have made him something of a household name and a much-appreciated member of the local business community. He advertises his store by promoting the whole neighborhood, he says. "The Greek community has been very supportive of Korry's because we have supported the community.

"We're on the radio on Friday inviting people to come to the Danforth. It's very colorful and trendy with its sidewalk cafes. People consider me the mayor of Danforth. The Orthodox Jewish congregation there calls me their mentor. I support all the Jewish groups in the area and other communities as well."

He also promotes the store by generating excitement about men's fashion – holding fashion shows, having parties and catering to local celebrities, he says. "There's always exciting things going on in the store. They might see a radio announcer, or Elvis Stojko. When [Stojko] needed a tuxedo for the Miss Universe Pageant – he was a judge – he came to us."

He says last year he held three "great events" at the store: a showing of the Hugo Boss line, complete with beer from Germany; a giveaway of a free trip to Italy with "no obligation to buy" during Italian month; and a recent contest to win a $10,000 trip to Greece compliments of Cronos Travel on the Danforth.

Korry's, which has always been on the Danforth, started out as a family business in 1952, a tradition that's continued into the1990s. Korman and his late father Nathan set up the original business much further east at 1478 Danforth Ave., moving further west to 613 before settling into its present address at 569 Danforth 27 years ago.

Korman's oldest son Michael has been working in the business for the last 12 years and his daughter Jodi also works there full time.

Korman says one of the keys to the success of the business has been service. There are tailors on the premises for alterations, and sales associates are skilled wardrobe consultants.

He adds that a letter goes out to all customers to check if they're satisfied with the merchandise and he attends to complaints himself.

He says he personally answers all fashion questions to anyone who calls and there's no obligation to buy. "We get about 20 calls a week. People call to get advice about what to wear for an occasion."

So what does this menswear guru forecast for fall? "Fall is exciting," he says, noting that for suits there's a lot of grey with green tones and a new shade of dark blue. Shirts in new darker shades – new blues, golds and greens – are important

[Cont'd. on page B-9]

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Fall Fashion

Do we really, really need another black pantsuit?

By PHYLLIS FELDMAN
Special to the CJN

Each year the apparel industry spends mega dollars advertising their seasonal trends in women's magazines, hoping to reach that tenuous chord of insecurity that nudges us into buying the latest version of the classic black pantsuit.

But do we really need another?

The jacket each year is just a little longer, a tad shorter, the pants are a few inches wider, or slightly more tapered – just enough if we compare carefully, to relegate last Fall's acquisition to the "B" section of the closet.

Who decides what looks good on us? Is it the designers at Versace, Armani and Donna Karan? Or should we have a quick consultation with our best friend and foe – the full-length mirror.

Keeping an open mind to trying something new in fashion is refreshing, although we all instinctively know what we like, and where the boundaries of our comfort zone lie.

Why would you want to look like a copy of someone else? Relying on your own tastes and preferences creates the essence of your individuality.

Having the confidence to carry it off shows a certain *élan* that makes us all unique.

Of course women want to look current, but that shouldn't mean being duped into buying one more of anything.

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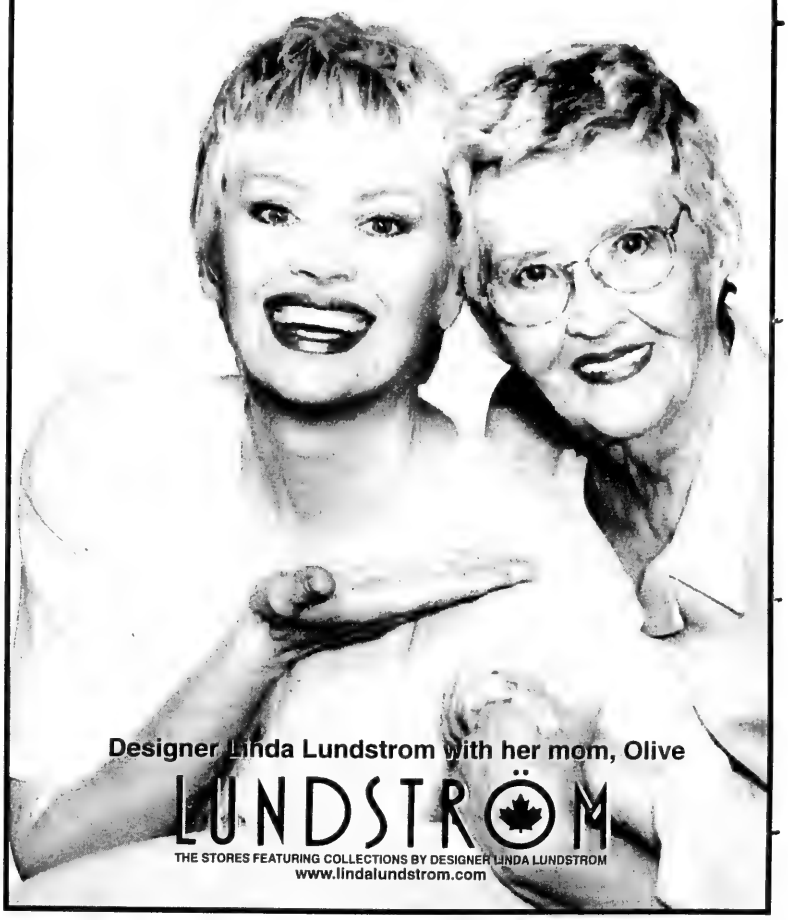
Designer Linda Lundstrom with her mom, Olive
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Fall Fashion

Fashion time warp:

The more things change, the more they stay the same

By ANITA SZABADI-GOTTESMAN
Special to The CJN

It's sometimes comforting to know that things don't change. When we were at that often awkward age of 12 to 20, when we were far from grown up but thought we were, we felt that the way we dressed made us unique, distinct individuals, head and shoulders above the rest.

But when I look back at my old pictures from high school in the '70s, I'm in my bell-bottom jeans, clogs and short sweaters, and I can't help but notice that I look exactly the same as all my friends in every shot.

This summer, I spent two weeks in the Laurentian town of Huberdeau, on the sprawling grounds of the Harry Bronfman Y Country Camp. The camp was home to 450 campers and close to 300 staff, and I could see quite clearly that, as if in a time warp, many of today's fashions for teens are much the same as they were in my day.

I spoke to some of the kids about their individual fashion sense.

Twelve-year-old Dahlia loves bell bottoms and tight tops, but she is quick to point out that her belly button should not show. She keeps up with the latest styles by consulting fashion and teen magazines such as *Seventeen* and by looking to her friends for fashion hints.

But the clunky, chunky running shoes that are all the rage are not for Dahlia. "I don't like the look of those shoes, and besides, you can't run in those high heels!"

A student at Jewish People's School, Dahlia wears a uniform all week and looks forward to dressing down for the weekend.

While she tries to keep up with today's fashion, Dahlia stresses that comfort is the utmost priority in her fashion choices. "For me to wear something," says Dahlia, "it must feel comfortable. If I am going to wear something it must fit right too."

While Dahlia sometimes goes to the malls with her friends, she still enjoys shopping with her mother, who she feels she can trust for advice as to the most appropriate look and fit. Shoe shopping seems most successful with her Dad in tow, she says, and to date shopping excursions are fun with minimum stress attached.

Eighteen-year-old Kelly says she is a "sweater person." Her personal uniform is geared to comfort at all costs. While she might sometimes go for a skimpy top and tight jeans, her daily outfit consists of sweatpants and a sweatshirt.

Today's sweats have evolved far away from the gym, as old workout clothes and have become acceptable for school and social outings. Kelly says she prefers bright colors and stays away from most florals and prints.

Kelly also prefers flatter more practical running shoes but confesses to owning a large assortment of shoes ranging from flats to Spice Girl platforms with matching purses. "Shoes and purses have to match," Kelly stresses.

One change in fashion from the '70s is the tendency to have multiple ear piercings and body piercing. Kelly sports five holes in her ears, three on one side and two on the other, but she is quick to point out that any body piercing is out of the question for her.

Tattoos have also seen a revival among teenagers but Kelly says she realizes that while extra piercing can always close, tattoos are permanent and are not something she would consider having.

Elliott, 15, arrived at the camp in standard issue baggy cargo pants with huge pockets all over, an extra-large T-shirt hanging on a size small frame, and boxers peeking out above the belt that just barely held his pants up over his hips. This rapper or hip-hop look is still wildly popular with many teens.

As for sweats, Elliott says, "Sweats are for sleeping!"

While he tries hard to keep up with fashion trends, he says he is still greatly influenced by his parents and cannot be too outlandish in his choices.

Long, flowing skirts in flowered prints with plain colored T-shirts are the first fashion choices for 13-year-old Melanie. This year has seen a shift from the mini skirt to feminine ankle-length skirts that can be worn with high heels or flats, or even a favorite pair of running shoes.

I discovered that teens are fashion savvy and very aware consumers who have learned at an early age to become discriminating consumers.

Holt Renfrew launches Fall '98 fashion mag

By CAROL WISE
Special to the CJN

The stir of excitement engaged the air at Toronto's trendy Monsoon Restaurant on Simcoe St.

The event was the launching of Holt Renfrew's bigger and better *Point of View* magazine.

As always, both the men's and women's *Point of View* map out the picks of the season, but for the first time it is a full lifestyle approach.

The women's point of view is 184 pages of what's in store for Fall '98. Holt Renfrew fashion director Barbara Atkin gives us her perspective on the mood of the season. We check out the latest beauty and fragrance trends and we investigate a new approach to exercise and fitness, says the stylish fashion diva.

In the men's *Point of View*, Holt Renfrew fashion director and magazine editor Daniel Giles reveals the new direction menswear is taking the launch of their new custom-made suit program.

Holt Renfrew's *Point of View* is designed to inform, entertain, delight, and most of all inspire.

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Fall Fashion

Liposuction is not a cure for cellulite

By CAROL WISE
Special to the CJN

Standing naked in front of the mirror can be very enlightening. There are few people that don't have a little fat they would like to remove.

Liposuction, says Dr. Michael Bederman, cosmetic surgeon at the Centre for Cosmetic Surgery, began as a technique in the early '80s designed to remove fat mainly from the saddle-bag area.

From being considered an uncommon procedure, it has become the leading cosmetic procedure in North America. This is in large part, due to two new and exciting advances that have occurred.

Liposuction is a procedure in which fat is extracted through a small (six millimetre) incision with a flute-like instrument called a canula, and a vacuum pump.

In the early days, this was associated with a significant loss of blood, and irregularity of the skin, which limited the usefulness of the procedure. This body-contouring technique has been refined through the use of tumescent liposuction and the use of ultrasound.

What is tumescent liposuction? Dr. Bederman explains, it is a method whereby fluid containing saline, dilute amounts of local anesthetic and a blood vessel constrictor are injected into the fat prior to suction. This emulsifies the fat, making it easier to be suctioned, practically eliminating the blood loss and the frightening possibility of a blood transfusion.

It also reduces the amount of post-operative bruising and pain. This incredible system was introduced in the early '90s. It has made liposuction much safer, and clearly provides better contouring and overall better results.

Now, ultrasound is the piece de resistance. When the fat is exposed to the ultrasonic sound waves of the mentor canula, the fat cells literally explode without any blood loss whatsoever. This process breaks down fat, particularly in hard-to-get-at areas like the upper abdomen in men where there is a lot of fibrous tissue, or in the flanks or love handles where the fat is difficult to remove.

This is a completely bloodless procedure that plainly enhances the overall liposuction process.

The procedure begins with the injection of the tumescent fluid. Then, the ultrasonic wand is inserted under the skin and carefully passed through the areas of excess fat. Suction is then used to remove this ultrasonically exploded fat and other areas of fat deposit.

There is some evidence that the ultrasound causes the skin to shrink and redrape better, giving an overall more pleasing appearance.

Liposuction does not cure cellulite and is not designed for weight reduction. However, people do lose a few pounds, and some women, if they have had significant fat beforehand, will go down a couple of dress sizes.

Bederman always informs patients that liposuction does not tighten muscles or skin. It simply removes fat, therefore improvement will depend on the amount of fat being extracted. He has performed over 5,000 liposuction procedures, and recently won *Now Magazine's* 1997 Readers Poll award for best plastic surgeon.

New look for Korry's

[Cont'd. from page B-6]

this year. He also adds that "the three button suit is here to stay."

For someone just starting to build a wardrobe, Korman recommends starting with the basics. "Everyone should start off with a dark suit in a 12-month-a-year fabric. It should be the best suit they can afford because the cost per wearing may sometimes be cheaper in the long run in a better quality suit."

As for shirts, he suggests two'out of every three be white.

Korman says the trend in tie-sizes is to middle width, and there are two options in patterns – bold large patterns, or smaller patterns for the more conservative.

"I prefer the more flamboyant," Korman says. "The tie is a way to make a statement."

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Fall Fashion

BEAUTY SHOP

BY CAROL WISE

Colors this fall are romantic and alluring. Palettes are adorned with a medley of sultry hues. Colors merge together magically, creating the true mystery of every woman.

A beautiful oil painting begins with a clean, smooth canvas. Be sure to get a professional facial, or apply an at-home facial scrub and purifying mask to combat the lack of humidity in the air. Use a suitable moisturizing face and eye cream twice daily, and don't forget about your body and hands.

Keep healthy and fit with regular exercise and a healthy diet. Just because you are wearing more clothing doesn't mean it's doughnut time. Be careful, spring will soon be just around the corner.

Carol's Tips

Skin Care: Cold, dry air causes our skin to become dry and tight. Exfoliate regularly and use lots of yummy moisturizers on your whole body. *Christian Dior*'s hand cream (Dior Main) and body cream (Regulateur Peaux Seches) both wrap your cells in a voluptuous protective cocoon while moisturizing and nourishing simultaneously – goodbye snake skin, hello softness.

And don't miss Capture Essentiel Yeux, *Dior*'s futuristic anti-aging formula specifically designed for beautifying the eyes.

Chanel introduces three spectacular eye creams. Whether your problem is crows' feet, dehydration, and/or dark circles and puffiness, there is a treat in store for you.

Estee Lauder releases landmark research findings on skin damage and aging. The results of a milestone clinical study in France prove that blended anti-oxidants and vitamins, when applied to the skin, significantly reduce environmentally triggered damage and promote self-repair of damage already done – the name is simply Day Wear.

L'Oreal Plenitude widens its Futur.e family and offers two new ways to moisturize and improve clarity – Futur.e oil-free and Futur.e SPF. Both these luxurious products contain vitamin E to help neutralize free radicals and help protect the skin from weakening.

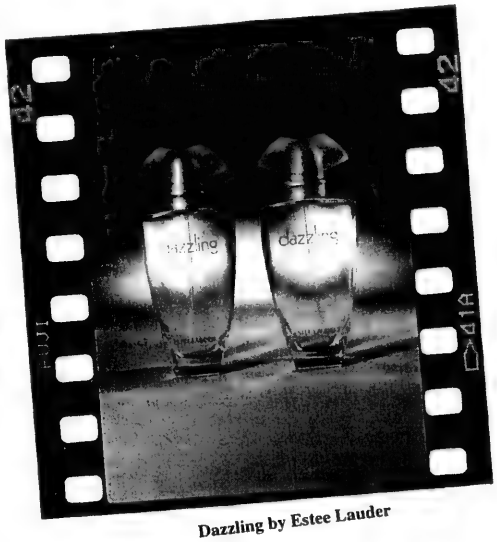
Foundation: an absolute must at this time of the year. Choose a color close to your natural skin tone and apply sparingly. There is no need for a thick cakey look.

Diorlight foundation is like wearing makeup without looking made up. It's lightweight, user-friendly, and never flaunts its presence.

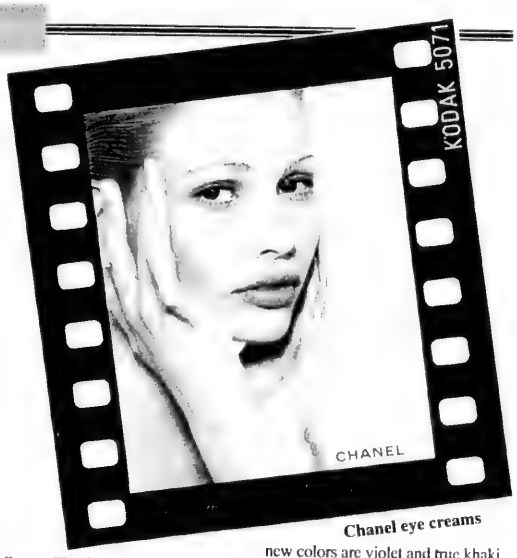
Duoperfection from *Biotherm* is powder and foundation all in one, and offers perfection in a very pretty case.

Also from *Biotherm* is Aqua-Teint-Mat, a fluid, long-lasting foundation that contains more than 40 percent water, creating a freshness that is unprecedented for a foundation. This formula helps prevent the appearance of shine throughout the day.

Revlon's Even Out Makeup helps neutralize imperfections, leaving the skin polished, silky and natural looking. Cover any dark circles or blemishes with *Derma Blend*, sold in a variety of colors at all Bay locations.



Dazzling by Estee Lauder



Chanel eye creams

Sweet Cheeks: This season, cheeks will be colored with extra delicious colors and textures.

Lancome's Blush Duo consists of two transparent cases that stack together or can be carried individually. There are three choices of colors with two incredible textures: a matte to be applied as a classic blush and a glossy texture for an ultra-trendy effect.

For the very daring apply *Lancome*'s micro-sparkles high on the cheekbone – great fun!

Blushwear from *Clinique* is an elegant cream-to-powder formula that's silky to touch and transfer resistant. Fall shades include shy blush and natural blush.

Simply exquisite is *Chanel*'s powder blush in "flame" – great for all skin tones. For extra dazzle, try a quick stroke of Minute Makeup Goldstick from *Estee Lauder*.

Eyes: Sultry and sexy for those cozy fireplace nights. Get the ultimate effect with Stay the Day Eye Shadow from *Clinique*. Hot new shades are olive gold and naughty plum. An ultra-thin application of Quickliner For Eyes, also from *Clinique*, subtly adds detail. Great new colors are violet and true khaki.

Les 4 Ombres/ Eye Color Collection from *Chanel* lives up to its name – Mystères – in every way.

Christian Dior treats us with three new compacts that include five sensuous harmonies of color – your own artist's palette – terrific for travel.

Lips: Lips shine, sparkle and are simply kissable. Try *Lancome*'s Lip Brio to lacquer all shades and give them brilliance. For a sheer effect opt for *Clinique*'s Chubby Stick in nude ice, blackberry and angel kiss.

Chanel's Lip Blush redefines translucence with its delicate powder creme formula. One color, "bizarre," is a fascinating red-brown that goes from an intense shade when concentrated to a transparent shade when blotted. It's easy to apply, long-lasting and feels marvelous. Use their lip definer, "amber," for definition.

Impress your friends with Rouge Diorific, *Dior*'s fabulous lipstick encased in glittering gold. It's like jewelry. Favorite colors this season are violet twist and big bang brown. Top up with Diorific Plastic Shine

[Cont'd. on page B-11]

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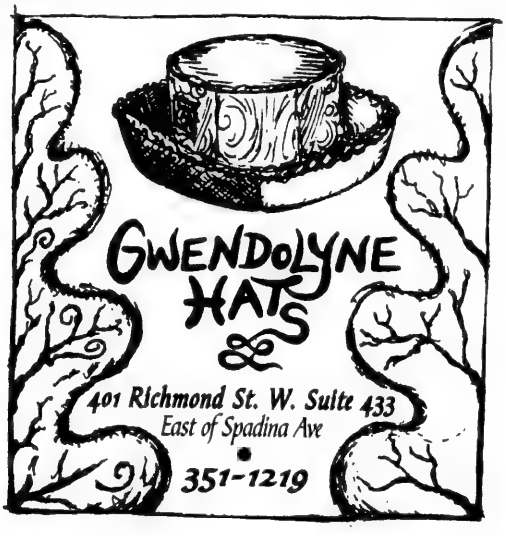


Fall Fashion

Top designers receive grants

The Canadian fashion industry received a substantial financial boost last month as 25 designers were awarded a total of $700,000 in grants announced by the Matinée Fashion Foundation.

The list of recipients – the largest number designated in a single year since the foundation was established six years ago – includes eight Ontario designers, seven from Quebec, and 10 conducting business in Western Canada.

The foundation was founded in 1992, and has provided nearly $4 million in financial assistance to designers of men's and women's apparel who submit successful applications for career development projects.

The scope of areas considered for funding touch on virtually every aspect of the Canadian fashion industry: product and market development, production, human resources, and skill enhancement.

The Ontario grant recipients are, alphabetically, Brian Bailey (Galahad & Ashbourne), Dominic Bellissimo (International Trademarks Apparel), Wayne Clark, David Dixon, Romona Keveza (Gordon Dress), Ross Mayer, Justina McCaffrey (Justina McCaffrey Haute Couture, and Franco Mirabelli (Toronto).

In Quebec, grants were awarded to Jean Airoldi, Evik Asatoorian (Rudsak), Christian Chenail (Muse), Marcel Dénommé & Louise Vincent (Dénommé Vincent Pret-a-Porter Masculin Inc., Dimitri Hatzepetros (Ike & Dean), Chantal Levesque (Shan), and Nadya Toto (Pret-a-Porter Nadya Toto).

In Western Canada, 1998-99 grant recipients are RozeMerie Cuevas (Jacqueline Conoir Designs, Jill Davis Godfrey & Sylvie Vincent (Frou-Frou Designs), Ron Escher & Normand Brouillette (Ron et Normand), Yumi Eto (E.T.O. Clothes), Yoel Farzan (Poorboy Clothing Company), Patricia Fieldwalker (Arabesque Design Ltd.), Ron Leal (T.A.G./The Apparel Group Ltd.), Christine Morton (Christine & Company), Deborah Tissington (Neto Enterprises), and Feizal Virani (House of Virani Inc.).

"The Marinée Fashion Foundation responds to the needs of the Canadian fashion industry by providing funds to talented designers who require financial assistance to achieve a higher level of recognition and success," said Chris de Minckwitz, president of the foundation.

"The concept is a simple one. Basically, applicants are asked to identify what their needs are, and how it will help them achieve their business objectives and personal goals."

Beauty Shop

[Cont'd from page B-10]

for a long-lasting effect. Polish your nails with colors to match – oh, so fem.

Try *L'Oreal*'s two-sided white and black lipstick to lighten or darken any shade. *Revlon*'s dual-ended pencil provides long-wearing creamy color on one end and vitamin enriched tinted lip color on the other – fabulous for touch-ups.

For a bold pout, paint your lips with *Estee Lauder*'s Bronzino True Lipstick and outline with their new liner called Chocolate.

Nails: Medium length, square and gently curved at the corners, says nail technician Michelle Hanauer (The Heart of Nails). From deep burgundy to soft skin tones, the choice is yours.

A minor miracle of technology called Zapping comes to you courtesy of *Lancome*. It is a film of polish that peels off and nails are ready for a new color. Yes that's right, say goodbye to nail polish remover forever.

Don't miss *Chanel*'s Brun Sortilege and Rouge Peche, the basics of every woman's collection.

Estee Lauder's fingertips rock with colors like yellow diamonds and antique amethyst; just open up the jewelry box and select the jewel you fancy.

Hair: This season, hair is sleek, straight and very shiny. Silver is the hottest, most current shade. Yes, silver, says hair designer Daniel Fiorio of Salon Daniel.

"It is not grey, it is the color of metal," he says – intrigue at its best.

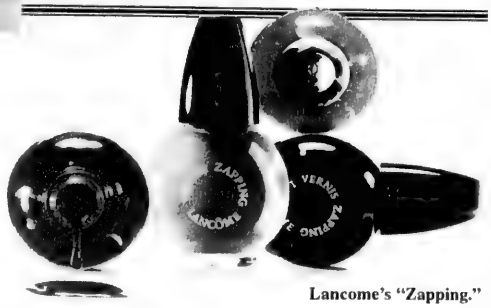
L'Oreal has created Tec Ni Art, a new range of hairstyling products that intermingles art, technology and creativity. For the ultimate in gloss, fix and lift, these products are second to none.

Fragrance: Rich and creamy travel bars of soap pleasure your skin with the alluring scent of Allure from *Chanel*. Complete with a matching transparent soap box, these little gems are truly luxury on the road.

Chanel, this season, has also developed Eau De Parfume Spray in the now legendary N. 5 bottle. This abstract floral scent dating back to 1921 always satisfies women's most secret desires.

The fragrance Red from *Lancome* stirs the air with the surprise of a sharp, sudden storm. A sensual red, hot harmony that delights all the senses.

Estee Lauder's Dazzling Gold is enflamed by a woman's intimacy and warmth, while Dazzling Silver is effervescent and radiantly romantic.



Lancome's "Zapping."

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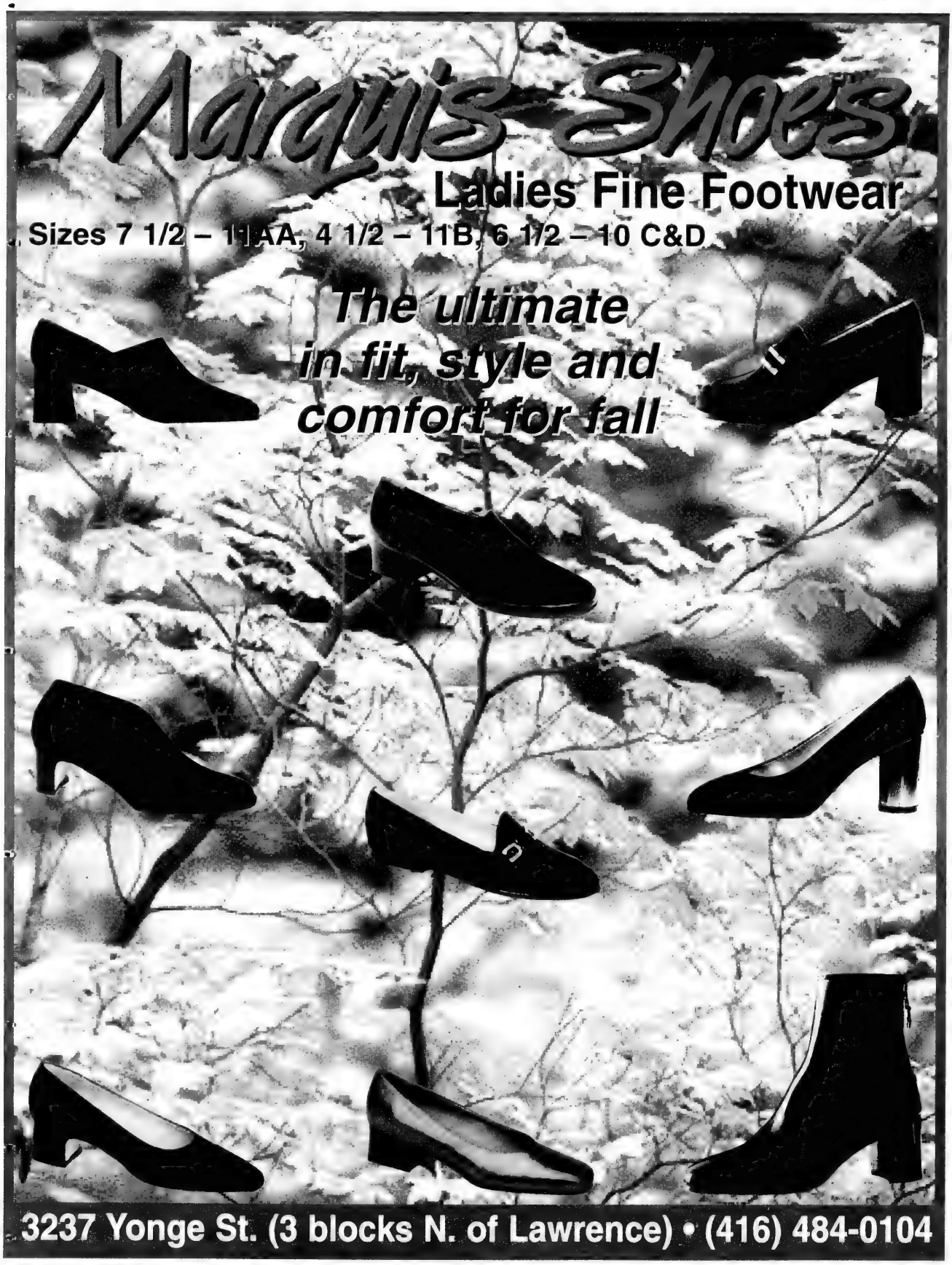
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This Week

National

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CJC intervenes for survivors in Israeli mental hospitals. *Page 6*

Health

Toronto doctor, Stanley Greben, to receive Israeli science award. *Page 43*

Travel

Long drive a small price to pay for what awaits you in Vermont. *Page 62*

Equador and Galapagos make an interesting and worthwhile destination. *Page 64*

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www.cjnews.com

Will money be the last word?

Focus on Holocaust settlements questioned

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Will money be the last word on the Holocaust?

In the wake of the recent financial settlement with the Swiss banks, some Holocaust scholars and survivors are voicing concerns that the publicity surrounding the monetary settlements may overshadow the memory and lessons of the Nazi genocide against the Jewish people.

"I'm not sure how much it will be worth if the result is going to be a simple sound bite – 'Jews died because of their money,'" Abraham Foxman, a survivor who is the national director of the Anti-Defamation League, said in an interview after the settlement was announced.

Switzerland's two largest commercial banks agreed, after months of negotiations with attorneys and Jewish groups representing survivors, to pay $1.25 billion (US) over a three-year period to settle all Holocaust-era claims against Swiss interests, except insurance firms.

On the morning after the settlement was reached, most media headlines declared, in effect: "Jews hail money settlement."

The settlement is the first in what is now expected to be large monetary settlements with European companies and governments regarding claims on bank accounts, unpaid insurance polices and stolen artworks.

"The longer this dragged on, the more the press got into it. It became a circus relating to Jews and their money, Jews and their bank accounts, Jews and their gold, Jews and their Stradivariuses, Jews and their Picassos," said Foxman.

Many in the Jewish community who work to preserve the memory of the Holocaust now fear that in some way, the tragic legacy of European Jewry will be twisted by squabbles over looted assets.

Continued on page 40

Air crash mobilizes Halifax Jews

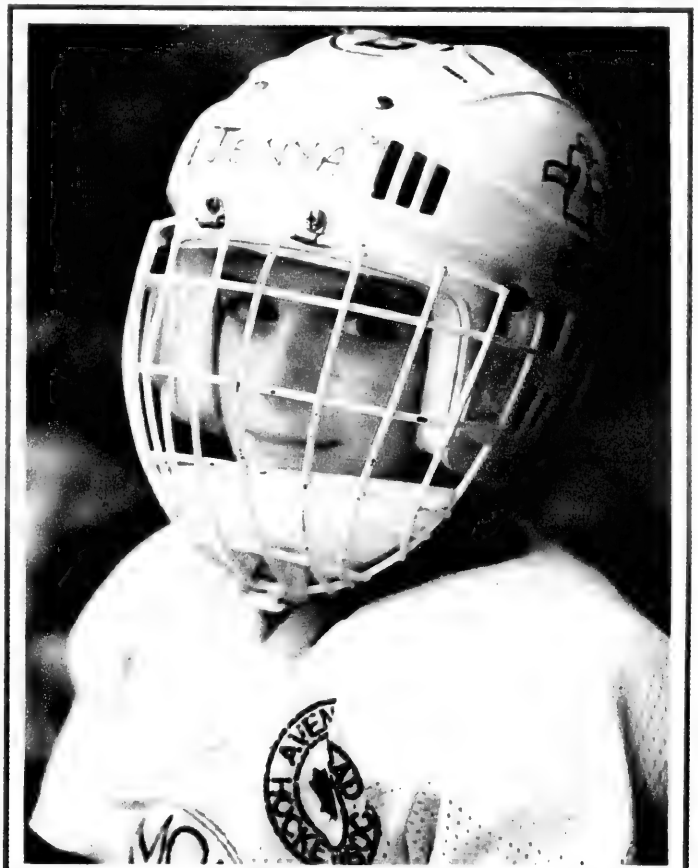
By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — The small Halifax Jewish community is doing whatever possible to ease the anguish of families who lost relatives and friends in the crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Peggy's Cove last week.

The community was busy over the Labor Day weekend, organizing guest housing for Shabbat and kosher meals, and making arrangements for a chevrah kadishah.

Three rabbis from Halifax were meeting victims' families who flew here to identify remains.

Continued on page 39



HOCKEY IN THE HOLY LAND

Ten-year-old Jenya Kogan, from Kiryat Shmona, was one of 56 Israeli and Canadian teenagers to participate in the Roger Neilson hockey school in Metulla. ***Please see related story on page 70.*** *[Avi Hirschfield photo]*

INSIDE

More food ideas for Rosh Hashanah appear in this issue

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Israel prepares for wave of aliyah — please see page 38

The News in Brief

Canada

Canadian Receives Prize

MONTREAL — For the first time, the American Chemical Society has bestowed its annual prize outside the United States. This year's James T. Grady-James H. Stack Award was presented to Dr. Joseph A. Schwarcz of Montreal. Schwarcz teaches chemistry at Vanier College and McGill University, and is a well-known media figure and lecturer.

Na'amat Trip

TORONTO — Na'amat Canada's immediate past president, Etty Danzig, will host a 12-day historical tour of Prague and Israel from Nov. 2 to 16. The trip will feature three days in Prague, including a tour of Terezin, the "model" Nazi concentration camp, followed by 10 days in Israel, including visits to Na'amat facilities. For details, call 416-488-0792.

Israel

School Year Delayed

JERUSALEM — Israel's school year failed to begin as scheduled because of a teachers' strike over wage increases. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called on some public-sector employees to forgo a salary increase, saying he and the finance minister have already decided to do so.

Singer Bows To Threats

JERUSALEM — A popular Israeli performer has cancelled a planned concert in the West Bank town of Nablus because of Hamas threats. Zehava Benn, who has performed to packed halls in the Palestinian town, had disregarded the Islamic fundamentalist group's threats, but later decided to cancel her appearance after rumors that anyone attending the concert, including the singer herself, would be at risk.

Executions Condemned

JERUSALEM — Israel condemned the Palestinian Authority's recent public executions of two members of the Palestinian security forces who were convicted of murder. Israel's cabinet secretary, Danny Naveh, said the executions, at which thousands of onlookers cheered, provided more evidence for why Israel would "never agree to a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital."

Aliyah Watch

JERUSALEM — The total number of immigrants to Israel so far this year is 30,972, of whom 23,302 came from the former Soviet Union.

World

Deal Made On Properties

WARSAW — A deal reached last week between Poland's Jewish community and international Jewish groups provides for the return of 5,500 properties, including schools, synagogues, hospitals, cultural centres and cemeteries, over the next four years to a joint foundation. The foundation will be administered by the World Jewish Restitution Organization and the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland.

Lawsuits Filed

WASHINGTON — Holocaust survivors filed lawsuits last week against some of Germany's biggest and best-known companies, alleging they profited from Nazi-era slave labor. One lawsuit, filed in Brooklyn, names Volkswagen and 11 other companies, including Siemens, Daimler-Benz, Krupp, Audi, BMW and Leica Camera. The other action, filed in Newark, N.J., names only Volkswagen.

Maid Responsible: Book

AMSTERDAM — The woman who cleaned the house where Anne Frank's family hid during World War II turned the clan in to the Nazis, according to a new book. But scholars reacted cautiously, saying that more research is needed before it can be known whether it was the maid who betrayed the family.

Synagogue Fire

KHARKOV — A fire destroyed the grand hallway of the five-storey Central Choral Synagogue in this Ukrainian city. But the blaze, which is believed to have been an arson attack, did not reach the building's sanctuary. Damage is estimated at about $1 million (US). No one was injured.

Mordechai In China

SHANGHAI — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai visited Shanghai's newly restored Ohel Rachel Synagogue on the first of a five-day visit to China. Mordechai said he had received assurances that China would not pass on technology to Iran, which could be used for weapons of mass destruction. His plane also brought medicines for the millions of flood victims throughout China.

Art May Be Returned

BRASILIA — Four paintings looted by the Nazis reportedly will be turned over to the Brazilian government. The artworks, including paintings by Pablo Picasso and Claude Monet, are valued at nearly $6 million (US). They were sold to wealthy Brazilian families after Nazi officials fled to South America with their plunder following World War II.

Rabbi Weighs Clinton Scandal

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — When Rabbi Eugene Levy launched a campaign on the eve of the 1991 High Holy Days to rally national support for Bill Clinton's presidential campaign, few of the rabbis he courted knew much about the governor from Arkansas.

Now, as Clinton battles for his very political survival, the president needs help more than ever from backers like Rabbi Levy of the Reform Congregation B'nai Israel in Little Rock, Ark.

But like many Democrats loyal to the president, Rabbi Levy said he is grappling with how to respond to Clinton's admission that he misled the American people about his affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

"I'm really struggling with the disappointment and the sadness of what's happened," said Rabbi Levy. He said he does not have an answer for many of his congregants who ask, "How can you tell us that we have to live our life with morality and support somebody who flaunts that publicly?"

While he still counts himself a strong Clinton supporter, the rabbi is not sure that he wants to go out on a limb for the president.

"Forgiveness comes with being sorry and I'm not sure that he really is. He may be sorry that he got caught," said the rabbi, who is considering another High Holy Day message of support for Clinton.

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UJA Federation launches Campaign for 50

Aiming for $13.5 M increase

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The hard slogging remains ahead, but last week it was a time for festivities and celebration as the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) of UJA Federation kicked off its annual fundraising campaign.

Music, humor and dancing in the aisles were the dominant themes at the Campaign for 50 launch, held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Several hundred supporters turned out for the event and they were entertained by the upbeat song stylings of Yovel, a six-person Israeli singing group. Comedian and impersonator Tuvia Tsafir injected his gentle brand of humor, regaling the audience with impersonations of Israeli political figures Ariel Sharon, Benjamin Netanyahu and Shimon Peres, among others.

Yovel's high-spirited, fun-filled exuberance rubbed off on the audience during the group's last numbers as participants danced the horah on stage and in the aisles in front of the stage.

Campaign co-chairs Brent Belzberg and Larry Tanenbaum injected a more sober note in the evening's festivities, as they addressed the campaign's ambitious new goal.

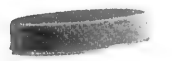
"This year we are aiming to take the campaign to $50 million, an increase of $13.5 million," Belzberg told the audience.

Of that amount, $6.5 million will go towards strengthening Jewish identity, $4.5 million to assisting the vulnerable and $1.5 million towards expanding rescue efforts in the former Soviet Union, he said.

Belzberg announced that the campaign was off to a running start.

[Cont'd. on page 7]

Brent Belzberg, co-chair of the UJA Federation Campaign for Fifty with Larry Tanenbaum, dances at the campaign launch.



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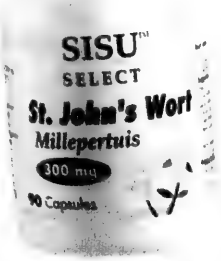

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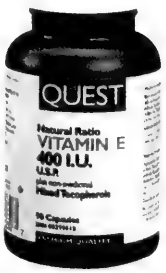

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From the editor's desk

More about inspiration

Triggered by a recent trip to Stratford with two of my daughters to see *Man of La Mancha*, my thoughts last week dealt with the fact that "inspiration is a rarer experience today than in our time."

"Where can we reach," I asked, "to find the fleeting flashes of inspiration capable of kindling sparks inside the souls of...our young people?"

I posed the question, not as a typical vanity of the "older generation," but rather as the genuine plea of a parent looking at his children and of a concerned, middle-aged adult looking at the state of the world that he has helped to create.

Most readers probably know the premise of *Man of la Mancha*. Nevertheless, I need to briefly relate it. The central figure, Don Quixote, is a champion of idealism. His credo is the theme song, *To Dream the Impossible Dream.*

But the playwright, Cervantes, true to the literary and imaginative genius that he was, complicates at many levels the espousal of the credo of idealism.

He places the credo in the mouth of a man clearly out of touch with reality, a man scorned and derided by most of his contemporaries, a man who believes he is fighting fierce monsters but is, in truth, really "tilting at windmills." Moreover, Don Quixote, the Man of la Mancha, is but a fictional character in a play within the larger play.

Cervantes cleverly, ambiguously melds the ostensibly sane, moral but hapless narrator of the inner play, who also happens to be a playwright cast into prison awaiting the Inquisition's interrogations, with his fictional, deranged protagonist, the Man of La Mancha.

The dark, dreary truths of life surround the imprisoned playwright. He is in a dungeon with cutthroats, murderers and evil brigands. Even at the end, he cannot escape his surroundings. In the foreboding atmosphere anticipating his final doom, he is summoned to his Inquisitors.

But throughout the play, until he walks off the stage and the curtain falls on him being led away by his jailers, the audience knows that the playwright clings to his higher, ennobling truths, the truths that he artfully presented to his fellow prisoners in the form of the play within the play, with the enigmatic Man of La Mancha as the spokesman for those truths.

The most poignant moments in the play within the play – and thus, we assume within the ultimate message that Cervantes intended to impart to the audience – are generated by the relationship between Quixote and Aldonza, a cynical, battered, abused urchin of the street. But in his fantasy, (Or is it more accurately, in his perceptiveness?) Quixote does not see her in the way that she sees herself. Rather, he sees her as a beautiful maiden, an inspiration to him, a source both of courage and of purpose.

He even changes her name, as if by borrowing from well-established Jewish tradition, he can thereby change her soul as well. He does not know her by the harsh-sounding Aldonza. He knows her only by the tender-sounding Dulcinea. And as Dulcinea, he relates to her, respectfully, caringly, thoughtfully, lovingly.

At first she is confused by Quixote, so different is his attitude towards her than that of the others. Then she is resentful of him for raising her hopes without being able to raise her station.

Finally, however, she is indeed transformed by him. She begins to see herself as he saw her: a beautiful being, unique and equally deserving of respect. She actually transcends the confining limits of her low, debilitating self-esteem.

The playwright's message is unequivocal: that above all else we must recognize and honor the possibilities in all human beings.

That message echoes the "music," to borrow from Harry Chapin, we sang in our youth, the rock-solid belief "that we are all special, that we all had unique destinies to fulfil, that our lives carried purpose and meaning, that nothing was beyond our ability, that we could always carry the day," that we could change the world if we only cared to.

That message is at the core of our traditional teachings as well. Rav Avraham Isaac Kook, the first Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Palestine devoted his entire life to its dissemination.

"Be attached to the legions of living beings who are constantly bringing forth everything beautiful. In every corner where you turn, you are dealing with realities that have life; you always perform consequential acts, abounding with meaning and with the preciousness of vibrant life. In everything you do, you encounter sparks full of life and light, aspiring to rise above the heights. You help them and they help you."

Abraham Joshua Heschel, the brilliant philosopher/theologian, could have written much of Cervantes' dialogue for him. In *Who Is Man?*, a compilation of lectures Heschel delivered in 1963, he said: "It is true that the good of all counts more than the good of one, but it is the concrete individual who lends meaning to the human race. We do not think that a human being is valuable because he is a member of a race; it is rather the opposite: the human race is valuable because it is composed of human beings."

* * *

"To dream the impossible dream
To fight the unbeatable foe
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Israel's Jubilee — *from the archives*

"ON THE WINGS OF EAGLES"

Families from the former Soviet Union board their El Al "eagle" to carry them to Israel in June 1990.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

History of bias at IRB, former official charges

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the wake of last week's controversy surrounding the deputy chair of Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) coming under fire for saying "sieg heil" and allegedly giving the Nazi salute, a former deputy chair of the IRB has come forward to say there has long been an "undercurrent" of anti-Semitism at the board.

"I encountered more anti-Jewish and anti-Israel bias in my time at the IRB than in my entire life," said Michael Schelew, who served as the board's deputy chair for 11 months in 1994.

Schelew, 47, now a Toronto immigration lawyer, told *The CJN* last week that the vast majority of the IRB's 170 or so members are "decent people who try to do their jobs," but that there is a "core" of members with anti-Semitic and anti-Israel views whose decisions have reflected a clear bias over the years.

That bias has translated into two main areas, he claims: Canada's acceptance of asylum-seekers from the former Soviet Union who springboard here via Israel with allegations of persecution; and the IRB's denial of asylum to Jewish claimants on the grounds that they can go to Israel under that country's Law of Return.

Schelew says that during his time at the board, some members openly expressed suspicion and disdain at Jewish refugee claimants, Jewish lawyers and even Jewish fellow board members.

However, he reserved most of his frustration for the way in which IRB chair Nurjehan Mawani has handled the latest blow-up involving the board's deputy chair, John Frecker.

Frecker has admitted saying "sieg heil" or something similar to two panelists at the IRB's Toronto headquarters nearly a year ago.

That led to a formal complaint against him by board member Jeanette Goldman, a child survivor of the Holocaust.

In July, Goldman wrote Mawani, saying she was "profoundly shocked and deeply disturbed" by Frecker's actions.

"As a very young child, I watched from a hiding place as my father was dragged away to a concentration camp and my mother was brutally murdered by the very people Mr. Frecker's gesture evoked," Goldman wrote.

In response, Mawani said Frecker "apologizes unhesitatingly and unequivocally for having offended anyone," adding she asked Frecker to apologize as well.

In a July 29 letter to Goldman, Frecker said his actions were meant as a "parody" and " in mock response" to a management tactic he considered "Stalinist."

He added "it was with some dismay" that he learned Goldman had complained.

Nevertheless, Frecker wrote he regretted "having uttered words that may be taken, even wrongly, as mocking the victims of the Holocaust. I unhesitatingly and unequivocally apologize to you and to any other individuals who may have been offended by my words."

But that was not enough for Goldman, who wrote Frecker last month to say she found it "inappropriate to categorize this matter as one between you and me, and to assume that such conduct would only be offensive to me and 'to any other persons who may have been offended.' Many members were offended."

Goldman called Frecker's actions "indefensible."

Jewish groups expressed concern.

Ellen Cole, a spokesperson for Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region, said Congress is not happy with the board's response.

"We're not satisfied with [Frecker's] letter of apology, or with the way this was resolved."

The incident "does leave in doubt the integrity of [Frecker's] position. If this was a parody, it wasn't funny."

Karen Mock of B'nai Brith Canada's (BBC) League for Human Rights said, "I don't think we're dealing with someone with neo-Nazi leanings, but it does appear that the remarks and the complaint, and the way they were handled, have taken place in a climate that is tense."

The League, she added, will continue to look into the work environment at the IRB, as well as allegations of anti-Semitism there.

Both groups have asked for a meeting with Mawani.

For his part, Schelew believes Mawani has "done the bare minimum" in this case.

"She claims to have zero tolerance for racism and prejudice, but it took her 10 months to investigate – and only after [Goldman] complained. Some zero tolerance."

Schelew says Mawani's handling of the matter has been "incompetent" – a word he also uses to describe how she and the board managed refugee claims from ex-Soviets coming here from Israel.

Since 1989, Canada has granted asylum to hundreds of ex-Soviets who came here from Israel.

In 1994, Israel asked Canada to stop accepting the asylum seekers, calling their tales of persecution spurious.

Despite the fact that the acceptance rate has declined, the issue continues to be a sore point between the Jewish community and the IRB. And Schelew says Mawani "continues to mismanage the board's handling of these claims."

Over the years, most claimants were accepted in Montreal, where board members "enjoyed the discomfort of the Jewish community. People were gleeful that the community was annoyed."

Schelew worked hard to reverse board policy on ex-Soviet Jews, but became disillusioned. "I kept being reminded that I'm Jewish and that I could not be objective."

The flip side was the IRB's refusal of refugee status to one Jewish women on the grounds she could go live in Israel. That decision outraged Jewish officials and refugee activists, who saw strong hints of anti-Semitism in it.

In late 1994, a fed-up Schelew finally resigned. "I realized that the board, in its current form, could not be made to function properly."

As for Frecker, "he's not anti-Semitic. He just exercised poor judgment."

Paul Hardy, a spokesperson for Mawani, told *The CJN* the matter will be further investigated.

"The question is how to proceed," he said.

Hardy added there is "every likelihood" that Mawani will meet with B'nai Brith and CJC. "This is being taken very seriously."

Last week, Maureen Silcoff, a former member of the IRB, wrote Mawani complaining about several board officials, including Frecker for allegedly interfering with a decision, and board member Lubomyr Luciuk for alleged inappropriate behavior and a negative remark about Jews.

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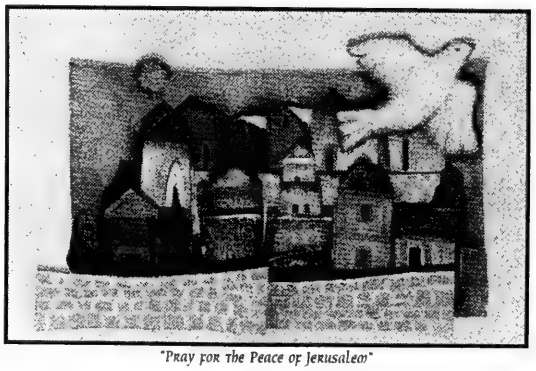
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Greater Toronto Area

CJC intervenes for survivors in mental hospitals

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has decided to intervene on behalf of nearly 1,000 Holocaust survivors still languishing in Israeli mental hospitals.

"We think there are skeletons in the closet and we're determined to bring them into the open," CJC president Moshe Ronen said in a telephone interview with *The CJN* from Latvia, where he was on an official visit.

To this end, the CJC has asked permission of Israeli Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi to make a formal submission to a commission looking into the matter.

Ronen said that Hanegbi has agreed to meet with him on the matter at the end of October.

And Ronen has already spoken to Israel's Ambassador to Canada David Sultan about the CJC's concerns.

The CJC became involved when Gustava Weiner, a Montreal woman, was attempting to find out if her brother, Moishe (Marian) Rosner, a survivor, was in one of the mental hospitals. In Israel, she was refused this information on the grounds of medical confidentiality and told that, in their own interests, the names of the patients thus classified could not be released.

"It's not only my brother, but there may also be an auntie or cousins, and other Canadian survivors may have relatives there," Weiner said.

She believes her brother, whom she last saw at the age of five, was hidden in a convent and later his name appeared on a list of names in lower Silesia.

Her parents, of Przemysl, Poland, died in the Holocaust, along with other relatives.

The Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv* on Aug. 7 said that 900 to 960 survivors were being denied the use of "tens of millions" owing to them in improving their own care.

"There may be hundreds of survivors in Canada concerned about these patients and if we make a submission we will ask all the Jewish communities in Canada to provide us with information," said Ronen.

He added: "This looks to me like the bureaucracy in Israel have bungled this and we want fast action to correct it. This is our main concern because these patients are elderly and they need comfort in their last few years."

According to the *Ma'ariv* report, the Israeli government accepted 1,000 Holocaust survivors from Germany in 1952 classified as mentally ill, waiting four years to make the decision. The newspaper quoted sources saying these survivors were said to be "crazy" and were hidden from view so as not to embarrass the government.

The *Ma'ariv* report says Israeli Comptroller General Shmuel Tzur has denied requests from the patients to use their money for air conditioning units, TV sets or birthday parties on the grounds that such requests would benefit other patients.

The newspaper report claims that one patient eats an inordinate amount of ground beef because he has been denied money to get new teeth.

Another Israeli newspaper, *Ha'aretz*, said Tzur denied receiving such requests from patients and would have granted them. He also denied that his office is trying to save the patients' funds so that after their death the state will inherit the money.

Moshe Ronen

Ronen said the CJC wants to interview Israeli psychiatrists who have recently spoken out about the sad conditions the survivors are in. As well, he said, the CJC wants to interview bureaucrats who run the mental hospitals.

About 120 of these survivors are in the Abrabanel Hospital.

The Knesset legal affairs committee held a special session during the summer recess in the wake of the *Ma'ariv* report. According to the newspaper *Ha'aretz's* Knesset correspondent, the committee severely criticized the Office of the General Custodian and the Ministry of Health.

Among committee members were chair Hanan Porat (National Religious Party), Ruby Rivlin (Likud) and Ophir Pines and Shevach Weiss, both of the Labor party.

The commission appointed to check into the allegations is headed by Judge Emeritus Yaacov Bazak, and includes former absorption minister Yair Tzaban, former Knesset chair Dov Shilanski, psychiatrist Dr. Ovri Zabo and former banking ombudsman Meir Khat.

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Greater Toronto Area

The UJA Federation Campaign for Fifty launch featured the Yovel Group from Israel. Over 1,000 people participated in the campaign launch at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

UJA campaign begins

[Cont'd. from page 3]

thanks to $13 million in contributions from leading donors.

"What's more astounding is the fact that this already includes over $3 million in increased giving," he said. "As we start this campaign, the average increase on each gift is already 30 percent."

Tanenbaum called the Campaign for 50 – which corresponds with Israel's 50th birthday – historic, one that "will forever change our campaign and our community."

"Today we have a new challenge, not one based on extreme crises or perils of war but rather the challenge facing a mature, caring community which is making choices about what kind of future we will build together," he said.

"For the past several years, UJA Federation has been devising ambitious plans for dramatic changes in services in order to respond to our tremendous growth and to deal with the huge cutbacks in government funding. The UJA Federation leadership, through consultations with community agencies, schools, synagogues and donors, put them all together and determined that it will cost a minimum of $50 million annually to put them into play," Belzberg said.

Approximately 27,000 contributors give money to the annual campaign, an average of $1,350 per contributor.

One of the campaign's next big events is the Super Sunday telethon, which is scheduled for Sept. 13.

MEL GETS THE MUD

Mayor Mel Lastman received a 'Dead Sea Mud Facial' while visiting the Israel at Fifty pavilion at this year's CNE. Assisting his wife, Marilyn, are grandchildren, (clockwise from right) Samantha, Bradley, Brie, Cory and Jessie.

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They don't understand

Is there anything as incongruous as Party Québécois (PQ) officials solemnly invoking canons of democracy to justify their patently anti-democratic beliefs?

First there was the shocking statement by former premier Jacques Parizeau on the night of the last referendum attributing the separatists' defeat to "money and the ethnic vote."

Then there were the oft-repeated proclamations by Premier Lucien Bouchard that the courts had no role whatsoever to play in establishing rules for secession, that the matter of Quebec's secession from Canada fell exclusively within the political and not the legal domain.

Most recently, just last week, we witnessed yet another manifestation of the PQ doctrine of democratic theory.

Trying to explain his previous day's statement to the media concerning his government's resolve to adhere to a 50 percent-plus-one-vote threshold in the next referendum, Quebec Deputy Premier Bernard Landry said: "I spoke of our brothers and sisters, our compatriots in the cultural communities; I extended a brotherly hand to them. But the day political correctness prevents us from even alluding to those statistics, it will be a curb on *democratic speech*." (Our emphasis)

The "statistics" to which he was referring were the constant, overwhelmingly federalist, voting preferences of his "compatriots in the cultural communities." Because of these preferences, obviously frustrating to his fellow Pequistes, Landry has concluded the minimum majority requirement in the next referendum for secession talks to begin, must only be 50 percent-plus-one-vote. Anything more than 50 percent-plus-one-vote places the bar too high. And "if we put the bar too high," Landry warned, "it could give...the cultural communities a veto right which would not be healthy for Quebec society, either for them or for us."

This, then, is what the deputy premier of Quebec would characterize as "democratic speech." To be sure, it is his democratic right to speak his opinion. But make no mistake, his opinion is bereft of any deep understanding or appreciation of true democracy. Moreover it touches the edges of very menacing territory.

True democracy does not differentiate the eligible voters; rather, it differentiates the ideas and the ideologies that are being voted upon. Yet, the deputy premier clearly does differentiate voters. For him, there are the "cultural communities" and the non-cultural communities, presumably, the old-stock Québécois francophone. On the subject of secession from Canada, the vote of the cultural communities in Quebec, he implies, though legally valid, is somehow morally invalid.

Quebec's possible secession from Canada, he implies, is really an argument to be resolved, not by all Quebecers, but preferably by the non-cultural communities of Quebec. Following Landry's logic, it is neither far-fetched nor implausible to imagine some dyed-in-the wool, "old-stock" Québécois advocating the disqualification of the cultural communities from voting in the referendum.

Anathasios Hadjis, the vice-president of the Hellenic Congress of Quebec succinctly, painfully, defined the offense in the deputy premier's words. "Implicit in Mr. Landry's statement is that the votes of members of cultural communities in Quebec are somehow different from votes expressed by anyone else in Quebec."

True democracy covets less the outcome of a vote than it does the process of that vote. Democracy lives in the details of rules, procedures, fairness and due process. Its hallmark is the pre-eminence of the rule of law that itself rests on the inviolate belief: one person, one vote, all equal in measure.

The PQ hierarchy, coveting only the outcome and not the process of democracy, just does not seem to understand this.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Once a man repents, stop reminding him of what he did."
Talmud, Bava Metzia

Dry Bones
RUSSIA WENT CAPITALIST. ...AND AFTER SEVEN YEARS
... RUSSIANS THOUGHT THAT THEY'D BE "UP TO THEIR EARS" IN MONEY!
...AND, IN A WAY, THEY WERE RIGHT.
THEY'RE IN THE RUBBLE OF THE RUBLE.

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Daughter of Israel reviled in *The Governess*

Your reviewer of the film *The Governess* (*CJN*, Aug. 20) warns that it "leaves the audience hungry." It left me and my movie companion downright emetic.

Perhaps the moral perspective of Sandra Goldbacher, the movie's writer and director, justifies the adultery and the destruction of a family because it was dysfunctional anyway. She may even believe that there is moral sanction for committing theft in return for being cheated. Apart from Goldbacher's personal morality, the movie makes an inauthentic portrayal of a "daughter of Israel," if I may uncynically use that term, particularly of one living in the 19th century.

The movie leaves the audience hungry because they do not know if the portrayal is of an aberrant, wayward Jewish daughter who keeps Jewish ritual tradition in the secrecy of her room but is absolutely bereft of the morality that is part and parcel of that tradition, or if it is a portrayal of a typical, albeit "adventurous," Jewish young woman. If the former, then the movie was merely offensive to our Jewish sensibilities. If the latter, then the movie was anti-Semitic.

Alex P. Korn
Toronto

Wants to prove Torontonians are friendly

John Freeman's letter (*CJN*, Aug. 20) about the difficulty of making friends in Toronto touched a nerve. It is not the first time I have heard such a tale. One story (perhaps apocryphal) concerned a couple who moved here – from Winnipeg, I think it was. They decided the best way to give their social life a kick start was to throw a big party and invited everyone they had met since they first arrived. People gladly accepted. The party was a roaring success. But they didn't get even one invitation in return.

I came to Toronto 25 years ago after living in Montreal and New York. And yes, Toronto is different. And the Jews in Toronto are different.

I first noticed it at an oneg Shabbat after Friday night services at a synagogue when we first arrived here as strangers. No one took the initiative to speak to us. It struck me then that Jews were like chameleons, taking on the qualities of the communities in which they live. I was wrong, though. It is not only Jews who have these qualities in Toronto.

Of course since then, we have made friends.

The funny thing is that when you get to know people here they are just as warm and friendly and helpful and understanding as people anywhere else.

But there's one more thing we can do, spurred on by Freeman's letter, and that is change things.

If you, John Freeman, invite us, I promise to invite you back. Better still, if you want, we'll invite you first and I'm confident you'll return the invitation.

Hanoch Bordan
Toronto

Pakistani general surrendered to Jew

It was enlightening to read that Lt.-Gen. J.F.R. Jacob was appointed governor of the Indian province of Goa. (*CJN*, Aug. 30) The statement that he is the first Jew to achieve such a high office is refreshing; however, the report that Jacob is of Iraqi heritage is incorrect.

In fact, Jacob is from the Bene Israel community of India, a group of Jews who had settled in this part of India as a result of a shipwreck nearly 2,000 years ago.

A very interesting episode involving Jacob took place during the Bangladesh War in 1971. The Indian army, under the command of then Maj.-Gen. Jacob, GOC, Eastern Command, had surrounded the Pakistani army and surrender terms were offered to the Pakistani general for him to sign. He refused to sign unless he first spoke with then-prime minister Indira Gandhi. When Gandhi asked why he refused to sign, the Pakistani general told her that not only did he lose the war, but that she was adding insult to injury by making him sign surrender terms in front of a Jew.

Isaac Judah
Montreal

Seeking uncle and cousins in Canada

I was born in 1936 in Pervouralsk, Russia. My father was arrested during Stalin repressions and killed in 1937. My mother, Waisfeld Hana Iosifovna, was born in Staszow, Poland, in 1901. Before World War II my mother's older brother left for Canada and her younger brother for Argentina.

My Canadian uncle was born between 1895 and 1898 and lived in Toronto. He found us in 1957-1958 and sent us some letters and pictures. So I knew about my Canadian cousins, born in 1933, 1938, 1945. Now I don't have any letters and pictures, because during Cold War times my mother had to stop any connections with capitalist representatives. Contact 416-250-5485, Boris Gitlin E-mail:[borisgit@cashcode.com]

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Three hundred years since the Baal Shem Tov was born

By RABBI J. IMMANUEL SCHOCHET

This year marks the tercentenary of the birth of the founder of the chassidic movement. Rabbi Israel ben Eliezer, known as the Baal Shem Tov – Master of the Good Name, was born on the 18th of Elul 5458 (1698), in a small Ukrainian village called Okup.

Rabbi Israel's personal life, especially the first half, is mostly shrouded in folklore and in countless legends. He was orphaned at an early age and worked as a teaching assistant, beadle and part-time shochet. To the outside world, he appeared as a simple person, but in secret, he studied assiduously, acquiring the extensive knowledge in Rabbinics and the Kabbalah that became manifest in his public career.

Early on he became associated with a secret organization of *Nistarim*, saints and mystics who acted in total anonymity; eventually he became their leader. These men would visit numerous towns and villages in the guise of simple folk, noting firsthand the social and religious status and needs of their fellow Jews. To the best of their ability they brought material and spiritual succor to multitudes of people acutely suffering from the demoralizing effects of the upheavals and persecutions of the preceding century. Thus were laid the foundations for the chassidic movement.

The Baal Shem Tov's public career started in 1734. From then on, he openly taught, preached and disseminated the ideas and principles of Chassidism.

In 1740, he settled in the town of Miedzyboz, where he remained until his death 20 years later. There he developed an academy in which he taught his disciples through formal lectures. At the same time, however, he continued to travel extensively to convey his message to the masses by means of popular stories and parables.

The Baal Shem Tov did not compose books. He created souls, people, extraordinary leaders, not texts. His mastery of the exoteric and esoteric traditions of the Torah emerged in the scholars who became his disciples. They included some of the great talmudic authorities of the time who held prominent rabbinic positions: Rabbi Meir Margolius of Ostrog; Rabbi Gershon of Kotov; Rabbi David Heilperin of Zaslov; Rabbi Israel Charif of Satanov; Rabbi Dov Ber of Mezhirech; Rabbi Jacob Joseph of Polnoy; Rabbi Joseph Joel Heilperin of Stephan; and many others. These renowned rabbis became fervent followers of the Baal Shem Tov, cited his teachings, and they spoke most highly of their master's scholarship and holiness.

His teaching of the masses in synagogues and marketplaces, and especially the content of his message, were quite revolutionary. Until his time, a radical division separated the scholarly elite who prided themselves on the historical Jewish pursuit of Torah knowledge from the generally unlearned masses, who struggled to survive. The former forgot their sorrows in their studies, focusing on the traditional goal of being a *talmid chacham*, a Torah scholar. They had contempt for the unlearned, for those in the opposite category, *am ha'aretz*.

The concept of *am ha'aretz*, however, has two meanings. In normative use it is a derogatory term for the illiterate: people of the land, the common masses who did not pursue the ideal of Torah knowledge that earmarks and safeguards Jewish identity and continuity.

Am ha'aretz, however, also is a generic term for the people of Israel as the people of the earth, i.e., the people for whose sake the earth was created. Its emphasis is on Israel's being the people chosen to receive the Torah to sanctify and sublimate God's earth. It signifies the special relationship between God and Israel, "Israel, my first-born child." In this context every individual, scholar and simpleton alike, is most precious. Love of Israel is tantamount to love of God. In the Baal Shem Tov's words: True love of the Father implies love for His children.

The religious and social establishment of eastern Europe focused on the derogatory aspect of *am ha'aretz*. They kept themselves apart from the masses, regarding them with disdain. In principle they were justified in doing so, for the latter's neglect of Torah study surely threatened the very survival of Judaism.

The Baal Shem Tov did not disagree with the traditional principles per se. In his view, however, the circumstances of his times demanded a modified approach. The vast majority of the masses were demoralized, forced into their state of illiteracy by external conditions and not by a wilful neglect of Torah. Thus he focused on the generic, literal sense of *am ha'aretz* and emphasized the intrinsic essence of each individual rather than his external reality. He sought to awaken the Jewish soul, to make people conscious of their true being and lead them to actualize their potential.

In a typical teaching, he thus interpreted the verse "For you (Israel) shall be an *eretz chefetz* (earth, or land, of desire), says God" (Malachi 3:12): Just as the greatest scientists will never discover the limits of the enormous natural resources that God has implanted in the earth, neither will anyone ever find the limits of the great treasures that lie within Israel, God's "land of desire." And he concluded: "I want to make Israel yield the kind of produce which the Almighty's 'land of desire' is capable of yielding!"

Many writers on Chassidism note the Baal Shem Tov's involvement with the masses and their enthusiastic adoption of his teachings. They read it as a popular and emotional uprising against the establishment and the strictures of Halachah. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is an amateurish distortion that ignores the explicit and implicit teachings and practices of the Baal Shem Tov and his disciples.

Strictly speaking, there is nothing novel or revolutionary in the doctrines and activities of the Baal Shem Tov and Chassidism. They derive from the very premises of the traditional sources of Judaism. The originality of Chassidism is not in innovation but in emphasis.

The Baal Shem Tov and his school fused the exoteric and the esoteric, Halachah and the mystical dimension of the Torah. He emphasized the religious experience, spirituality, consciousness of the Divine in the pursuit of Torah and mitzvot, as opposed to a perfunctory observance of religious obligations. Torah and mitzvot must be internalized, living realities that affect the person, not only in their actual performance, but also thereafter.

The Baal Shem Tov presents a philosophy of holism that does not recognize a dichotomy of the physical and the spiritual. The earth must be raised to heaven and heaven brought down to earth. The biblical admonition of "Know Him in all your ways" (Proverbs 3:6), i.e., even in your physical existence and material pursuits, is a pervasive theme in his teachings. Asceticism, therefore, is seen to be a barrier to the ideal form of worship. It induces a morbid frame of mind and precludes the requisite joy and optimism implied by true faith and trust in God.

Deveikut (communion with G-d), *kavanah* (conscious intention and devotion), enthusiasm and joy are major concepts of Chassidism. There is great emphasis on prayer, as it is the most immediate and direct relationship with the Divine. Most crucial is the Baal Shem Tov's concept of *hashgachah peratit*, which he interprets to mean a pervasive recognition of Divine Providence governing every detail in God's creation. These principles relate to all. Ordinary people can attain these goals no less than scholars and saints. "God seeks the heart," and than can be offered by everyone, without exception.

The central role of Torah study in Judaism is not diminished one iota, albeit with the caution never to forget that we are dealing with *God's* Torah, manifesting the Divine Will.

At the core of all is the intrinsic unity of God, Torah and Israel. The Baal Shem Tov once summarized his mission "to move all Jews to love of God, love of Torah and love of every Jew," with full realization that these are inseparable and interdependent. None can be true and whole without compounding the other two. His concern for, and involvement with, the illiterate masses, was not only a means towards the end of bringing them closer to God and Torah, but also an imperative of unconditional love for every Jew as an end in itself.

The Baal Shem Tov's teachings, widely disseminated by an unusual corps of extra-ordinary masters and teachers of Chassidism over the past three centuries, wrought a spiritual revolution that is fermenting to this day. There is not a single Jewish group or movement that has not been affected by Chassidism. This great sage's doctrines and practices, once suspect as revolutionary novelties, have generally been adopted universally as normative values and perspectives.

The Baal Shem Tov foresaw this historical change in attitude. In an unusual document, he describes an extraordinary vision of a celestial encounter with the soul of the Messiah. He asked the Messiah when he would finally come to earth to free the people of Israel from the miseries of the galut (exile). The Messiah replied: "When your wellsprings shall disperse without," i.e., throughout the world.

The wellsprings of the Baal Shem Tov, the insight and inspiration of his teachings, are already springing forth throughout the globe. Jewish communities all over now mark the tercentenary of his birth with special efforts to bring that vision to full and speedy realization.

A Chassidic Master as imagined and drawn by Leonard Baskin. [From Martin Buber, Tales of the Hasidim, Schocken Books]

Rabbi Schochet is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Joseph Lubavitch in North York, rabbi emeritus of the Kielcer Congregation, and was professor of philosophy at Humber College for 25 years.

Opinions

A time for new experiences

By Jennifer Fox in Halifax

The usual school necessities sit in plastic bags on my floor: three binders, five packages of loose-leaf paper, a box of pens and a pair of oven mitts.

Since when are oven mitts school supplies? This year is going to be a little bit different.

September is a month of beginnings – a new school year and for some, a new place to call home. But there's also a feeling of repetition, of familiarity. Before last year, every September followed a pattern. Receive my schedule, complain about my teachers and restock my school supplies. The pattern is now lost; I'm making it up as I go along.

In September 1997, I left home and entered university. Everything was new – the city, the people, the independence. I lived in Alex Hall, the King's College women's residence, and acquired new skills: how to stick to a monthly budget, most of the time; how to pay the phone bill. I learned which dryer would actually dry my clothes for only 75 cents and which nights to book the TV. Slowly, the secrets of living on campus were uncovered.

Life in Alex Hall was good. My room was cleaned for me. My friends were just across the hall. My meals were made without my lifting a finger. OK, I couldn't always identify what I was eating. What exactly was American-style lasagna and why was it that color?

It didn't matter. I was an independent woman, albeit a very sheltered independent woman. Residence students don't worry about rent, about utility bills, about shopping for groceries. They don't have to wake up early to get to class because class is only two minutes away. My independence wasn't complete, but I knew what I was doing.

September 1998 – time to grow up a little bit more. I return to Halifax, not to the comforts of Alex Hall, but to three housemates and a house of our own.

I often think about utensils. Which utensils are essential to a kitchen, which ones do I actually know how to use? Meat preparation terrifies me. I own a whisk, but do I know what it's for? When I'm standing in the grocery store, will I know which brand of pickles I like? Will I become like so many students before me and live on macaroni and cheese for the next eight months? I don't even know how to make macaroni and cheese.

This September, there are more changes than household chores. The High Holy Days approach and bring more questions. Where will I break the fast on Yom Kippur? Which Halifax synagogue will I attend? What will it be like to go to High Holy Day services alone?

Every Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we had small family traditions. As I sat beside my father, the fringes from his tallit would fall into my lap. I would pick up the row of string and begin to braid. The strings are soft and smell of old books. We would race home after Neilah because we were so hungry, only to have a light snack and fall into bed. This year, instead of returning to a house filled with hungry and tired family members, I well return to three well-fed and energetic housemates.

Things change. A month that was once about old ways becomes a time for new experiences. September now represents challenges for the year. Learn how to cook or be hungry. Find somewhere to break the fast or do it alone. Eventually I'll master this year's tasks, I hope. Soon September will come again, teaching me new lessons for the year ahead.

When the few are in the majority

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The title of this column represents an obvious oxymoron, for "the few" are by definition a minority – and a minority cannot be a majority. But wait.

I am talking about money, and money has a life of its own, with rules that apply nowhere else.

First, the money aspect. UJA and UIA drives are beginning all over North America, and in Toronto the campaign is already in full swing. It is my understanding that from the very beginning it has been a great success in that more and more people have increased their levels of giving.

Now to the minority aspect. It has long been known that in any campaign for any community, and for any cause, 20 percent of the givers contribute 80 percent of the total. In a recent issue of the *American Benefactor*, some additional figures were supplied that intrigued me, and that I think will be of interest to the readers of this column.

There are various classes of donors, even in the 20 percent bracket that supplies most of the funds of any campaign. Take the richest first. Among those making $1 million or more per year, 20 percent give most of the money in their own income group. And strangely, a similar relationship exists also among people who earn between $10,000 and $15,000. Here, 10 percent contribute more than half of all the contributions made.

The article suggests, therefore, that in fact, it is not the income level that determines the relative amount of a gift. It is the generosity of some on one side and the lack of it on the other. In the lowest income group, which is quite clearly composed of people with very little money to spend, there is a small group that is far more charitable than the rest who give little or nothing.

Since these statistics apply across the board, it is well for those in reasonably comfortable economic conditions to ask themselves: Where do I fit into the 20/80 range? The question is likely to remain unanswered, for such figures – scaled along various income groups – are either not available or not being released. In the end, it is the generosity of the individual that counts.

But money is not the only subject where the minority-majority angle prevails. Take the Jewish people's cultural contributions to humanity. We are a very small group and we have added an enormous amount to the religious and intellectual treasure house of civilization. Or take any community: a small group does most of the volunteer work for the benefit of all.

It all comes down to this: all the way from money, to culture, to religion, the devotion of people, their commitment to certain ideals, and their willingness to give of themselves in time, effort and money represents the foundation of society. Whether we belong to the minority or majority is up to us. Everyone can be among the benefactors on the one hand or the beneficiaries on the other.

Throughout history, the Jews have chosen (or were chosen) to be among the benefactors, and have paid a high price for it. In our individual lives, fortunately, the price is not that high.

Time to say bye to summer

By Erica Horn in Montreal

My summer is sadly slowly coming to an end. It has been a long, busy, yet relaxing four months.

As I boarded the bus at camp, headed for the airport, my friend wiped the tears off my cheek and said, "The key to not missing your camp friends so much during the winter is to keep the summer alive as long as possible."

Photos plastered all over my wall, camp music mixes, incessant usage of the internet, long distance phone bills and numerous trips across the border are ways in which I intend to do exactly that. However, at the same time, a reality check is mandatory. The school year is inevitable. The snow will fall, I'll have papers to write, midterms to prepare for, swim school to teach, and more snow will fall. Yet, throughout the 10 months, I know I will have something to look forward to.

***

I sat listening to the radio the other day, trying to remind myself of events that occurred at the beginning of my summer, which seemed like an eternity ago. At the beginning of May, I drove to New York City with the two other co-editors of the *Hillel Hub*, the Jewish student newspaper distributed across numerous campuses in Montreal. We were going to a conference organized by the Jewish Student Press Service. The panel that sparked our attention the most was entitled What Makes a Story Jewish? Some students answered that a story is Jewish, if and only if, it discusses a specifically Jewish subject. I disagree. I think that a story can be considered Jewish provided that it promotes anything Jewish, from Jewish values to Israel, or even simply Jewish food.

Many Jews are involved in non-Jewish things, and it would seem narrow-minded to classify a Jewish story as something solely dealing with Jewish events or Jews acting for Jewish causes. Take, for example, the CA Marche AIDS Walk. While the cause is not "specifically" Jewish, there are Jews with AIDS and there are Jews involved in raising money for this important cause.

Most importantly, the event is a charity. Tzedakah and tikkun olam are Jewish values emphasized in Jewish homes, taught in Jewish day schools and preached in synagogues. Helping those in need and offering others whatever you can in order to better their lives are an essential part of leading a Jewish life.

Monica Lewinsky, on the other hand, is considered a Jewish story, not because she promotes Jewish values, but rather because one of her parents is Jewish. She is a Jewish person seeking some attention from the public. (Some would consider this a Jewish characteristic!) An absolute necessity to define a story as Jewish is the presence of any Jewish element, be it obvious or subtle.

***

Although I may spend these next months longing to be with my camp friends and in camp, I must make the best of the time, as we all must. I am going to keep myself busy so that by the time I return to camp, I will have stories and experiences to share with all the people I have anxiously waited to see. There is no need to pout around the house because the winter is inevitable if we ever want the summer to come around again. If we become involved with different organizations, within the Jewish community or outside of it, it is important to realize we are demonstrating Jewish values nonetheless.

If you are as fortunate as I am to have two days of class a week (I don't mean to brag), instead of trying desperately to tan through the skylight, because it won't work, take initiative, get involved and lend a hand.

Dry Bones

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The Kirshner File

Quiet diplomacy not enough in settling wartime claims

By Sheldon Kirshner

Unrelieved pressure finally forced Swiss banks and Swiss, Italian, German and French insurance companies to agree to settle wartime claims with Jews last month.

Facing economic sanctions and class-action suits which may well have crippled their operations in the United States, they finally relented, closing a chapter of the Holocaust.

Once the banks were onside, it was just a question of time before the insurance firms came on board. The settlements, coming within days of each other, underlined an important point. Quiet diplomacy in itself is never enough. A little shouting and the threat of litigation helps.

Nothing concentrates the mind like the loss of potential profits. This, surely, explains why two German automobile manufacturers – Volkswagen and Daimler-Benz – have decided in principle to compensate former slave laborers. And it is why Jewish organizations will continue to press claims against German banks that profited from the Holocaust.

Jews deposited money in Swiss banks and bought insurance policies out of a misplaced faith the system would not betray them or their heirs.

After the war, in far too many instances, the survivors, their children and/or their relatives were, for all practical purposes, stiffed by the banks and the insurance companies. Incredibly enough, they were asked to provide death certificates to prove that their loved ones had been murdered. It was an exercise in cynicism, cruelty and surrealism.

When the Swiss government, at the urging of the World Jewish Congress, took an inventory of dormant accounts in 1962, it found relatively little, and insinuated that the issue was closed.

As for the insurance companies, they clung to the alibi that their records had been destroyed during the war or seized by post-war Communist regimes.

The explanations were accepted, and there the matter rested until the mid-1990s, when a renewed spirit of inquiry and a burning desire for justice emerged.

In 1995, on the 50th anniversary of the end of the war, the Swiss Bankers' Association offered to resolve the problem. The World Jewish Congress rejected the paltry amount, and the battle was joined.

Responding to a chorus of international criticism whose ramifications could affect profitability, Swiss banks and private enterprises set up a $190-million (US) humanitarian fund for Holocaust survivors. And in line with efforts to appease critics, the Swiss government announced plans to create a multi-billion-dollar foundation to assist victims of oppression and poverty, and it appointed commissions to investigate dormant accounts and Switzerland's role during the war.

These gestures were ultimately insufficient. In May this year, amid calls for a global settlement, New Jersey became the first of a number of state assemblies and cities to approve sanctions against Swiss banks. The following month, seeing the handwriting on the wall, the banks offered $600 million. The sum was deemed insulting.

Cognizant that full U.S. sanctions were due to click into place on Sept. 1, the banks offered $1.2 billion. The settlement was accepted. The parties to the accord were Credit Suisse and the Union Bank of Switzerland, the largest banks in the country.

As these developments unfolded, the insurance companies reached the belated conclusion that they had to make good on unpaid policies. Two weeks ago, five out of 16 firms – Assicurazioni Generali, Zurich Allied, Allianz, AXA Group and Winterhur signed a memorandum to settle all outstanding claims.

Money talks.

Daimler-Benz colluded with Nazis

It's no secret that major industrial concerns in Germany profited from Hitler's war of aggression. Daimler-Benz, the manufacturer of the celebrated Mercedes automobile, was one of them.

In 1990, historian Bernard Bellon thoroughly documented this relationship in a masterful book entitled *Mercedes in Peace and War*. Now, in an intriguing study based on formerly inaccessible East German archives and previously closed Daimler-Benz records, Neil Gregor takes the story one step further.

Daimler-Benz in the Third Reich (Yale University Press), the volume under review, traces the connection between the company and the Nazi state and the degree to which it exploited slave laborers – prisoners of war and concentration camp inmates – to maximize profits.

Formed in 1926, Daimler-Benz took full advantage of the opportunities offered by the rearmament of Germany after the Nazis' rise to power in 1933. By Gregor's reckoning, the chairman of the company's supervisory board, Emil Georg von Stauss, was one of the first industrialists to establish contact with the Nationalist Socialist party.

As a result of its relations with the government, Daimler-Benz won contracts to build military vehicles, tanks and aircraft engines. Business was not affected by the fact that the wives of three of the directors were of Jewish or partly Jewish origin.

The war ushered in a tremendous period of growth for Daimler-Benz. Gross profits continually rose, hitting peaks in 1943 and 1944, while the work force increased from 42,776 in 1939 to 68,961 in 1944.

By the end of the war, Daimler-Benz was in good financial shape, with additional plants in France, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union.

In response to Allied bombing raids on its facilities, Daimler-Benz moved its productive capacity to smaller factory sites, then to huge caves which had been dug out by countless forced laborers.

Prisoners of war toiled under extremely punishing conditions, Gregor writes. Physical violence was sanctioned as a means of keeping order, and "sloppy work" habits brought swift and merciless consequences.

The treatment of Jewish concentration camp workers was just as brutal and barbaric, and many died of hunger, cold, illness and beatings. Gregor discloses that the pressure to supply Jewish workers came from Daimler-Benz.

As he puts it: "Jewish workers were not procured out of a humanitarian desire to protect them (as was often claimed by industry after the war). It was rather the case that they were cynically instrumentalized in pursuit of short-term company interests in a specific context (acute short-term labor shortage, demands to raise production) and then abandoned once these interests had been achieved. The Jews were deployed as a 'stop-gap' measure in the interests of securing a smooth continuity in labor supply, and thus of production, until better replacements had been found."

According to his figures, Daimler-Benz had at its disposal in 1944 26,958 forced foreign workers, 4,887 prisoners of war and thousands of concentration camp inmates.

Being exceptionally flexible from an operational point of view and farsighted strategically, Daimler-Benz converted to peace-time production without missing a beat. Its upscale clientele, both in Germany and abroad, would not be deprived of the sleek sedans for which Daimler-Benz is renowned today.

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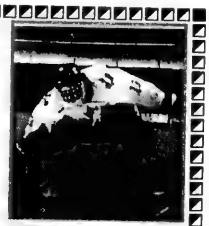

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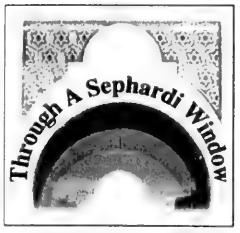

The Jews of India

By SABRINA KERBEL

It is a little known fact that India has an unbroken record of more than 2,000 years of hospitality to Jews.

Jews there enjoyed political, economic, religious and intellectual freedom. In addition, as a result of the rigid caste system they integrated, but did not assimilate.

The Jewish community in India is comprised of three distinct groups: the Bene Israel, the Cochin Jews, and Baghdadi, Iraqi, Persian and Yemenite Jews. The main centres of Jewish concentration are Bombay, Cochin and Calcutta.

The most commonly accepted date of arrival in India of the Bene Israel is 732-730 BCE (before the destruction of the First Temple) when they first settled in the villages of the Konkan, south of Bombay, and then eventually moved to Bombay.

The exact date of arrival of the Cochin Jews is also disputed, but certainly by 4 CE there is evidence of a Jewish community in Kerela. The Baghdadi, Iraqi, Persian and Yemenite Jews came to India in the late 1700s and early 1800s. They settled primarily in Bombay and Calcutta.

The Jewish influence on the cultural mosaic of Bombay is evident from the many communal and public institutions built as a result of Jewish generosity. This vibrant Jewish community also produced many creative people – journalists, authors, and artists in the Indian film and stage industry. Four Jews have received the Padrna Shri, the Indian government's highest award to outstanding individuals in various fields of endeavor.

The Jewish population in India never exceeded 29,000, and the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948 resulted an exodus of Jews from India. The 1981 census which indicated a total of just 5,518 Jews in India. Between 1948 and 1970, approximately 23,000 Jews from India settled in Israel. Today, there are fewer than 4,500 Jews left.

There is no record of the number of Jews from India who have settled in Canada. Some came directly from India, while others first settled in England, the United States or Israel before finally settling in Canada. They are scattered across the country from Halifax to Vancouver, with the majority living in and around Montreal and Toronto.

In 1979, Congregation BINA, which in Hebrew means reason or understanding, was formed in Toronto. It organizes High Holy Day services using Sephardi prayer books and singing traditional Bene Israel melodies. Each year, families come from across Canada and the United States to attend the services and various social events held throughout the year.

The formation of Congregation BINA unites this small community. It provides a network and support to members who are first generation immigrants in Canada, and it helps the younger generations learn and appreciate their unique heritage. It can be said that it bridges the modern families of today with their rich and ancient history.

Russian consular records

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

One night in November 1933, a convoy of U.S. army trucks pulled up in front of a locked and deserted Russian government compound in Washington, D.C., to undertake a mission that was both hushed and rushed. Obeying official orders from higher up, a platoon of American soldiers broke into the premises and began removing boxes of files – 564 in all – that they shipped under cover of night to storage facilities in Washington and Brooklyn.

Despite the operation's secrecy, the *Washington Post* carried a front-page photo of the army's shady manoeuvre the next day, along with a story explaining why Gen. Douglas MacArthur had ordered the Russian records confiscated.

The boxes held files containing a wide variety of personal documents relating to more than 80,000 former Russian subjects, predominantly Jews, living in the United States and Canada. The files had been amassed from about 1898 to roughly 1922 by representatives of the Imperial Russian government headquartered in Washington and elsewhere. These loyal representatives of the czarist government continued to serve Russian immigrants in North America for a decade after their ties with Russia were severed following the 1917 Revolution.

MacArthur realized that many lives could be endangered if the files, abandoned since 1926, fell into Soviet hands. He was forced to act suddenly because then president Franklin Roosevelt had just announced that the United States was belatedly extending diplomatic recognition to the Soviet Union and that an ambassador of the Stalin regime was due in Washington the next day.

The Soviets were infuriated by the American move and demanded the immediate return of their records. The Americans refused. The U.S. State Department kept the files until 1949 and, after shredding an indeterminate number of them, transferred the remainder to the U.S. National Archives, where they were locked away for more than three decades. Owing to poor storage conditions, many were damaged.

In the mid-1980s, archival officials inventoried the collection. Discovering that part of it had originated in Russian consular offices in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, they loaned that part to the National Archives of Canada.

By then rumors had reached a few American-Jewish genealogists, including the late Rabbi Malcolm Stern, that these inaccessible records were a treasure trove for Jewish family tree researchers. Seeing a chance for an inspection in Ottawa, Rabbi Stern alerted Zachary Baker, who was then a librarian at the Jewish Public Library in Montreal (and now head librarian of the YIVO Institute in New York). According to a published report, Baker was "enormously excited" by what he saw, which he characterized as "undoubtedly the most valuable cache of Russian-Jewish genealogical material known to exist outside of the Soviet Union."

Among other purposes, the files had been gathered to help exempt Russian immigrants from military service during World War I. They contained birth, circumcision, marriage and death certificates, school and military records, extensive family trees, citizenship documents, even photographs. Bank records, papers pertaining to wills and estates, and much general correspondence further rounded out the collection.

Soon another perceived crisis would precipitate more quick action, this time on the part of the Jewish genealogical community in tandem with other groups. As the first winds of glasnost blew across Russia, the United States finally agreed to surrender the records.

But first a deal was made in which the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW) would index the 135,000-page collection and the Mormon Family History Library would microfilm it. Over a period of two years, all parties completed their parts of the bargain and the Russian consular records were returned to Moscow in 1988.

Microfilmed sets of these records (sometimes referred to as the LI-RA-MA collection) are available through the Mormon Library, the U.S. National Archives and the National Archives of Canada. Before attempting to navigate the microfilms, however, researchers should consult the *Index and Catalogue to the Russian Consular Records*, by Sallyann Sack and Suzan Wynne (Garland Publishing, 1987), available through Jewish genealogical societies and university libraries.

To my mind, Wynne, Sack and other JGSGW volunteers deserve immense credit for accomplishing this Herculean task in the brief period allotted. Why not check the index to see if members of your family are listed?

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Searching for the answers

By DR. ELLIOTT MALOMETT

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding the upcoming High Holy Days.

You want to know why people who have palpably little Jewish involvement for the other 362 days of the year bother to attend synagogue services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. On the other hand, you are puzzled by Jewish tradition, which places so much emphasis on these three days, as though God is unavailable on a cold despairing midnight in March. Sir, your questions are good ones.

You have searched for answers by listening to your rabbi's High Holy Day sermons. They fittingly allude to repentance, to self-improvement, to Jewish values and Jewish unity. They may also delve into support for Israel, and the ironically passionate financial plea – the Kol Nidre Bonds speech. (After all, why talk about God on the holiest night of the year when we can talk about money?). What you have heard much less about are the "ghostlier demarcations," the bare night of death.

And Rosh Hashanah is, on some fundamental level, about remembering that we are going to die. That real life is a transient dream. That one morning at 4 a.m. you will wake up in the darkness, listen to the breathing of those you love, and realize: "Me – this body, husband, son, friend, teacher, this laugh, this pride, this dreaming, this preening for others, this skin, this scent, this secret lust, this unconquered spirit, this shifting heart, this semblance of power, this face, this wallet stuffed with cards of identity and affluence, this seat at the dinner table – all will vanish."

We do not like to talk about this, because as a culture we shun feelings of intensity. We substitute ennui for grief, distraction for joy, religious posturing for an open and sharing quest for enlightenment.

But death consciousness is not a cause for paralyzing feelings of depression. Quite the opposite: In the great moments of religious history, it formed the powerful beginning of life change. It is what allowed the Buddha to break free of stultifying social expectations and seek real inner understanding.

And it is the knowledge of our mortality that propels the Jew on the Days of Awe to move beyond the harrowing cage of daily calculations, the utterly futile preoccupation with temporal successes and approval, and begin to hunger for the highest things.

Rabbi Israel Salanter, the great ethicist of the last century, writes that "our entire life is God's mercy; by miracles we stand, but miracles may not happen every day." On Yom Kippur, death is not just ruminated upon but enacted through the prohibitions against eating, drinking, bathing, sexual relations. The breeze of death, felt close to the skin, can shock us into appreciating the miracle that is life.

Of course, this is hardly an answer to your dilemmas. Why do people attend shul? Some want to, some have to, some feel compelled to, some do it for others, some pay homage to the past, some throw darts at the future. But I suspect that both for the fastidiously observant and for the Jewishly unconcerned, it is the faint – and growing ever fainter – whiff of gravity in the air that proves compelling in a way that is hard to fathom rationally.

Since, as Philip Larkin beautifully writes, "someone will be forever surprising/ a hunger in himself to be more serious,/ And gravitating with it to this ground."

Yours truly…

A delicate balance maintained

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

When you skim the Internet for articles about Chassidim, you notice a recurring theme. How can Chassidim benefit from *some* aspects of western society without sacrificing the cherished values that form the foundation of their community? Today, a look at that delicate balance.

In "The Hasidim's Unorthodox Dilemma," the Globe and Mail focuses on the Chassidim of Montreal **[http://www.globeandmail.com/docs/archive/19980205/Compass/UCOMP.html]**.

According to the article, poverty and unemployment have forced the Chassidim to approach the local government for assistance. They want to develop community training programs that are appropriate for this community. One solution being explored is computers. "The discipline needed to devote several hours a day to talmudic studies shows chassidic men are avid students and quick learners…A computer-oriented career suits Chassidim well because they can work at home and accommodate all the demands of their religion."

How do you allow kids to get out of the city yet still inspire them with traditional chassidic values? Send them to Camp Shalva. The article Country Camp, City Rules **[http://www.th-record.com/orthodox/country.htm]** gives an interesting glimpse into how things are run at the Bobov chassidic overnight camp for boys. Purchased in the mid-1970s, the camp combines talmudic classes with sports, field trips and games. (For a peek at life back in the city, take a look at the Jewish Telegraphic Agency article on a visit to a Satmar school for girls in Brooklyn **[http://www.jta.org/feb98/18-satm.htm]**.)

Several years ago, the Satmar community of Kiryas Joel, north of New York, was involved in a fascinating court case. The United States Supreme Court ruled that the New York State legislature had acted unconstitutionally in establishing a school district specifically to meet the needs of members of Satmar Chassidim. After the case, four lawyers with a very wide range of opinions were invited to comment on The Church-State Game: A Symposium of Kiryas Joel **[http://leaderu.com/ftissues/ft9411/kiryas.html]**. I highly recommend this thoughtful and thought-provoking Web site.

Menachem Daum comes from a chassidic family in Brooklyn; Oren Rudavsky from a secular Jewish home in Illinois. Together, they produced the documentary A Life Apart: Hasidism in America **[http://pages.prodigy.com/sunstrike/film.htm]**. The program was recently aired on PBS and the network has created a large site about the making of the film and Chassidim in America **[http://www.pbs.org/alifeapart/]**. The provocative discussion area focuses on Chassidism in general, the relation of Chassidim to other streams of Judaism and the role of women within the chassidic community **[http://www.pbs.org/cgi-bin/netforum/alifeapart/a/1/]**.

And finally, there's the story of Shlomo Koenig, actually New Hempstead, N.Y., Deputy Shlomo Koenig **[http://www.s-t.com/daily/02-97/02-17-97/b02li043.htm]**. Like most Chassidim, Koenig wears a kippah, and has a beard and payot. But he also wears a police uniform and a badge, and he carries a gun. Koenig had originally acted as an unofficial liaison for Rockland County's large chassidic community because they were distrustful of the police. Then he was invited to apply for a job.

"I'm a Jew first, a police officer second," he says. "I still try to live on my own in my smaller world. I try to do my studying, my praying, the religious education of my kids. I also try to be a sheriff. I have to be able to work with society, and I try to do that."

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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REENA LAUNCHES 25TH YEAR

Reena recently unveiled the cornerstone at the Battle Centre in Vaughan, and launched a year of activities to mark its 25th anniversary. The organization's founding members were honored, including (from left), Rochelle Carrady, Rabbi Joseph Kelman and Jeannie Tanenbaum. Joining them were Vaughan Mayor Lorna Jackson (second from right) and Ward 5 councillor Susan Kadis. [Ron Csillag photo]

Guest Voices

The Balkanization of the Western Wall

By RABBI AVI SHAFRAN

Since its liberation from Jordan in 1967, Jerusalem's Kotel Ma'aravi, or Western Wall, has been a spiritual magnet for Jews of all denominations and beliefs.

While no one monitors which prayer books visitors use at the site or if head coverings are worn, the essential layout of the prayer area there reflects the requirements of Halachah, or Jewish religious law: men on one side of a partition, women on the other. Public services at the holy site have likewise been conducted in accordance with classical Jewish tradition.

Over the past year, though, egalitarian prayer-gatherings at the Kotel have been organized by non-Orthodox Jewish activists, predictably provoking hurt and anger (even, inexcusably, some violence) among the thousands of traditional Jews present on those occasions and – likewise predictably – a good deal of fawning by much of the press. In concert with the activists, non-Orthodox Jewish leaders are demanding that a portion of the Wall be designated for their constituents' own use.

Critics of the non-traditional prayer groups regard them as essentially political manoeuvres, the opening of new fronts in the American non-Orthodox leaders' war against Israel's "religious status quo." (Indeed, last year, an organizer of a mixed-gender Kotel prayer group inadvertently referred to the gathering as a "rally.")

They point out, moreover, that the vast majority of the Wall's regular visitors are Orthodox Jews. And that whatever one may personally think of mixed-gender services and chanting women, such things offend the Orthodox. Sensitive folk of goodwill, after all, would never think of entering a mosque with shoes on, or a closed space with a lit cigarette.

The critics note, further, that there is no rule in the Reform or Conservative codes *forbidding* men and women from praying separately, as Jews have done for thousands of years. So why not continue to accommodate the "highest common denominator" standard of Halachah at the holiest Jewish prayer site?

They note, too, that there is no limit to what could legitimately be demanded were Jewish religious law abandoned as the public norm at the Kotel. Why wouldn't "Messianic Jews" assert their right to mount crosses for their services at the Wall? Might not anti-Zionist Jews wish to burn Israeli flags there?

To this Jew, though, those points, while absolutely valid, pale entirely beside the most devastating one of all.

For while the non-Orthodox activists' immediate goal to gain a "piece of the Kotel" may seem at first glance reasonable enough, a second, more thoughtful look shows a true Jewish tragedy in the making.

Because for more than three decades, the Kotel has been a place – perhaps the only one in the world – where Jews of all affiliations and persuasions have regularly prayed side by side.

Imagine, though, the realization of the activists' goal – a "balkanized" Kotel, Orthodox Jews here, non-Orthodox there, never the twain to meet, or at least to stand together in prayer.

Could any truly caring Jew – of whatever prefix – really want to hammer that horrid, heavy nail into the coffin of Jewish unity?

Rabbi Shafran is the director of public affairs for Agudath Israel of America.

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Pride of Israel (C)	59 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15& 8:30 AM	7:00 PM
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM-	----------
Solel Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	Tuesday 7:00 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area.
The Toronto Board of Rabbis will periodically update the listings.
We hope to have information from the Vaad Harabonim about Orthodox synagogues in the very near future.

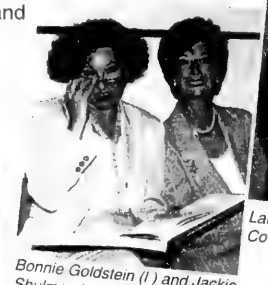
Community Matters

Campaign for Fifty

Off to a Great Start

It's nearly $15 million and counting for UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty which kicked off August 31 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. More than 1,000 people participated in the Launch, which featured Israel's Yovel group and impersonator Tuvia Tsafir. The Campaign for Fifty goal is $50 million annually by 2001.
Photos: Stephen Epstein

Launch Co-chairs David Koschitzky and Barbara Bank and Campaign for Fifty Co-chairs Lawrence Tanenbaum and Brent Belzberg.



Bonnie Goldstein (l) and Jackie Shulman leaf through Voices from the Heart, the book which they edited to commemorate Israel's 50th anniversary.

(l-r)Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel, David Engel, Co-chair of King David Circle, Carol Kassel, Laurie and Beverley Fein.

UJA Federation's Young Leadership pre-Launch reception committee. (l-r): Cory Gurevitz, Lori Winch, Lesley Tavel, Bari Hochman, Francine Goodman, Rob Sandler, Manor Haas, Jim Lisser.

Jonathan Wolfe, Co-chair of UJA Federation's Top Gifts Dinner with his mother Rose and sister Elizabeth Wolfe.

Yovel entertained the audience with Israeli song and dance.

Neil Nisker with his son Joshua.

Brent Belzberg and son Zack.

Lawrence Tanenbaum with his mother Anne.

Michael Bregman, Co-chair of UJA Federation's Top Gifts Dinner with his wife Barbara.

Cute cousins. Shawna Granovsky holds her nephew Jordan Allen as daughter Courtney Marks takes a nap.

Israeli impersonator Tuvia Tsafir, dressed as Golda Meir, jokes with Lynn Kirshin, Chair of UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet.

Gerry Schwartz and Heather Reisman.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Greater Toronto Area

Law student to help oversee Toronto police force

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A chance sighting of a newspaper ad has led to Sandy Adelson's becoming the youngest person ever to serve as a member of the Toronto Police Services Board.

The 22-year-old York University law student applied for the position earlier this year after spotting an ad in the *North York Mirror*.

She was initially rejected by city council because some councillors were concerned about her youth and lack of experience. After the council's nominating committee reconvened and continued to back her as the best candidate for the position, she was sworn in at the end of August as a member of the seven-person civilian board that oversees Toronto's police service.

Adelson, who was born in Johannesburg and moved here at age two, has wanted to pursue a career in criminal law for a long time. She entered law school a year ago after studying philosophy for two years at McMaster, where she made the dean's list. A graduate of North Toronto Collegiate Institute, she graduated at the top of her high school class with a 97.7 average.

Although Adelson has always followed police stories in the news, she didn't realize until this year she'd have an opportunity to be involved in such a direct way. "This is a place your input is translated into action...I think that's very exciting."

Her term runs until November 2000, and she has been told it involves about 30 hours a month of work, including preparation for meetings.

After returning from a working holiday tending bar in London, England, earlier this summer,

Sandy Adelson

Adelson set about studying agendas, minutes and reports in preparation for her first board meeting.

She believes all the members bring something different to the board, and that her age is an asset.

"Toronto is close to my heart. I'm committed to what happens here. I'm young. This is the city I'll be growing up and raising my family in."

She hopes to go on police ride-alongs to better understand and "talk about with intelligence" the role of police officers and the reality of their lives.

"I think there's a lot more fear and distrust [of police] on the minds of youth right now. I think it's important that young people are taught at an early age to respect the police but also...making sure at the same time that there are checks and balances on the police and that their work is always monitored, and making sure there isn't misconduct on the force...I think respect has to be earned."

She has stated her intention to voice strong opinions on an issue-by-issue basis.

Among her goals is to help improve relations between the community and the service, in part by talking to young people.

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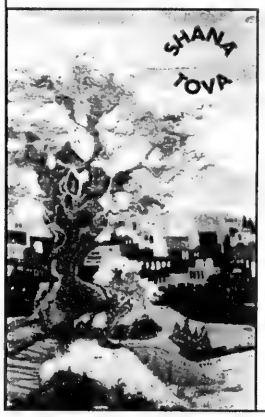

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Artist explores socially conscious themes

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Toronto-born artist Ellen Simon has used her talent to create socially conscious works on ecumenical and peace themes.

Simon, who lives in New York City but returns to Canada frequently to visit and to work on her art, was honored this year when the Canadian government selected her design for the 52 cent stamp. Simon designed and cartooned the stained glass window from which the stamp was created.

In an interview in Toronto, the octogenarian explained that after graduating from Jarvis Collegiate and studying at the Ontario College of Art, she moved to New York when she realized that "to be Jewish and female in Toronto at that time was so limiting. So I followed my sister Margaret, also an artist, to New York."

Her first major assignment, she says, "came as a fluke." She was asked by the architect of the Holy Blossom Temple if she would design and cartoon the stained glass windows. She jumped at the opportunity and Yvonne Williams was chosen to execute Simon's design. The two have collaborated on many other windows over the years.

Although Simon has worked with woodblocks, pencil drawings, lithographs and water colors, she says the Holy Blossom windows "hooked me on stained glass when I discovered that this was a beautiful medium."

In New York, Simon studied and later practised art therapy, working with disturbed children, and she lectured and presented therapy workshops in New York and Toronto, at centres including the New York State Psychiatric Hospital, Harlem Hospital Centre, St. Mary's Hospital for Children in Bayside, N.Y., and many others.

Her early career included writing and illustrating children's books, among them *The Critter Book*, which was selected as the Children's Book of the Year in 1940.

Simon's stained glass pieces have been featured at Georg Jensen in New York, in shops throughout the United States and at Trade Winds in Toronto.

Her extensive list of accomplishments includes magazine illustrations, posters, greeting cards, banners and illustrations for numerous charitable organizations.

Her stained glass windows can be seen in the Princeton University Chapel, Notre Dame Chapel, Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, Temple Emanuel, Temple Shaar Hashomayim in Windsor and in many private collections. Her works are in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Canada, New York Public Library and the Brooklyn Museum.

Simon returns to Canada every summer (she still drives back and forth), to draw and paint at Georgian Bay.

"Working there is the crown of the year for me," she said. She is an avid hiker and volunteers her time to working in art therapy.

Simon will present a retrospective of her works of the 1930s and 1940s including those on the Holocaust at D & E Lake Ltd., 239 King St. E. in February 1999.

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The Country Shul welcomes Rabbi Ezriel Sitzer. [Ron Csillag photo]

Country Shul welcomes new rabbi

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

RICHMOND HILL — City-slickers may think of it as nosebleed country, but for Rabbi Ezriel Sitzer, the Country Shul is a perfect fit.

Rabbi Sitzer, a Toronto native, is the new spiritual leader of the Country Shul, situated for the past nine years in the Bathurst Glen Plaza, on Bathurst Street north of Highway 7, in the heart of York Region's suburbs.

"No, we're not out in the country," smiles Rabbi Sitzer, a 38-year-old father of three. "We're not in the city, but we're not that far either."

Its name may evoke bucolic images, but the 40-family synagogue will likely find itself in the middle of what planners say will be a huge Jewish boom in York Region.

The region's Jewish population is currently estimated at 50,000, concentrated mainly in Thornhill. But planners with UJA/Federation project the number of Jews in the region will mushroom to 75,000 within a decade, with the next growth area to be around Bathurst between Highway 7 and Major Mackenzie Drive – right in the Country Shul's range.

"The potential here is terrific. We're looking to emulate what has taken place in Thornhill," says Rabbi Sitzer, who assumes his duties after 18 years of yeshivah study in Israel and New York.

The rabbi and his family arrived just weeks ago from Jerusalem, where he had been teaching at two yeshivot.

He had been offered positions in other cities, including Sao Paulo and Cape Town, but chose his native Toronto. "Once you travel around, you appreciate how wonderful the Jewish community and the amenities are here," he says. Plus, he adds, his parents and siblings live here.

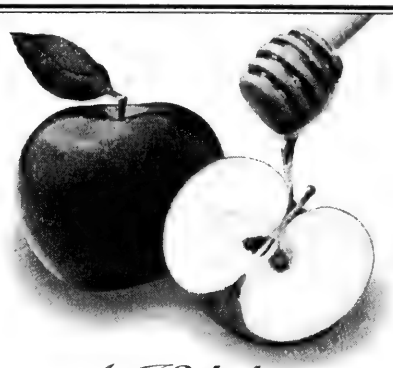
The rabbi, who studied math and computer science at the University of Western Ontario, calls his congregation "user-friendly."

"We're really trying to create a non-threatening, loving and warm environment," he says. The shul's unofficial "three-to-five-year plan" includes classes for beginners, Shabbatons, daily minyanim and ultimately, a free-standing building, probably in a development on the west side of Bathurst.

His official welcoming, he points out, was this past Shabbat, when the parshah was Ki Tetze, which means, "When you will go out."

The following Shabbat's parshah is Ki Tavo, which means, "When you will arrive."

"I've gone out and arrived," says Rabbi Sitzer with a smile.



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Greater Toronto Area

MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN (JCC Singles Superbowl Party)

Once upon a time there was a young lady named Courtney who had to be coerced into going to just one more singles function. At the same time there was a young man named Jerrold, new to Orlando from Toronto, Canada, who just happened to go to the same function. This was January 25, 1998 - Superbowl Sunday. They met, became friends, fell in love and married on Thursday, May 14, 1998 in a civil ceremony, which took place at the Winter Park courthouse. They will take their religious vows under the chuppah on January 30, 1999 at the Congregation of Liberal Judaism with Rabbi Steven Engel officiating. Courtney Intro Schiff is the daughter of Max and Philis Intro of Longwood. She is a UCF graduate and is a sales associate with the Sunglass Hut and a Mary Kay Cosmetics consultant. Jerrold Schiff is the son of Jean Schiff and the late Willie Schiff of Toronto, Canada. He is a graduate of UWO and is an independent contractor with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Courtney and Jerrold are currently residing in Orlando.

Rabbi takes Reconstructionist job

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

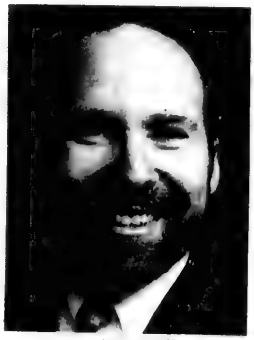
TORONTO — Rabbi Shawn Zevit chuckles when it's suggested that he's something of a Renaissance man.

"I see the 21st century as being about that," he says in a phone interview from Philadelphia. "That's the way of the future…to diversify – incorporating religion with culture and the arts."

He ought to know. Apart from his ordination this past summer from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College outside Philadelphia, Rabbi Zevit is an accomplished musician, theatre artist, communications facilitator and all-round spiritual person.

Born in Winnipeg and raised in Toronto, the 38-year-old rabbi was recently named director of outreach and community development for North America's Reconstructionist movement, encompassing about 100 congregations

He points out that number is up from the roughly 60 Reconstructionist synagogues and chaverot that existed when he began his rabbinic studies five years ago, indicating that Reconstructionism – Judaism's so-called fourth stream – is catching on.



Rabbi Shawn Zevit

It will now be his job to keep that momentum going. Apart from beating the bushes for new adherents, Rabbi Zevit will be looking after training and leadership development for lay people and rabbis in the movement.

In between, he'll continue to indulge his passion for theatre and music. He works with Playback Philadelphia, a local stage troupe. His band, Shabbat Unplugged, has been touring in and around Philadelphia. He hosts a weekly radio show called *Heart, Mind and Spirit*. And this past May, Rabbi Zevit released *Heart and Soul*, a CD of 14 original tracks that, he says, draw on his own spiritual development.

The skills are diverse alright, but how does he plan to apply them to rabbinics?

"To me, rabbi is a verb," he responds. "It's supposed to bring holiness and wholeness, and expose people to creative Judaism."

What's creative Judaism? "A balance of the traditional and the innovative." That's what drew him to Reconstructionism in the first place: "It was an attraction to the more intimate. [The movement] values tradition but seeks to reconstruct Judaism to include culture and values."

Many Jews, he adds, "are on a faith quest. They're looking around, asking questions like everyone else."

After graduating from York University's theatre program in 1982, Rabbi Zevit began his own spiritual odyssey. He worked for the following decade in educational theatre, staging short plays at schools and workplaces.

That led to a career heading his own communications consulting firm in Toronto, teaching the art of clear and effective communication to businesses and individuals. He also led services at Kehilat Ahavat Chesed in Toronto, an egalitarian congregation. But becoming a rabbi wasn't on his mind, yet.

Five years ago, he visited Philadelphia to direct a play, and decided the Reconstructionist College was for him. He's never looked back. And he hasn't given up on good communications; he teaches the subject at Temple University.

So apart from "rabbi-ing," as he puts it, the rabbi sings, acts, teaches and preaches.

"It's exciting for me, " he says, "to have these skills and to be able to weave them together."

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Greater Toronto Area

Abella named to Shiff Chair

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

On Sept. 14, Irving Abella ushers in a new era in academia when he delivers the inaugural lecture for the newly established J. Richard Shiff Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry.

Held by Abella, the chair is affiliated with York University's Centre for Jewish Studies. It is the first permanent chair in this field at any institution of higher learning in Canada.

Its establishment, Abella observed, is proof that Canadian Jewish studies have come of age. As he put it: "A decade ago, no one would have thought it academically viable or useful."

That this is no longer the case is due in no small part to Abella himself. In 1982, to much acclaim, he and Harold Troper published *None Is Too Many: Canada and the Jews of Europe, 1933-1948*. It was an instant classic that strikingly underlined the paucity of such books on Canadian Jewry.

In a related impact, *None Is Too Many*, which has sold a phenomenal 50,000-plus copies and gone through four printings, turned a generation of scholars toward Jewish studies.

Abella himself was galvanized by *None Is Too Many*, which, he regrets, has yet to be issued in French for the Quebec market. Since its appearance, he has written *A Coat of Many Colors: Two Hundred Years of Jewish Life in Canada* and *Growing Up Jewish in Canada*.

And now, Abella, 58, is researching and writing two additional books. The first, concerning Nazi war criminals in Canada, will be out within a year. The second, on Jewish immigration to Canada, will hit book shops in about two years.

Abella's credentials as a scholar account for the fact that he was selected as the occupant of the J. Richard Shiff Chair, whose benefactor is a Toronto real estate developer.

A Torontonian whose parents were Polish Jews, Abella will be expected to work toward the achievement of two broad objectives: to promote and encourage research on a wide variety of topics relating to the growth, development and future of the Jewish community in Canada, and to stimulate interest in the study of Canadian Jewry at York University and other institutions in Canada.

He will do this through the medium of seminars, conferences, guest lectures and community outreach.

"We have a wonderful, tumultuous history in Canada, and not too many people know about it," said Abella, the first Jewish president-elect of the 80-year-old Canadian Historical Association. "Jews are not newcomers to Canada, and we should stop behaving as if we were."

Citing examples, Abella pointed out that Jewish settlers and fur traders beat the English to Upper Canada; that Victoria was the first city in British North America to have a Jewish mayor; and that the first synagogue in Canada was founded in Montreal more than 200 years ago.

As part of his new duties, Abella, whose normal teaching load includes courses on Canadian labor and immigration history, will give the first university-level undergraduate course in Canadian Jewish history.

Irving Abella

Looking ahead to 1999, he plans to prepare undergraduate courses on Canada and Israel, racism and anti-Semitism, and Canada and the Holocaust.

Abella, who holds three degrees from the University of Toronto, is the only child of the late Louis and Esther, who arrived separately in Canada in the 1920s. A trade unionist and a labor Zionist, Louis opened a tiny dairy restaurant in the garment district, and the family lived in the apartment above it.

As a boy, Abella attended the Toronto Hebrew Day School (now known as the Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto). He spent summers at Camp Kvutza, near Dunnville, Ont., where he met his first Israeli and learned Hebrew folk songs. He recalls his boyhood in a nostalgic essay in a forthcoming commemorative volume entitled *Canada and Israel*.

Abella remembers his elation when the United Nations partitioned Palestine into Jewish and Arab states in 1947. By the same token, he has not forgotten the endemic anti-Semitism which prevailed in Toronto in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

As a student, he gravitated toward history, captivated by his father's stories and convinced that he was living in an important historical era.

At the University of Toronto, he was drawn to labor history, a topic he has addressed in several books (*Nationalism, Communism and Canadian Labor* and *On Strike: Six Major Industrial Disputes in Canadian History*) and countless monographs.

In 1966, when he thought of writing his doctorate on a Canadian Jewish subject, he was politely discouraged, told that there was no one in the department qualified to direct him.

Two years later, following a stint as a researcher for the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, York University's Glendon College hired him as a lecturer. His link with Glendon College remains undimmed.

Abella's formal association with the Jewish community began in 1980, when he chaired the Canadian Jewish Congress' archives. In 1984, he was elected chair of the now-defunct Canadian Professors for Peace in the Middle East.

From 1992 to 1995, he was national president of Canadian Jewish Congress, the second academic after Irwin Cotler to assume that position. During his term of office, he led the first mission of Canadian university presidents to Israel, a development which contributed to the advent of Jewish studies programs in Canada and fostered exchanges between Canadian and Israeli universities.

During the Abella administration, Congress became far more deeply involved in Canadian affairs, including the incendiary war criminal issue.

Abella, who has been chair of Congress' war crimes committee since 1995, is critical of the way in which Canada has handled this file.

Until 1986, the federal government lacked the political will to root out Nazi war criminals, evincing no political benefit in prosecuting them. Despite the formation of the Deschenes Commission, the period from 1986 to 1995 was characterized by bureaucratic indifference.

Since then, judicial apathy has been the order of the day, though Abella welcomes Ottawa's recent decision to step up the hunt for war criminals.

Abella, whose wife Rosalie sits as a judge on the Ontario Court of Appeals and whose two grown boys (Jacob and Zachary) are students, believes that the major challenge facing Jews in Canada today is whether they can transmit Jewish values to the next generation.

"Can we be as strong in the 21st century ate we are in the 20th century?"

In closing, he said: "We should worry more about the rates of assimilation and intermarriage than about anti-Semitism, which is well reduced and nowhere near the levels of my youth."

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Selichot Service and the Dedication of Memorial Plaques at 11:00 p.m.
Rabbi Steven Saltzman
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BETH DAVID B'NAI ISRAEL BETH AM 416-633-5500
Beginning at 9:30 p.m.
Dr. Aaron Nussbaum *"The Book of Jonah"*
Coffee hour - Selichot Service and the Dedication of Memorial Plaques at 11:15 P.M.
Rabbi Philip Scheim, Cantor Yehuda Rottner & the **Beth David Choir** directed by **Brahm Goldhamer**

BETH EMETH BAIS YEHUDA 416-633-3838
Beginning at 9:00 p.m.
Guest speaker **Rabbi Jonathan Helfand**,
Professor of Modern Jewish History, Brooklyn College
"Demise of Jewish Unity: Are the Eulogies Premature?"
Refreshments - Dedication of Memorial Plaques
Selichot Service at midnight with **Rabbi Barry Schneider**, **Cantor Jerry Markovitz** & **Choir** conducted by **Charles Heller**

BETH TIKVAH 416-221-3433
Beginning at 10:00 p.m.
Study and reflection session using **Dennis Prager**'s video *"For Goodness Sake"* a lighthearted look at the serious subject of goodness led by **Rabbi Wayne Allen**
Refreshments - Selichot Service at 11:00 p.m.
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Service led by **Rabbi Wayne Allen**

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Pearl Gertrude Brody Annual Memorial Lecture at 10 p.m.
Sin, Atonement and Forgiveness
Dr. Elliot Malamet, journalist, author & lecturer on
"The Theology of Forgiveness"
Dr. Gerald Schneiderman, psychiatrist
"Forgiveness in the Family Dynamic"
Moderator: **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**
Selichot Service at midnight with **Cantor Paul Kowarsky** and the **Choir**
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SHAAR SHALOM 905-889-4975
Beginning at 10:00 p.m.
"For the Sins Which We Have Committed" — an examination of the traditional confession the prayer known as *"Al Cheyt"* and the creating of our own list of sins, a new *"Al Cheyt"*
Selichot Services begin at 11:00 p.m.

Greater Toronto Area

Lodzer Centre gets a new spiritual leader

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Ronnie Cahana

TORONTO — The Lodzer Centre Holocaust Congregation has a new spiritual leader. Rabbi Ronnie Cahana moved here in late August from Gothenberg, Sweden, where he was a congregational rabbi at a Conservative synagogue for the past five years.

In Gothenberg he followed in the footsteps of his father, Rabbi Moshe Cahana, a seventh-generation Israeli rabbi who was sent in 1950 by the Jewish Agency to serve a community of Holocaust survivors in Borås, about 40 kilometres from Gothenberg. His wife, a Hungarian survivor who had found refuge in Gothenberg before moving to Israel, encouraged him to accept the post.

The younger Rabbi Cahana was born in 1953 and the family stayed in Sweden until he was three years old. After a time in the New York area, they settled in Texas, where Rabbi Moshe Cahana is rabbi emeritus at a Conservative synagogue in Houston.

Initially Rabbi Ronnie Cahana resisted becoming a rabbi. He has a degree in philosophy from the University of Texas, and has also studied poetry.

Eventually he decided the rabbinate was his calling too. He believes his greatest privilege as a rabbi is being involved with families at life cycle events. The role of a rabbi, he said, is to "help people translate the holy into our daily reality, and to find within the holiness, our day-to-day [reality]."

His brother also followed family tradition and is a rabbi in Rhode Island.

Rabbi Cahana was ordained from the Academy for Jewish Religion, a pluralistic institution in New York, and is a member of the Rabbinical Assembly, the umbrella for Conservative rabbis. He also studied at yeshiva in Israel and did post-graduate work in Philosophy, Poetry and Jewish Ethics at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

The Lodzer synagogue is not currently affiliated with any denominational movement. Their services are traditional Conservative in format.

"Everybody's welcome," said the new rabbi, who is replacing Rabbi Louis Schecter on the latter's retirement.

"I believe in multi-denominational religion. When we start dividing and saying what you're not, we forget to say what we are."

Returning to Sweden was a profound experience for the rabbi. In fact he buried his sandek, the man who was given the honor of holding him at his brit milah.

Rabbi Cahana co-founded the Nordic Centre for Inter-Religious Dialogue to focus on religious conflict resolution. He travelled with a Syrian-born imam and a Swedish priest to war-torn Bosnia to comfort the people of Sarajevo and meet with local leadership. There, prior to Rosh Hashanah, he blew the shofar in a number of locations. The three of them also travelled throughout Sweden to engage in dialogue about cooperation, celebration and their respective religions.

With his wife Karen, an American-born family therapist, he has travelled to the former Soviet Union and Latin American to teach and offer assistance to Jews there.

The Cahanas, who have five children ranging in age from one to 11, are no strangers to the Canadian Jewish community. They spent five years in Vancouver when Rabbi Cahana served as assistant rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel prior to returning to Sweden.

In joining the Lodzer shul, Rabbi Cahana is completing another cycle in his life. "In the community where I was born, 90 percent were from Lodz. These are my people."

The 250-family Lodzer Centre Holocaust Congregation traces its roots back to 1953, when a Mutual Benefit Society was established for families from Lodz who had recently arrived in Toronto. The synagogue is located on Heaton Street on land purchased in 1966.

Rabbi Cahana believes it's important for Jews to "know how to appreciate what a treasure we have [in Judaism]. Judaism is the most beautiful, poetic expression of how to live with God's presence." The Jews of Lodz, he said, represented European Jewry at its most magnificent.

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Greater Toronto Area

Temple Kol Ami celebrating 10th anniversary

Planning underway for new building in Thornhill

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — Starting with a small nucleus of 17 families who met in people's homes for Shabbat services, Temple Kol Ami is now celebrating its 10th anniversary with a membership of 240 families.

The temple holds its services and its classes on Hebrew and Judaic studies at Leo Baeck Day School on Atkinson Avenue.

According to president Karen Paikin, however, the Reform congregation, growing at the rate of 15 to 20 percent a year, hopes to have its own building in Thornhill in a few years. In this way, it hopes to keep up with the burgeoning Jewish population.

"We are already underway with our fundraising for the new building," she said.

The first event in its year-long celebration was a pot luck dinner Sept. 5, followed by a picnic lunch, family programs and barbecue dinner the next day in Thornhill Park.

The program at the pot luck dinner included Havdalah with Rabbi Daniel Komito Gottlieb and special guests Rabbis Nancy and David Wechsler-Azen. Rabbi Nancy Wechsler-Azen, Temple Kol Ami's first permanent rabbi, was appointed two years after the temple was founded.

Rabbi Gottlieb was one of the temple's first temporary leaders, when it was meeting in private homes.

With 250 students attending classes twice a week, the school covers junior kindergarten to confirmation (Grade 10).

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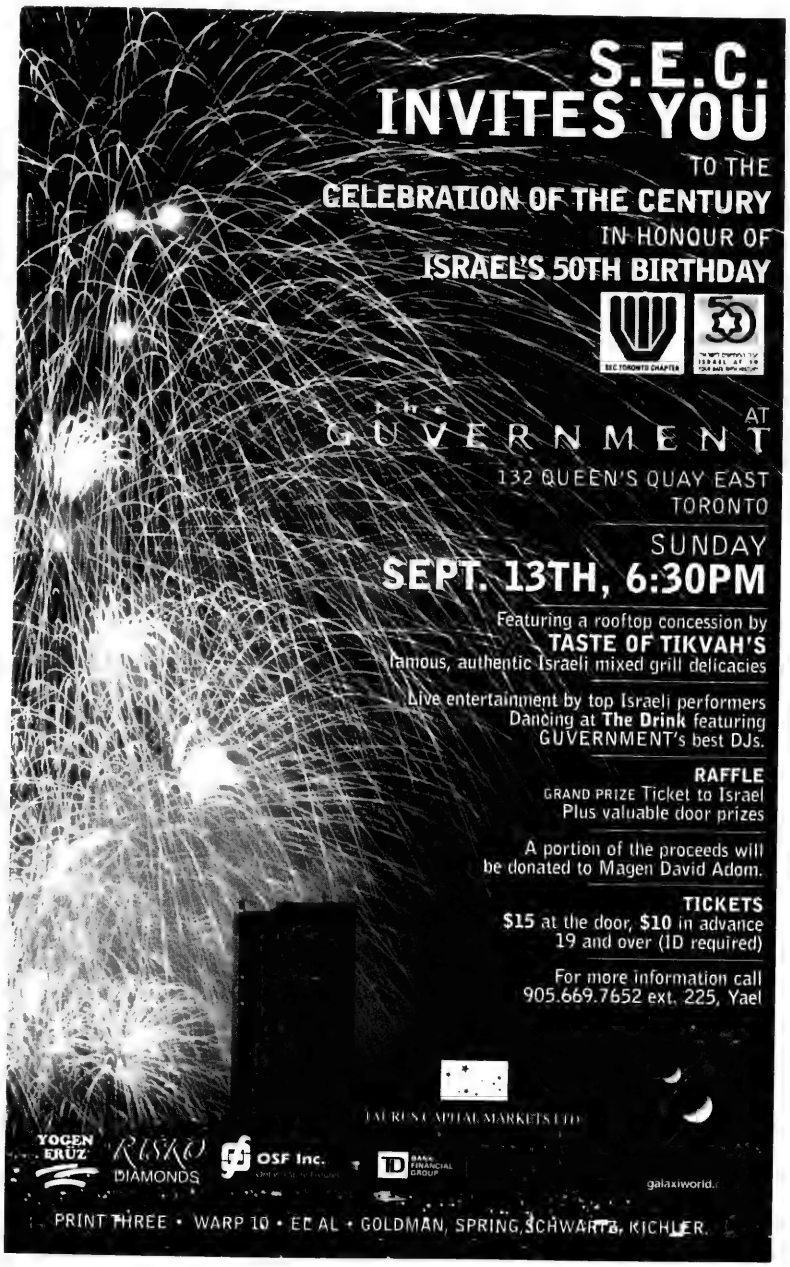

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People holiday deadlines for September: Monday, Sept. 14, for Sept. 24; Wednesday, Sept. 23, for Oct. 1; Monday, Sept. 28, for Oct. 8.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Sept. 12

SELICHOT

Beth Tzedec Congregation: Lecture, Sin, Atonement and Forgiveness, **Elliot Malamet** (The Theology of Forgiveness), **Dr. Gerald Schneiderman** (Forgivness in the Family Dynamic), moderator **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**, 10 p.m. Service at midnight.

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am: **Aaron Nussbaum,** The Book of Jonah, 9:30 p.m. Service 11:15 p.m.

Downtown Reform Minyan: Service, song learning session for the High Holy Days, 9 p.m., Bloor JCC. Shabbat services resume 10 a.m. Bloor JCC, Room 204. **Shelley** 469-4287.

Mizrachi Bayit: Services 12:30 a.m. preceded by a shiur by **Rav Yakov Kerzner**. 296 Wilson Ave.

Shaarei Tefillah Congregation: Services at midnight preceded by melaveh malka at 10:30 p.m. with address by **Rabbi Moshe Stern**.

HEBREW SCHOOL

Or Hadash Synagogue, 1110 Stellar Dr., Newmarket. Hebrew School Open House, 10 a.m. Ages 4 through bar/bat mitzvah. 905-898-2220.

STANDARD YIDDISH

Workmen's Circle/Arbeiter Ring Branch 220B lecture The Development of Standard Yiddish, **Paul Glasser**, YIVO Institute ,New York, 8 p.m. 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

SACRED KIDNAPPING

At Beth Tzedec Congregation Shabbat service 8:45 a.m., **Prof. David Kertzer**, author of the *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara* speaks on Sacred Kidnapping: The Mortara Case.

Sunday, Sept. 13

TORAH DEDICATION

At Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation, in memory **Moishe Rosenzweig**, husband of **Fay Rosenzweig**, father of **Arthur Rosenzweig**. Procession to BAYT from 349 Spring Gate Blvd., Thornhill, 10:30 a.m.

RECITAL

Margot Rydall, flute, **Ivan Zilman,** guitar, perform at Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave. 2 p.m.

LECTURE

MISHMA and Mizrachi Bayit present Gila B'Ra'ada: The Paradoxes of the Yamim Norain, **Rabbi Benjamin Hecht** founding director of MISHMA, 8:15 p.m., 296 Wilson Ave. 630-0588.

TASTE OF TIKVAH

Sephardic Educational Centre celebrates Israel's 50th birthday, rooftop concession Taste of Tikvah, Israeli performers, raffle, 6:30 p.m., the Government, 132 Queen's Quay, E. Portion of proceeds go to Magen David Adom.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, *Letters Between Al Purdy and Margaret Lawrence*, 2 p.m. North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

Monday, Sept. 14

CANADIAN JEWRY

Canadian Jewry: Past, Present and Future, inaugural lecture of the J. Richard Shiff Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry by York University **Prof. Irving Abella**, 7:45 p.m., Vari Hall-Lecture Hall A, York University. **Merle** 736-5823.

YIDDISH FOLKLORE

Yiddish Folklore, **Nathan Garnick** accompanied by musician

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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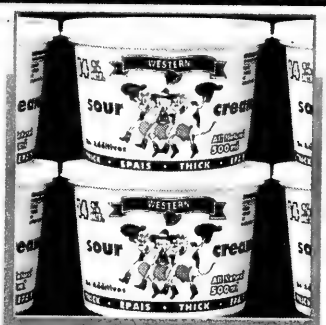

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Paul Matthew, Cranbrooke Friendship Club, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Light lunch. 789-5502.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, (40+ singles) Wen-Do Women's Self-Defence program, 7:30 p.m., prior to the meeting, Pride of Israel Synagogue.

ABOUT DIABETES

Jewish Diabetes chapter, Canadian Diabetes Association, Diabetes: You Can Have Your Cake and Eat It Too! **Ann Fox**, Women's College Hospital, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

ZAREINU CENTRE

Zareinu Educational Centre evening of Chizuk and Enlightenment, **Rav Yissocher Frand**, Ner Israel, Baltimore, 8 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto, 613 Clark Ave. Thornhill. 787-8278.

ROSH HASHANAH LECTURE

At Mizrachi Bayit, on Teshuva, by **Rav Yakov Kerzner**, 9 p.m., 296 Wilson Ave.

Tuesday, Sept. 15

TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Benjamin Hollander speaks on Akedat Yitzhak: A Dialogue of Faith and Reason, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

ABOUT CAARI PROGRAM

Information about the CAARI program of the Jewish National Fund, 2 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 2nd floor. CAARI is a JNF program in Israel for seniors. **Esther** or **Lil** 638-7200.

COOKING DEMONSTRATION

Rosh Hashanah Cooking Demonstration, Orah chapter, Jewish Women International, 7:30 p.m. **Jennie** 783-9527.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

WELLNESS EDUCATION

The ABCs of Fraud – learn how to be a tough target for con artists, volunteers **Gerry Lang, Bernice Henry**, for Scotiabank's Fraud Awareness Program. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wagman Centre. Register, 785-2500, ext. 2267.

JVS ANNUAL MEETING

Jewish Vocational Service of Greater Toronto annual general meeting and autumn reception, 6:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Joy Levy** 787-1151, ext. 244.

Thursday, Sept. 17

PILLAR OF FIRE

Documentary series on the history of Israel's rebirth 1898-1948, introduction and commentary by **David Goldberg**, Foundation for Middle East Studies, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 633-3988 or 633-5500.

HOLY DAYS WORKSHOP

Isaac and Ishmael: The Conflict Then and Now, **Rabbi Ben Hollander** of Jerusalem, hosted by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, 7:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. 905-709-1900. Co-sponsored with Downtown Reform Minyan.

COLORS AND TRENDS

National Council of Jewish Women – Toronto Section opening meeting, The Latest Decorating Colors and Trends, **Steven Sabados**, 7:15 p.m., Council House. Includes light supper. RSVP by Monday, Sept. 14. 633-5100.

And What Else Is New

SELICHOT WEEKEND

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, guest speaker **Rabbi Jonathan Helfand**, Brooklyn College. Friday, Sept. 11, Family Shabbat dinner, Politics, Patriotism and Prejudices: The Dreyfus Affair. Saturday, Sept. 12, lecture 9 p.m., Demise of Jewish Unity: Are the Eulogies Premature? Selichot at midnight. Sunday, Sept. 13, 9:15 a.m. services followed by breakfast, 10 a.m. lecture Tashlisch: Pollution or Absolution? 633-3838.

LEARNER'S SERVICE

Beth Tzedec Congregation Learner's Service for the High Holy Days even a novice can understand, no charge, 2:30-4 p.m. Rosh Hashanah (two days) and Yom Kippur. Order free tickets by Sept. 17. 781-3511. No membership required.

LEO BAECK DAY SCHOOL

Leo Baeck Day School offers Reform Jewish education, kindergarten to Grade 8. Orientation session for prospective parents at Holy Blossom Temple Tuesday, Sept. 15, 9:15 a.m. and Thornhill Campus, 36 Atkinson Ave., Wednesday, Sept. 23, 9 a.m.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

High Holiday Family Fun Fair, Sunday, Sept. 13, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Westmount High School, Bathurst and New Westminster.

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 8 p.m.,The Soul of the High Holidays: From the Head, Rosh Hashanah; To the Heart, Yom Kippur; To the Body, Sukkot, **Rabbi Yossi Michalowicz.**

HEBREW CLASSES

Conversational Hebrew, siddur-reading classes, Hebrew and Heritage classes for parents with children in Jewish schools. Daytime, evening, start in October in various locations. All levels. Instructor **Yael Lev**. 225-6151.

TORAH HIGH SCHOOL

Free Torah High School for students in Grades 9-OAC. New curriculum, multimedia presentations, special events. Register at NCSY. 905-761-6279, ext. 25.

TALMUD-GEMARAH CLASS

Weekly Talmud-Gemarah class changes meetings to Tuesdays at 9:10 a.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, starts Sept. 15. Group will continue the study of the Tractate Ta'anit, in English, led by **Aaron Nussbaum.** 633-8097.

MUMS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

National Council of Jewish Women – Toronto Section is selling wicker hats filled with fresh mums for the High Holy Days. $18 delivery included. Order now. 633-5100.

HEBREW CULTURE CLUBS

NCSY Hebrew Culture Clubs start in September. Informal classes in eight public schools during lunch or after school. Free food and discussion of a wide range of issues confronting teenagers. **Guila** 905-761-6279, ext. 25.

FALL COURSES AT KOLEL

Register now for fall courses at Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. Classes begin Sept. 28. 905-709-1900.

DRILDZER SERVICES

Drildzer Congregation High Holy Day services at 326 Wilson Ave. Tickets reasonably priced. 633-3063.

BRIDGE

Bridge – beginners level, 10-week course starting Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7-9 p.m. at Bathurst Jewish Centre. Pre-register. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

JF&CS GROUPS

Social Skills Groups for Children (7-17 years) who have difficulty making friends or who behave in socially inappropriate ways, begin Oct. 20. Jewish Family & Child Service, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

SINGLES SCENE

For ages 25-35 and 36-55, under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 or **Mitchell** 223-8244.

Rattlesnake Point hike and apple picking, Sunday, Oct. 4. Meet at synagogue lot 9:30 a.m. RSVP. Looking for drivers for car pool.

Community-wide Singles Shabbat, Saturday, Oct. 24. Tickets $10 on sale Oct. 1, synagogue office. 633-3838.

MOTHERS LUNCH & LEARN

Year-long monthly program starting Monday, Sept. 14, 11:45 a.m, Beth Sholom Synagogue, Bereshit – The Last Genesis, **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich.** Light lunch. Reserve 783-6103.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tzedec Synagogue Seniors Chaverim opening meeting, Monday, Sept. 14, 1:30 p.m., Board Room. **Corey Keeble**, Royal Ontario Museum, speaks on Ocean Liners of the Past. $2.

Bridge for Beginners, 55+, starting Thursday, Sept. 17, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at **Bathurst Jewish Centre. Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami Trip 1999. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m., Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Israel trip Nov. 22-Dec. 9. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sept. 14, Town Hall Square; Sept. 15, Be Heart Smart, 10 a.m.; Oct. 15 and 28, Casino Rama; Nov. 22-25, Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel, $449 Canadian. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building): Sept. 10, lecture in Hebrew, orthopedic surgeon **Dr. Niki Wolfson**, about arthritis and what's the remedy; Sept. 17, bingo and other games; Sept. 24, video *Songs of Gabi Berlin;* **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

The Jews of Frankfurt and the Jews of Prague, **Ben Schlesinger,** Tuesday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group Monday, Sept. 14, 1:15-2:30 p.m., **Azeena Ratansi**, the Multidisciplinary Osteoporosis Program at Women's College Hospital and Fracture Prevention in the Osteoporotic Adult. Resource person **Joan Turner**.

Musical Variety Show, Wednesday, Sept. 16, 1:30 p.m.

Bev Tobe presents Taking Charge of Your Arthritis – An Information Session on the Arthritis Clinic, Thursday, Sept. 17, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Sept. 15 is bingo. **Anna.**

Sunday, Sept. 13, movie *Good Will Hunting* 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Open House Week at the Bloor JCC begins Sunday, Sept. 13. Find out about programs, Health Centre, Wellness Centre, meet the practitioners, demonstrations.

Sunday, Sept. 13, rummage sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 16, Wellness Centre, Who We Are. Health and Wellness Centre (Part 1), 7 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

World Issues – Current Events, **Doug Haddow,** starts Thursday, Sept. 17, 1-2:30 p.m. **Teme** ext. 364.

Habima Players drama group openings for senior males and females. Rehearsals Mondays 1-3 p.m. **Mirabelle** 633-5136.

Chai Dancers, 55+, openings, some dance experience necessary. Rehearsals Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Teme**.

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SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

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Holiday programs available for students living away from home

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish students who've travelled far from home to attend university in places like Montreal – or smaller centres – needn't feel isolated over the upcoming holidays.

Holiday-related campus programs can provide food for thought, food for the soul and sometimes just food. With the help of the local Hillel or Jewish student organization, students can generally arrange to attend services and often to receive home hospitality for meals.

This year for the first time Montreal's Hillel Jewish Student Centre, serving all campuses in the Montreal area, will hold High Holy Day services, to be led by a student rabbi from the Jewish Theological Seminary. Rosh Hashanah dinners, a pre-fast and a break-fast meal are also on the agenda. (The break-fast is free; Rosh Hashanah and the pre-fast dinners are $12 and $10 respectively.)

At McGill University, there will be tables where students can sample apples and honey, make necklaces from honey-sweetened or apple-flavored cereals or make Rosh Hashanah cards, said Beth Ackerman, Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow at Hillel Montreal. She will also be supplying Rosh Hashanah bags with apples and honey to out-of-town Jewish students living in residence.

For Sukkot, Montreal students are invited to a "lulav luau," complete with music, pina coladas and leis, in Hillel's sukkah.

Elsewhere in Canada...

• Halifax students can have home hospitality, a Rosh Hashanah "apples and honey" kit, and a student break-fast following Yom Kippur services. The Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation serves about 375 students at 14 campuses across the Atlantic provinces, and can be reached at 902-422-7491 or by e-mail [ai993@chebucto.ns.ca].

• Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto will be giving out honey candies and/or apples and honey at York, the University of Toronto and Ryerson Polytechnic University.

• York University is having an environmental Tashlich service.

• At York on Oct. 29 and at U of T on Oct. 24, Ethiopian-born rabbinical student Yefet Alemu will talk about Rosh Hashanah in Ethiopia.

• Also in Toronto, Kedma, the Orthodox Zionist student group, will sponsor a two-part program on Sept. 24 and Sept. 27 on "the enigmatic questions of life."

Free synagogue tickets in Vancouver

• In Vancouver, free synagogue tickets are available to Jewish students. There will be a second night Rosh Hashanah dinner at Hillel House.

• In Edmonton, the JSA/Hillel arranges dinners and free synagogue tickets. "We make sure [students] have a way to get there and are all taken care of," said Alissia Oshry, JSA/Hillel director.

Programs in the United States have included the following:

• The University of California at San Diego's "Alternative Rosh Hashanah." Instead of traditional services, students participated in High Holy Day workshops that related to Jewish themes such as environmentalism, feminism, tshuvah or meditation.

• Brown University's apples-and-honey party after Rosh Hashanah Services. The program was designed to provide students a place to socialize after services end and to allow students who did not attend services a chance to participate in a Jewish activity during the High Holy Days.

• Indiana University's "Send a Card Around the World" program. Tables were set up in dorms for students to send Rosh Hashanah cards to small Jewish communities in Africa, Asia or South America. The Hillel campus fellow there went around campus dressed up as Winnie-the-Pooh, distributing honey to students.

Hillel's Jewish Campus Service Corps, which is behind a number of the above programs, was founded four years ago to promote Jewish life on campus.

With files from Julia Strongwater, JTA.

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On Campus

Laval U., CJC to meet over controversial Master's thesis

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Laval University will meet with officials from Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), this month to seek some common ground over an approved Master's thesis that's been accused of being sympathetic to the Nazi regime.

Since news of the thesis, by graduate political science student Pierre Asselin, first broke publicly July 20 and in the wake of a recent editorial by *La Presse* journalist Agnès Gruda, the controversy has seemed to have taken on a life of its own in the Quebec media and in the provincial capital over issues of academic freedom and ethics.

In an apparent effort to control its level of embarrassment and the damage to its reputation, Laval University, responding to a letter CJC-Q had sent it on Aug. 5, agreed to meet.

"The objective will be to develop a mechanism where this won't happen again," CJC-Q chair Dorothy Zalcman Howard said in an interview.

She said CJC-Q would be seeking to have the university maintain its "ethical standards."

Laval University was "asleep at the wheel," she said. Now it is looking to "find a way out."

She said, however, that it was not CJC-Q's role to "determine" the actual worthiness of a Asselin's thesis, but to ensure the university "acts in a responsible manner" in the future.

Apparently out of concern over how some of Asselin's positions would be perceived, he was ordered by university officals, in order to have the thesis approved, to add a paragraph in the thesis' foreward deploring the Holocaust.

Still, some of his conclusions in the thesis, which compared nationalist movements in Quebec and Nazi Germany during the 1930s, included that exterminating European Jewry was not an integral part of National Socialism and that the Allies, and not Adolf Hitler, were mainly responsible for World War II.

Gruda, in her highly critical editorial, cited some others:

Among them were that Hitler didn't seriously persecute the Jews during the 1930s, that Kristallnacht was mainly caused by the assassination of a German diplomat in Paris, and that Hitler helped Jews leave Germany.

Although the university's letter to CJC-Q left open the possibility that Asselin might be instructed to make further changes, it remained unclear – with the thesis approved – the extent to which they could do so. Zalcman Howard conceded that such changes would be "unusual" under such circumstances.

Moreover, it seemed unlikely that a chartered university could revoke the thesis even if it wanted to, since Asselin is in legal control of his work.

In a similar controversial case in France some years ago, a student had his thesis revoked, but universities in France are controlled by the state.

Although Asselin has requested to meet with CJC-Q, Zalcman Howard said this would not even be considered until after the meeting with Laval University officials.

One more concern she indicated would be raised during their meeting is that Asselin's Master's degree will allow him to teach at Quebec CEGEPs.

"A degree such as this confers a certain legitimacy and notion of scholarship," she said. "That poses a certain danger and should be taken into account when granting degrees."

'Internal matter'

The merits of a thesis itself are an "internal matter" for the university to decide, she said.

The university's letter to CJC-Q, written by rector François Tavernas, said the thesis is being reassessed closely to ensure that "all the relevent rules...were followed."

Still, there did not yet appear to be any indication that Asselin's actual methodology was being called into question. Initially, in fact, when the thesis was published, his research and methodology were being praised even by university officials who took issue with some of his conclusions.

Yet, according to one knowledgeable source who examined closely Asselin's source material, he did not make use of even the most basic Holocaust research texts published in French, including that of Holocaust scholar Raul Hilberg, leaving the impression that Asselin may have deliberately ignored them to put forward his own agenda.

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On each of these days a bus, identified by a sign "**PARDES SHALOM**" will depart from the front entrance of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, at 10:00 a.m. for Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

The bus will make a stop at the parking lot of Betel Centre, located on Steeles Ave. W., at 10:30, to pick up passengers before proceeding to the cemetery.

The bus will leave the cemetery at 12:30 p.m. for return to the Betel Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information, and to register, please call the cemetery office (416) 635-2883, extension 211 - Trudy, or extension 224 - Dina.

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Landry's 'ethnic' remarks draw Jewish community's ire

MONTREAL — Deputy Premier Bernard Landry drew sharp criticism from the Jewish community for suggesting that a greater than 50-percent-plus-one vote majority to win a referendum would be giving "a veto" to the "cultural communities" over separation because of their bloc No vote.

The coalition of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC–Q), the Hellenic Congress of Quebec and the National Congress of Italian-Canadians, Quebec region, issued a joint statement condemning the remarks.

"As deputy premier of Quebec, he should be among the first to recognize that all votes are equal, regardless of the origin of the voter. Mr. Landry's comments contradict one of the most fundamental democratic principles by discriminating between two groups of citizens," said CJC-Q chair Dorothy Zalcman Howard.

Bernard Landry

CJC-Q vice-chair Max Bernard added: "It is high time that leaders tell the population, in no uncertain terms, that each and every Quebecer has the right to express himself or herself freely and legally on all political and social issues."

B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) vice-president Steve Slimovitch suggested that if an American vice-president, for example, made a similar remark, he would be forced to resign within hours.

BBC praised Premier Lucien Bouchard for distancing himself from Landry's remarks but felt that he did not go far enough in publicly castigating his deputy.

'Lead by example'

"With Jacques Parizeau gone, it is now time for Premier Bouchard to purge his house of all xenophobes. It is time for the premier to lead by example and demote Mr. Landry. There is simply no place in Quebec political discourse for the 'us versus them' mentally," said Slimovitch.

In an unusual move, the Board of Jewish Ministers of Greater Montreal, whose members cross the denominational spectrum, issued a public statement "deploring" the remarks.

"Mr. Landry continues to create artificial divisions in Quebec society, fabricating tensions to try to benefit his cause. Despite the secrecy of the ballot, Mr. Landry labels and evaluates votes, denying the equality of every Quebecer to form part of a clear majority in case of a referendum on secession.

"Jewish citizens of Quebec find Mr. Landry's words particularly repugnant because, since the days of Jeremiah the prophet, we have prayed for the welfare of the community where we live and are required by our tradition to participate and contribute fully to society."

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From coast to coast

Oberlander linked to notorious SS killing squad

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

KITCHENER, Ont. — In a two-pronged attack by federal lawyers last week, alleged Nazi war criminal Helmut Oberlander was linked to a notorious SS killing squad – both in an eyewitness account and through wartime documents.

The eyewitness account was offered by Nikolai Sidorenko, a Soviet POW who joined Einsatzkommando 10A. He testified in Federal Court that the unit included five or six interpreters and "Oberlander was one of the interpreters."

Sidorenko said he identified a wartime photograph of Oberlander from a photo-spread presented to him by Canadian investigators in 1994.

Oberlander is facing loss of his Canadian citizenship and deportation for allegedly misrepresenting his wartime activities. Government authorities claim he would never have been allowed into Canada had he truthfully divulged his wartime service to immigration officials.

Sidorenko, who was flown to Canada from his home in Donetsk, Ukraine, also described a life and death incident involving Oberlander.

He and his friend were doing guard duty at a base in Novorossijk on the Black Sea when his friend saw a woman being escorted into a building for interrogation.

"My friend saw that woman and he said he knew [her], that she was a janitor at the school and we should go in and clarify that she wasn't Jewish," Sidorenko said. "He was concerned that she might be shot."

Oberlander was among the Germans preparing for the interrogation, he added.

Sidorenko, 81, testified that he saw notices calling for the Jews of Novorossijk to gather to be "resettled." One day, he said, "they were put on vehicles and taken away," though he said he did not know their fate.

The unit frequently went on anti-partisan missions during which interpreters carried pistols and submachine-guns. "I remember that in one of the villages…they gathered people and those 40 or 50 people were shot…After that they were thrown into a well."

Sidorenko, who served eight years in Soviet prison for treason after the war, said he did not know if Oberlander was present during that raid.

Several wartime documents concerning Oberlander's 1944 application for German citizenship were presented to the court, though defence lawyer Eric Hafemann disputed their admissibility.

One of the documents was dated Feb. 18, 1944. It is a letter from the SS and Police Leader in the Lublin District and it recommends 16 men for German citizenship. The men were serving at "a field postal unit [and] have been deployed as ethnic Germans in the SD (the SS security service) unit for more than two years and have proven to be very capable," the document stated. Oberlander was one of those named.

A document from the central immigration office of the chief of the Security Police and SD attests to Oberlander's military service and refers to his unit by its military police number. Under questioning by lawyer Robert Goldstein, David Marwell, former chief of investigations for the U.S. Office of Special Investigations (OSI), testified that he checked U.S. archives and determined the unit was part of Einsatzkommando 6. An earlier witness, Manfred Messerschmidt, an expert on German military history, testified that members of Einsatzkommando 10A may have joined that unit later in the war.

Another wartime document, which originated in a German immigration office known by its acronym EWZ, also identified Oberlander by the same field unit number. A third document from EWZ, described Oberlander as a "student, SS-Mann [man] and interpreter."

Helmut Oberlander, in World War II uniform

Meanwhile, an April 6, 1944 document that attested to Oberlander's racial purity referred to his military service. The translator's note suggests that could mean the German Armed Forces. Another document, dated March 31, 1944, prepared by the mayor of the city of Gnesen, contains Oberlander's naturalization file and describes him as a member of the Wehrmacht, the German armed forces.

Hafemann said Oberlander will testify that he served in the German army, not the SD. In addition, Hafemann said he would challenge the admissibility of all wartime documents on the basis that they are hearsay and not admissible.

Crown lawyer Peter Vita said the material is admissible as business documents. The court has yet to rule on that point.

In earlier testimony, Messerschmidt stated that Oberlander received a service medal "with swords" in January 1943, a few months after Einsatzkommando 10A joined a larger army group in anti-partisan warfare.

"In actions of this kind, prisoners were taken and they were interrogated." After being questioned, "they were mostly shot," Messerschmidt said.

The hearing is scheduled to continue this week in Vancouver, when a former Einsatzkommando driver is expected to testify. The court returns to Kitchener next week when Oberlander and his wife Margret will testify.

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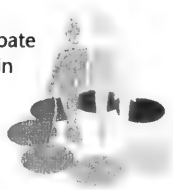

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'Isms' fade but anti-Semitism remains, says ADL's Foxman

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The world is still a scary place as far as Jews are concerned, says Abe Foxman, a man who has spent his adult life fighting anti-Semitism with the New York-based Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

"After all the revolutions, after many of the isms – communism, fascism – have gone and passed, anti-Semitism remains resilient," he said.

Foxman, national director of the ADL, was in Montreal as guest speaker for the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research's (CIJR) annual fundraiser, probably the first time, he noted, he has helped make a pitch for another organization.

"Anti-Semitism is not an exact science; it's not susceptible to being measured or calibrated, but the short answer is: Yes, there is still anti-Semitism and it is everywhere.

"Albert Einstein called anti-Semitism 'the shadow of the Jewish people,' but he missed the point a bit. You don't need to have Jews to have anti-Semitism," Foxman said.

The Internet has globalized anti-Semitism, he said. "At one time, if you wanted hate you had to go find it. Now it comes right into your home."

Since the fall of communism in eastern Europe, "every election has had its Jewish coefficient. Who is Jewish, who had a Jewish grandmother? And not too many say it doesn't matter," he said.

Currency crises from Malaysia to Italy to Mexico have been blamed on the Jews, he said. In the United States, extreme right-wing militias propagate conspiracy theories about Jews and even in the Quebec nationalist movement surveys show "a serious anti-Semitic element" in the sense that people perceive Jews as having too much power.

Surveys

When later questioned, however, Foxman could not remember what surveys he was referring to and had no more precise information.

"The point is no community is immune, especially where there is social unrest. Anti-Semitism is used to plug in to other hatreds," he said.

The event, held at the home of Evelyn and Raphael Schachter, was also a celebration of the CIJR's 10th anniversary and a tribute to its founder-director, Frederick Krantz.

Special guest was Martin Cauchon, MP for Outremont and secretary of state for economic development. Congratulatory messages were received from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who praised the CIJR as "an excellent example of what can be done to present Israel's case," and from Labor party leader Ehud Barak, who underscored its role in disseminating information on the Middle East and cultivating student leadership.

Harold Waller, a fellow professor, said Krantz has "worked indefatigably since calling together a small group of beleaguered academics in the beginning months of the intifadah to disseminate the truth at a time when there was much distortion in the media," building it into the multi-faceted institution it is today.

Krantz said the strength of CIJR is that it brings together "disparate people, often with different political views, who because of their shared love of Israel and Yiddishkeit, have become a model for the Diaspora in their ability to concentrate on what binds them. Yet, we are not afraid of debate or criticism."

The CIJR operates on an $80,000 a year budget, with two staff members, student interns and volunteers. Its senior staff member, Karen Lazar, will be leaving shortly to go to Boston where she will work in public affairs at the Israeli Consulate. Yitzhak Levanon, former consul general in Montreal, now holds that post in Boston.

Joe Miller's $34,000 donation led the evening's pledges. A $6,400 grant from Charles Bronfman's CRB Foundation to the new Frederick Krantz Scholarship Fund was also announced.

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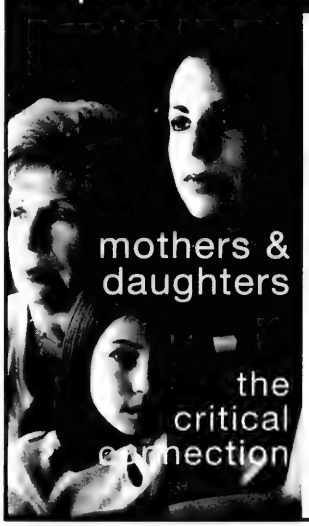

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פון דר. פרעד וויינבערג

עס איז אייך זיכער באַקאַנט, אַז דער אויסדרוק ראש השנה געפינט זיך נישט אין אונדזער תורה. דאָרט רופט מען דעם אָנהויב פון יאָר יום הזכרון *(שמות י״ב)*.

וואָס עס איז דער באַדײַט פון יום הזכרון איז נישט קלאָר פון חומש, אָבער טײל מפרשים האַלטן, אַז דער טאָג באַצײכנט בריאת העולם, די באַשאַפונג פון דער וועלט. אויך איז דאָס די צײַט, ווען מען גדעניקט די וויכטיקסטע געשעענישן אין אונדזער היסטאָרי-שער פאַרגאַנגענהײט.

די פּריאָריטעט שילדערונג פון אַ ראש השנה־דיקער פּיערונג געפינט מען אין פּאַרצײטיקן בבל. דאָרט איז פאַרשריבן אויף טאָולען פון לײם, אַז צווישׂ שעה פאַר זון־אויפגאַנג איז אויפגעשטאַנען דער כּבֿוד־ישער הויפּט־פּריסט אין איז זיך טובל געווען אין די הילקע טײַך פון טיגריס אין יופראַטעס. נאָכדעם איז ער אריינגעגאַנגען אינעם הילקסטן קאַפּעל פון זײער טעמפּל.

נאָך אַ רי רעליגיעזע צערעמאָניעס האָט ער געשאָכטן אַ בּאָראַן וויי אַ קרבן, מיטן ציל איבערצוגעבן אַלע שלעכטע השפּעות אין אַנשיקגעניש פון מענטשן צו דער חיה. די צערעמאָניע ווערט אין זײער לשון גערופן „כַּפּורו״.

די ענלעכקייט צו אונדזערע מנהגים איז קלאָר. טראָץ דעם, וואָס די אַריגינעלע באַדײַטן פון אונדזער ראש השנה־דיקן יום הזכרון זײַנען אומקלאָר, איז אָבער בײַם ייִדישן פֿאָלק אַנגענומען, אַז דאָס איז דער טאָג וואָס גאָט דערמאָנט די גוטע אין שלעכטע מעשׂים פון מענטשן. אויך גדעניקט גאָט אונדזערע אָבות אין איז זײער זכות פאַרגיס ער אונדזערע עבֿירות אין חטאים.

שופר בלאָזן ראש השנה איז אויך אַ דערמאָנונג פון אונדזער געשיכטע אין די שופר קולות בשעת מתן תורה אויפן באַרג סיני. דאָס שופר בלאָזן איז אויך אַ פאַראויסזאָג פון די תקיעות פון תחית המתים אין ביאת המשיח. ראש השנה איז אויך ליט אונדזער טראַ-דיציע דער יום הדין, וואָס דער אייבערשטער עפנט זיך גרויסן חשבונות־בוך אין פאַרשריבט: „מי יחיה״, וואָס סאָל בלייבן לעבן, אין וואָס נישט — וואָס וועט רייך ווערן, אין אָזוי וויי־טער. . .

די דריי טעמעס פון ראש השנה, וויי אַ יום הזכרון, יום הדין אין גאָט אַלס מלך העולם אין באַשאַפער פון דער וועלט, ווערן אַפּגע-שפּיגלט אין די ראש השנה תפילות. די טעמע פון גאָט וויי דער הימלישער ריכטער איז ספּעציעל אונטערגעשטראָכן אין דער תפילה „ונתנה תוקף״.

אויך איז סדר פון ראש השנה מחזור זיינען אריינגעוועבט עלע-מענטן פון ביבלישער געשיכטע. אין דעם זעלבן טאָג האָט אברהם אָביגו אויסגעהאַלטן זיין גרויסן נסיון פון פירן זיין אייניקלען זון יצחק צו דער עקידה.

טראָץ דעם, וואָס מען געפינט אין אַרכאַאָלאָגישע אָנטדע-קונגען אַז אין אַלטע ביבלישע שטיינער אויסגעקריצט רמזים פון אונדזערע מנהגים, האָבן אָבער אונדזערע חכמים אויסגעפּיינערט זייערע פּרימיטיווע מנהגים אין האָבן באַזייטיקט אין אויסגעשלאָסן געצונדיסט אין פּרוכפּערדיקייט־צערעמאָניעס.

פאַלקס פידונגען הויבן זיך נישט אָן אין וואַקוּאום, אָבער מיר מעגן זיין שטאָלץ פון דער אָנטוויקלונג פון אונדזערע ימים טובים. די אָבות אין שפּעטערדיקע תּנאים האָבן אויסגעריניקט אין אויס-געאיידלט די מנהגים פון די פּרימיטיוע כּוונישע אין אָנדערע אַרומיקע פעלקער. זיי האָבן זייערע וועגן אויסגעטיסשט אויף אַן עסטישן אין הומאַניסטישן דרך.

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Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

From coast to coast

Campus construction faces delay

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Construction on the Jewish Community Campus, originally envisioned to begin this past spring, could be delayed for up to one year because the YM-YWHA and FEDERATION CJA are determined not to incur cost overruns.

The approximately $25-million project, which will expand, renovate and integrate the Y and Cummings House, has been described as the largest-ever capital undertaking in the Montreal Jewish community.

The Y, which forms the south side of the campus, has decided to put out a second call for tenders after the initial round did not produce a bid the Y was prepared to accept.

Campaign chair Gary Shapiro said the Quebec bid depository system requires a delay of six months before going to re-tender. The first call was made in June, which would mean December is the earliest the Y could try again. "We'll probably go to tender again in the new year, which means we could be in the ground by early spring," he said.

Tenders are expected to be called for the first time for work on the north campus at the end of October, said FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick.

Both sections of the project, it is anticipated, will take 18 months each to complete. Most of the money is being raised from prominent individuals in the Jewish community.

A total of $3.9 million has also been promised from government. The federal government has just informed the community that it will contribute $1.3 million through its infrastructure program, matching an earlier grant made by the Quebec government. The City of Montreal has also offered $1.3 million in "indirect" support, half for landscaping in the area and the other half, payable over 20 years, for community services.

"If we find a price we can afford, we could start construction in January. If it's too high or we have to modify our plans, obviously there'll be a further delay," Plotnick said.

Shapiro said the problem for the Y is not raising enough money for its part of the project. Its campaign has already exceeded the initial goal of $15 million, but not all of that is in hand because pledges are payable over a couple of years. The Y hopes to raise an additional $900,000 for a roof-top running track.

"We're disappointed, we'd love to get started after years in the planning, but delays like this are not unusual in construction," Shapiro said. Specifically, the Y was not satisfied with the breakdown of the prices submitted by the sub-trades, i.e., electricians and plumbers, he said.

The initial call produced seven or eight bids, he said. He believes there's a better chance an acceptable costing will be reached the second time around because the competition will be wider. "We will invite more people; it was too restrictive the first time."

The first element to be constructed is an underground parking lot that will accommodate 260 cars. Overall, the Y is to be expanded by 70,000 square feet and another 30,000 square feet of existing space will be renovated. Highlights include a new pool, gym/auditorium, wrestling pavilion, educational wing and two-storey atrium at the main entrance.

The project was unveiled in July 1997.

"Our benefactors have been supportive and our users understand. They're pleased we have withstood the pressure to build," said Shapiro.

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At a recent convention of the Custom Tailors and Designers Association of America, other members told Stavros they could not get better suits than his, even in New York. Unique features like hand-stretched and moulded bow-cut breast pockets set Stavros' work apart from the mainstream. While he takes pride in his stature, and has very specific ideas on how each garment should be constructed, Stavros always respects your personal preferences.

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Of the ten Custom Tailors and Designers Association members who are super master tailors, Stavros is the only Canadian. Saddened by the decline in the tradition of hand work, which no technology can replace, Stavros' pleasure in seeing each suit go out of his shop is bittersweet. He knows that each of these garments, like their creator, is one of a dying breed.

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While not all men are buying suits now, those who do demand perfection. Stavros welcomes the resurgence of the English double-breasted silhouette look with 2x3 buttons, which moulds itself to body shape. Current trends favour three button single breasted suits, and either double vents or none.

The maestro conducts a small orchestra of fine tailors

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Half of Stavros' business is ready-to-wear; these suits too are high-quality, made in-house. With the High Holidays approaching, there is more reason than ever to avail oneself of the skills of this master craftsman. Whatever your preference, drop by Stavros at 95 Cumberland St., on the south side east of Bellair; or call 416-924-8144 for an appointment.

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Solemates' main business is wholesale and extends across Canada, from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island and the Territories. Quality retailers like Corso and Suzanne's in Toronto and No Mean Feet in Hamilton feature the fall/winter line. Naot's only retail outlet, **Prairie Dog** on Eglinton West, is the flagship store for new collections. Here, Sandy and Corinne keep in touch with you, the customer. Typical feedback from a happy client: "The only thing better than an old paper of Naots is a new pair of Naots."

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GEFILTE FISH - Sweet w/Horseradish (1 lb serves 3)	$11.50 per lb
GEFILTE FISH - Salt w/Horseradish (1 lb serves 3)	$11.50 per lb
PHYLLO TRIANGLES w/Spinach and Mushrooms	$15.00 per dozen
POTATO LATKES w/Applesauce (Large)	$19.00 per dozen
SWEET & SOUR MEATBALLS	$14.50 per dozen
MUSHROOM CREPES	$22.00 per dozen
SALAD DEVOR (4 servings per lb)	$13.50 per lb
COLESLAW (6 servings per lb.)	$7.29 per lb
CHALA (Round Plain)	$5.00 each
CHALA (Round Raisin)	$5.00 each
FOCCACIO BREAD (Plain)	$6.99 each
EXTRA HONEY VINAIGRETTE (per 375 ml. jar)	$4.50 per jar

MAIN COURSES

ROAST BRISKET OF BEEF w/Gravy (2-3 servings per lb.)	$17.56 per lb.
GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST TERIYAKI (7 oz. per serving)	$9.49 per serving
STUFFED CHICKEN BREAST HURONIA (8 oz. per serving)	$9.99 per serving
LEMON CHICKEN BREAST With Sauce (8 oz. per serving)	$9.79 per serving
BONELESS SLICED TURKEY BREAST w/Cranberries	$14.75 per lb
STUFFED ROASTED WHOLE TURKEY w/Gravy - Approx. 13 lbs $10 00 Charge To Carve Turkey	$9.00 per lb
SALMON TERIYAKI w/Honey Mustard (6 oz. per serving)	$10.50 per serving
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CHICKEN FINGERS Served w/Plum Sauce	$12.95 per lb

SIDE DISHES

STIR FRIED VEGETABLES (3-4 servings per lb	$8.75 per lb
PARISIENNE POTATOES (3-4 servings per lb)	$7.25 per lb
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ROTINI PASTA w/Sundried Tomatoes & Sauce (4 prt. per lb.)	$12.00 per lb.
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Jewish Singles Registry & jmatch.com.... A Match Made in Cyberspace

After many months of preparation, the **Jewish Singles Registry (JSR)** is excited to announce its association with the newly formed Toronto based Jewish internet dating service called **jmatch.com**. This "partnership" will result in **jmatch** offering **JSR** members FREE access to its site.

"We will now be able to expand our operations worldwide," said JSR owner and founder Rob Singer: "This has been in the works for quite some time. As more and more Registry members register on line, they will be able to access each others' profiles from the comfort and convenience of their own home or office computer, seven days a week, 24 hours a day."

Singer maintains that privacy and confidentiality have always been important components of the JSR system. He notes that with jmatch's Private Members File, JSR members can look forward to the same. Both jmatch and the JSR expect registrations to rise significantly.

Two More Engagements

It's been a busy summer at the JSR, as three couples recently walked down the aisle. The JSR is also happy to report that two more couples have announced their engagement while two more have notified us that chidren are on the way. Mazal Tov!!

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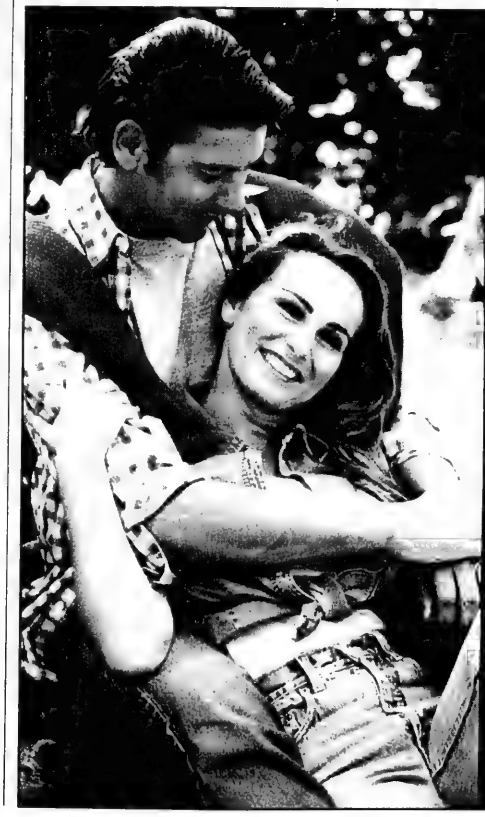
More To Come

There's always something new and exciting happening at the Jewish Singles Registry, and Singer promises more exciting developments on the horizon. To contact the JSR, call **(416) 483-4151**, e-mail them at **jsreg@total.net**, or access their web site at **www.total.net/~jsreg.**



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Envoy to try to bridge Israel-PA differences

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — U.S. special peace envoy Dennis Ross was expected to arrive in Israel this week for a brief visit to the region, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The Prime Minister's Office anticipates that U.S. President Bill Clinton will hold consultations on the Middle East situation following his return from Russia and Ireland. In the meantime, American sources are trying to lower expectations regarding the Ross visit.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry said Ross, whose last visit to the region was in May, would try to help "narrow the differences between the parties."

A senior aide to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said last week that one key issue, the scope of the West Bank land to be transferred to Palestinian self-rule, was "no longer a problem." The aide, David Bar-Illan, confirmed that Israel has offered to cede a further 13 percent of the West Bank, of which three percent would be designated a "nature reserve."

However, Palestinian negotiator Hassan Asfour said last week that no deal had been struck between the sides and that the gaps were still wide.

Bar-Illan said the Palestinians had backtracked on their agreement to have the "nature reserve" come under Israeli security control. He said a deal would be possible if the Palestinians were prepared to meet their security commitments.

In another development, Israel was furious over comments made by South African President Nelson Mandela in which he blamed Israel and Netanyahu for blocking efforts to advance Middle East peace.

Benjamin Netanyahu and Dennis Ross. [Reuters/RNS file photo]

Mandela said Netanyahu's administration had "narrow, chauvinistic interests."

A Foreign Ministry statement in Jerusalem called the comments "unpleasant and unhelpful."

At the opening of the Non-aligned Movement summit last week in Durban, South Africa, attended by Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, Mandela said Netanyahu's hard-line positions had "blocked progress toward a just and peaceful solution."

The Israeli Foreign Ministry statement also criticized as one-sided, Mandela's open support for a Palestinian state.

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Absorption plans dusted off

By AVI MACHLIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel has begun to dust off emergency absorption plans to prepare for a possible new wave of Russian Jewish immigrants.

In light of the economic crisis ravaging Russia, Yuli Edelstein, Israel's minister of absorption, is preparing plans that take into account a potential immigrant increase of at least 10 to 20 percent, according to an aide.

Before the current crisis, Israel expected about 50,000 to 60,000 Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union this year. According to Edelstein's assessments, however, the number of Russian immigrants could even double if the economic crisis worsens and there is an outburst of anti-Semitism against Jews in Russia.

The economic crisis has not yet driven large numbers of Russian Jews to apply to the Israeli Embassy for immigration visas. But Israeli officials in Russia say there has been a flurry of inquiries in recent days about the visas.

A sharp increase in Russian immigration would likely have a dramatic effect on the Israeli economy.

More than 800,000 Jews from the former Soviet Union have immigrated to Israel since 1989, and they played a key role in fuelling Israel's rapid economic growth of about six percent a year in the early 1990s.

But massive immigration also demands an increase in government spending on absorption, which is difficult at a time when the government is committed to cutting the budget deficit.

Former Prisoner of Zion, Natan Sharansky, Israel's minister of industry and trade, was in Russia recently to participate in the dedication of a synagogue in memory of victims of the Holocaust. He held meetings with Jewish community leaders, who told him that the economic crisis has already sparked an increase in anti-Semitic rhetoric.

Meanwhile, during his recent visit to Moscow, U.S. President Bill Clinton met with American Jewish leaders who had come for the commemoration of the new synagogue, and he expressed his concern about instability in Russia and its possible ramifications for the country's Jewish community.

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Notice of Special General Meeting
Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel

Take notice that the **Special General Meeting of CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEl** will be held on **Thursday, October 1st, 1998, 7:00 p.m. at CMDA Headquarters, 6900 Decarie Blvd., suite 218, Montreal, Quebec.**

The nominating committee has proposed the following slate for election as the Directors:

DIRECTORS NOMINATED TO SERVE THE SECOND YEAR OF THEIR TERM (1998 - 1999):

Aaron Chazan, C.A.; Harvey Cobrin; Robert Garfield; Abe Klugsberg (Ottawa); Miriam Lang, MSW; Arthur Levitt; Sydney Lithwick; Sam Litwack (Ottawa); Susan Tepner Novack; Morton Rosenthal; Arnold Rosner; Maurice Sadeh; Paul Saxe; The Hon. Judge Alfred N. Segall; Alan Spector (Toronto); Alexander Serota, CA (Toronto); Sarah Swedler (Ottawa); Ron Wald.

DIRECTORS NOMINATED TO SERVE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM (1998 - 2000):

Irwin Beutel; Joseph Bitton; Gerald Cohen; Oscar Costin; Irving Friedman; Linda Lechter; Sam Nachshen, CA; Ted Nashman; Joseph Paperman; Dr. David Shapiro; Allan Schneiderman; Norton Segal, Q.C.; Jerry Wiseblatt.

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Dated at Montreal this first day of September, 1998 by order of **Arthur Levitt**, National President

Women of the Wall borrow Lubavitch tactic

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Borrowing a page from the Lubavitch movement, the Women of the Wall group has launched a new outreach campaign to give Israeli women a chance to wrap themselves in a tallit during Jewish prayer.

The organization of women in Israel, who greet each new Jewish month by praying together at the Western Wall, got its inspiration for the campaign from the Lubavitchers, Jessie Bonn, a member of the group, confirmed in an e-mail message from Jerusalem.

The Lubavitch movement sends out emissaries to busy streets all over the world to offer Jewish men passing by the chance to put on t'fillin.

But officials of the chassidic movement are not seeing this bit of imitation as the sincerest form of flattery.

Rabbi Zalman Shmotkin, a spokesperson at Lubavitch headquarters in Brooklyn, offered only a terse "no comment," and a request that the less that is written about any association between the two groups, the better. Like most Orthodox, Lubavitch opposes the concept of women taking on ritual observances traditionally reserved for men.

Twenty to 60 members of Women of the Wall began gathering each month on the women's side of the Western Wall in 1988.

They were met with violence when men praying on the other side of the mechitzah separating the genders threw chairs over the divider at the women and cursed them. The men were offended by what they viewed as women imitating a minyan.

Some haredi Jews also object to the fact that Women of the Wall raise their voices in prayer, contravening the prohibition against men hearing a woman's voice during his prayers, lest he be distracted from his worship.

The women filed a case with Israel's Supreme Court in 1989, a case that has dragged on without resolution.

Both a Knesset commission and a special committee headed by Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman studied the matter and asked the women to choose one of several other locations in the Old City, away from the Western Wall, in deference to Orthodox sensibilities.

For members of the women's group, though, none of those alternatives is acceptable; they want permission to pray as a group, with a Torah, at the holiest site in Judaism.

And since none of the mediated efforts has worked, the group expects to be going back to the Supreme Court soon for a decision.

In the meantime, Women of the Wall continues to meet to greet each Jewish month with group prayer in the women's section at the Wall. They then repair to another, less charged spot in the adjacent Jewish Quarter of the Old City to read together from the Torah.

They may not have received permission to pray as a group with a Torah at the Wall, but their ongoing presence is having a positive impact, Phyllis Chesler, a longtime feminist and a director of the International Committee for Women of the Wall, said in an interview here in New York.

Though there was, at first, great tension between them, now the "other women at the Kotel, including ultra-Orthodox women, are listening, smiling, and being friendly and helpful," said Chesler. "Recently a regular worshiper at the wall invited the Women of the Wall to participate in her kiddush."

Meanwhile, Women of the Wall is trying to reach out to other Israelis. After getting permission from the Jerusalem municipality, the group recently set up a table, in busy Zion Square, with literature about its activities.

Halifax Jews pitch in

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Rabbi Mendy Feldman of the Lubavitch congregation was at Halifax International Airport; Rabbi David Ellis, chaplain of the Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC), was stationed at Canadian Forces Base Shearwater in suburban Dartmouth, where a makeshift morgue had been set up; and Rabbi Saul Aronov of the Orthodox Beth Israel Synagogue was available to families arriving at Halifax-area hotels.

Jon Goldberg, the AJC's executive director, said many area families had offered their homes for accommodations. In addition, he had contacted the area's observant families to provide kosher meals, if necessary.

"Our community is only about 1,500 people, but when the families arrive, the Halifax Jews will welcome them. We're here to help any Jewish people who need it," Goldberg said.

By last Friday, even before a complete passenger list was available, it was known there were at least 15 Jewish victims, identified to religious authorities in New York and Geneva.

It was estimated as many as 50 Jewish passengers were among the 229 who perished in the crash.

Goldberg said telephone calls started coming to the AJC's office within hours of the crash.

He said he spoke to Rabbi Edward Gluck in New York the day after the crash. The rabbi is the official Jewish advisor to the Port Authority of New York (which oversees flights leaving the city). He's also Mayor Rudolph Guilliani's chief Jewish advisor.

"He told me seven people identified themselves to rabbis in New York as being relatives of victims. A rabbi in Geneva said he'd heard from eight families with victims on the Swiss list. Those are the only ones known by name," Goldberg said.

The first inquiry to the AJC office came from Gush Etzion in Israel, from the family of crash victim Dr. Jonathan Mann, a former professor at the Harvard School of Public Health and a pioneer in the fight against AIDS.

The family, which said it was planning to leave soon for Halifax, requested information about the local chevrah kadishah.

"The passengers' families may require services that are not available in Halifax," Goldberg said. "We have no Jewish funeral home here, and in the chevrah kadishah, we're all volunteers."

A memorial service for victims was scheduled at Beth Israel Synagogue last Sunday.

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A Message to CJN Snowbirds

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Money the last word?

[Cont'd. from page 1]

One aspect of the concern is that "the real crime, the crime of genocide" will be overshadowed by monetary concerns, said Michael Berenbaum, president of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation in Los Angeles.

But while Berenbaum and others believe that the concentrated attention on the details of negotiations and distribution will take precedence over commemoration and moral lessons for the moment, the former director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's research institute said he was sure that in the long run, "the ultimate crime will come to the fore.

"There are important projects for remembrance that will be here years from now" dedicated to preserving the memory of Holocaust victims, he said.

Stuart Eizenstat, U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs and the Clinton administration's point man on Holocaust restitution, said he is convinced that Holocaust education in Europe will be one of the most important outgrowths of the settlement, because it "will outlive the survivors and all of us."

This will lead to" more sensitive and moral people" in the future and "more just policies by countries," said Eizenstat in a telephone interview following the Swiss agreement.

Establishing Holocaust education in schools is one of the projects the State Department is most pushing for as it pursues settlements with America's European allies, Eizenstat said.

If it were not for the proliferation in recent years of Holocaust institutions and educational programs in the United States, others point out, the current claims would never have received the support of American politicians, whose efforts in Congress and at the state and local levels brought pressure upon the Swiss banks to settle.

Rabbi Irving Greenberg, president of the Jewish Life Network, a group that develops continuity programs, called the restitution efforts made by national and local politicians a moral breakthrough.

"People are now in favor of memory instead of against it," Greenberg said. "It means we really got the message across."

Greenberg, who also is a member of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, said the Swiss banks settlement will be a further stimulus to preserving the memory of the systematic murder of six million Jews.

The publicity surrounding the Swiss-Jewish negotiations "is a further reminder of what was done or not done in the Holocaust," he said.

Deborah Lipstadt, a professor of Holocaust Studies at Emory University in Atlanta said much the same thing.

"This is not reparation, this is not guilt money. This is the plain old result of attempted robbery by banks," she said. "We're talking about goods and valuables because the people are gone."

For the Holocaust survivors who will receive some payment from the settlement, most of them now in their 80s, there is another concern – that a well-publicized fight for their rightful possessions, more than 50 years after World War II, will be a sorry postscript to their own lives.

Noting the embarrassment engendered by the unpleasant episode, Greenberg said, "The fact is the banks are returning a fraction of what they stole" and the settlement money "is going to be used primarily to ease the isolation and poverty of survivors.

"It is perverse to question either one of those. It should be a matter of pride and responsibility that those steps are being taken. Saying that taking money is cheapening is perverse. It's the least we could do for the survivors and the least the banks could do," he added.

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The Week in Israel

Aug. 31

• Four soldiers were injured in a helicopter accident in south Lebanon. It was the fifth helicopter mishap in south Lebanon this year. *(The army subsequently announced an inquiry into the incident.)*

Sept. 1

• Police arrested three settlers from Hebron for allegedly throwing stones at Palestinians. Two others were arrested for inciting violence against Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Sept. 2

• Holocaust survivor groups welcomed the establishment of a government committee to oversee the distribution of funds for survivors in the Jewish state. The move came after two Swiss banks agreed to a $1.25 billion (US) settlement over dormant accounts dating from World War II.

Sept. 3

• Some 30,000 workers seeking pay increases went on strike, shutting down phone and electric companies, government offices and courts. Meanwhile, a strike by school teachers reached its third day.

• The New England Blizzard of the American Basketball League signed 5-foot 7-inch point guard, Limor Mizrachi. Mizrachi is a former MVP of the Israeli women's basketball league.

Sept. 4

• The end of Daylight Savings Time was announced for Sept. 5, at midnight. Clocks were to move back one hour. Daylight Savings Time lasted 170 days this year.

50 Years Ago

TEL AVIV, Sept. 10 – A striking change for the worse in the Palestine military picture and in the possibility of continued peace took place today with the arrival of a large Iraqi force from Mafrak, Transjordan. This brings the strength of the Iraqi army to about 10,000 men – the largest Arab force in Palestine. *(Ed.'s note: The reference to the "Palestine military picture" is to the military plight of the Jews. Prior to Israel's founding, the term Palestinians always referred to the Jews of Palestine.)*

Files from the JTA and Ha'aretz

Attack, recrimination now mark 'softer' elements of the right

By ZE'EV SCHIFF
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Members of the extreme right recently demonstrated against one of their own for what they considered to be a deviation from right-wing ideology: He declared a willingness to give up parts of the Land of Israel. Their target was Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Opinion

Not far from where the demonstration took place, the extreme right had organized something similar against former Shin Bet chief Carmi Gilon, branding him "a persecutor of the Jewish people" – the same kind of label that was assigned to Yitzhak Rabin, which, according to Jewish law, is punishable by death.

Such behavior did not emerge from the outer fringes of the political spectrum. The atmosphere of attack and recrimination, which includes the delegitimation of public figures, is being created by the "softer," less extreme segments of the political right.

Initially, the extreme right denounced Mordechai for not supporting the Israeli demand that the Palestinian National Council abrogate the Palestinian charter. Then they claimed that he was spreading an exaggerated sense of optimism by declaring that the negotiations over a second redeployment in the West Bank would soon be brought to a successful culmination. Finally they said he was responsible for failing to get Kiryat Shmonah residents into their bomb shelters before the recent barrage of Katyusha rockets fired by Hezbollah in the north.

The source of all three accusations was the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

This is an absurd pattern of behavior in our highest echelon of power, and it must be stopped. It is possible that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has no idea who is feeding the flames of hatred, although he is well aware of the fact that, should he make any territorial concessions, he himself will not be immune from attack by the extreme right.

For the past few months, there have been reports that right-wing extremists are prepared to carry out their threats against any Israeli political leader who cedes territory to the Palestinians. In light of this, the Shin Bet security service is increasing its protection of the prime minister.

Some people say the Shin Bet is being too aggressive in its protective services, but the agency claims that the report published by the Shamgar commission following the Rabin assassination forces it to take every possible precaution, in order to fully protect the prime minister. Furthermore, the government has adopted the commission's recommendations, which thus take on the character of a cabinet decision.

A few months ago, the government decided that a ministerial committee would review VIP protection procedures, but that committee has not yet been convened. Instead, a special committee has been appointed to study the safeguarding of public figures in Israel and to submit recommendations.

The committee consists of the former president of the Military Court of Appeals, Brig.-Gen. Ben-Zion Farhi; former Mossad chief Nahum Admoni; and Maj.-Gen. Doron Rubin. However, this committee has also not begun its work.

Ideological crisis

Sources in the PMO claim that the extreme left is also a threat. There are no intelligence reports on any danger from the extreme left, although obviously one must always take into account the possibility of a lone assassin. The difference between this hypothetical assassin and Rabin's killer, Yigal Amir, is that Amir did not act alone.

Although he was the only one to pull the trigger, Amir enjoyed the support of many. The extreme right had a history of involvement with assassinations even before Rabin was gunned down. It also has a strong political lobby and a broad-based infrastructure, both ideological and organizational. Members of the extreme right have even smuggled weapons and explosives from the IDF.

In addition, in contrast with the left, a segment of the right has undergone a process of radicalization over the past two years. More and more groups expressing frustration and experiencing an ideological crisis over the peace process have sprung up. If these groups should choose a charismatic leader, the potential danger they pose would grow.

Presently, that danger consists of the possibility of a mass murder similar to the Baruch Goldstein massacre of Muslim worshippers in the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron in 1994, or the possibility of an outbreak of violence on the Temple Mount, for example, in order to kill the peace process.

Under such circumstances, the Shin Bet needs the support of both the prime minister and the public at large. So far, there have been no reports alleging that Netanyahu is preventing the Shin Bet from doing its job.

It should be recalled here that Yitzhak Shamir, in the post of prime minister, did not hesitate to use the Shin Bet against the right-wing terrorist organization that operated in the territories. In this respect, he did not emulate his predecessor Menachem Begin, who, as prime minister, ordered the Shin Bet to destroy many of its files on members of the extreme right .

The extreme right does pose a potential threat. However, it should be emphasized that the main thrust of the Shin Bet today is directed against the terrorist activities of Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, which has recently accepted recruits from the Damascus-based Abu Moussa group.

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Toronto doctor to receive Israeli science award

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – The first International Prize for Science will be awarded by Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital Jerusalem to Toronto's Dr. Stanley Greben, former psychiatrist-in-chief at Mount Sinai Hospital.

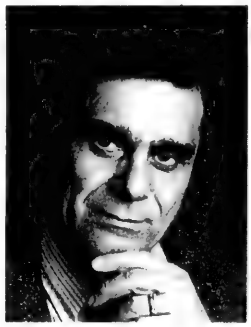
Greben, who has been active with the Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital for more than 25 years, will receive his award at a gala concert Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, George Weston Hall.

The first psychiatrist-in-chief at Mount Sinai Hospital, Greben served in that capacity for 18 years. At the same time, he was also psychiatrist-in-chief of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

During his career, he served residents of both Canada and Israel, and was chairman of the board of directors of the Canadian Psychiatric Association for 10 years.

In 1950, when he was a medical student, he visited Israel and saw people from the Russian camps arriving in Israel.

"They ran down the gangplank and kissed the ground...I was moved that 2,000 years ago, presumably my forebears had come from that same piece of land, walked to Russia, and here we are coming back," he said in an interview.



Dr. Stanley E. Greben

"I was very impressed with the idealism of the people of Israel and how much they had accomplished in such a short time. [It] was the beginning of my commitment to Israel," he said.

Twenty-five years ago, he was asked to establish a medical advisory board of psychiatrists from across Canada for the Jerusalem hospital. He became the driving force behind the establishment of the Albert and Temmy Latner Institute for Research in social psychiatry and psychotherapy at Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital.

The hospital, he said, "is dedicated to combining excellence in research with compassion in care, to ensure, maintain and enhance the quality of life for the elderly and the mentally ill."

In 1982, he taught for three months at the Jerusalem hospital and he has gone to Israel several times to present papers. During the Lebanese War, he worked in Safed with social workers, psychologists, and others who were treating soldiers affected by loosing friends, recovering from injuries, or suffering from post traumatic stress disorders.

"What I've gained is an infinite connection to what really goes on in life in Israel and the practice of psychiatry there. I believe that they appreciate knowing that I and others are interested in their welfare – I know it means a lot to them to know that even in troubled times, we come to be with them. They feel less isolated."

The Latner Institute aims to pursue research in the psychological aspect of psychiatric treatment, he said, and specifically the treatment of the after-effects of immigration, trauma and the illnesses of old age, terrorism, economic insecurity and others.

Greben is a professor emeritus at the University of Toronto and has more than 75 publications to his credit, including books and journals dealing with psychiatry and the psychotherapeutic-psychoanalytic relationship.

He and his wife Marilyn have two children, a son Dr. Daniel Greben, and a daughter Jan, an architect in New York City. Daniel and his wife Jill have two children, Alexander, 4, and Rachel 2.

Renee Rubinstein, president of the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital praised Greben for his "pioneering efforts in psychiatry and his years of dedication and service to the people of Canada and Israel."

This makes him "a worthy choice for this award," Rubinstein said, noting that the Toronto Friends traditionally presents an annual fundraising concert, but this is the first time someone will be honored with this new award.

The concert will feature three internationally acclaimed musicians: Jacques Israelievitch, violinist and concertmaster of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra; Shaun Rolston on cello; and composer and arranger, John Arpin on piano. Proceeds will be used for Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital's research into Alzheimer and Parkinson disease.

For tickets and information call the Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital at 416-256-4222.

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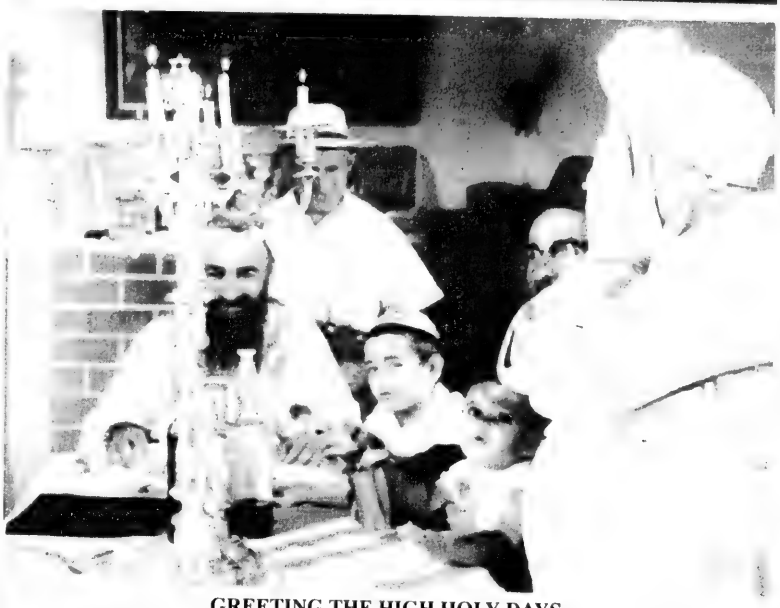

GREETING THE HIGH HOLY DAYS
A family gathers around the table on the eve of Yom Kippur as the mother pronounces the blessings over the candles. [Fritz Cohen photo]

* * *

All the photos used in these Food Ideas pages are from the archives of the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal in Jerusalem. They attempt to convey a panoramic sense of the anticipation and celebration of the High Holy Days in Israel over the past 50 years.

Home baking's a real treat for the senses

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Is anything more guaranteed to get the tastebuds working, and have vows of following one's diet over the holidays forgotten, than the smell of baking, or the sight of a gorgeous cake on the counter?

Toronto certainly has a plethora of fine bakeries, but cakes, pastries and bread baked at home appeal to the senses in a very elemental way.

Marcy Goldman is a Montreal-based baker and restaurant bakery consultant who has written extensively, including in *The CJN*. Her articles on baking genuine Montreal bagels are quoted frequently in the dispute about the superiority of Montreal or Toronto bagels.

Her recently published book, *A Treasury of Jewish Holiday Baking* (Doubleday, 1998) is a luscious concoction of recipes, divided by Jewish holy day. It is well worth having, since not only are the recipes good, but Goldman does an excellent job of explaining techniques and offering special tips.

This does tend to make the recipes look somewhat long, but in fact they are reassuringly detailed.

One nice aspect of the book is Goldman's explanations of the Jewish holiday rituals and customs, as well as reminiscences of family times.

Each recipe comes with hints and suggestions for alternative methods or ingredients, when called for.

Unlike many cookbooks, *A Treasury of Jewish Holiday Baking* is printed on beige, non-shiny paper, making it easy on the eyes. Here are two recipes that will be great for the High Holy Day season.

LEMON, VANILLA & HONEY BAKLAVA

1 1-lb. package filo pastry leaves (about 25)
1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter or margarine, melted
½ cup vegetable oil
¼ cup finely ground walnuts
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
2 tbsp. sugar
Honey Vanilla Syrup
2 cups water
2 cups sugar
1 cup honey
2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 tsp. ground cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350. Trim filo sheets to fit the pan – either a 9 x

[Cont'd. on page 45]

FOOD IDEAS FOR ROSH HASHANAH

Home baked cakes, breads are a real treat

[Cont'd. from page 44]
13 or a rectangular pan with similar capacity, with 2½ in. sides. Do not use a nonstick pan as it will be ruined when you cut out pieces of baklava. Keep the filo sheets covered with a slightly damp towel.

In a bowl, stir together the butter or margarine and the oil. Drizzle a few tbsp. of the butter/oil mixture on the pan bottom. Centre 1 sheet of filo on the bottom of the pan and brush it generously with the butter and oil. Continue layering filo sheets, brushing each very generously with melted butter/oil.

After 8 sheets, sprinkle ⅓ of the ground nuts over the top surface. Continue layering filo leaves this way, sprinkling with nuts after another 8 sheets have been laid in place. Sprinkle on more nuts, then 4 more leaves, more nuts, and the remaining leaves, always brushing each sheet generously before you place the next one in the pan.

Brush the top layer with the butter/oil mixture. Using kitchen scissors or a sharp knife, cut the pastry into diamond shapes, cutting only halfway through the pastry. (Diamond shapes are achieved by cutting 5 or 6 horizontal rows, then cutting diagonally across these rows to form diamonds). Bake for 1 hr., or until the pastry is golden brown. Meanwhile, make the syrup. Makes 30 pastries.

Syrup: In a saucepan, combine the syrup ingredients and heat until the sugar dissolves. Bring to a boil and simmer for about 5 minutes. Cool to room temperature before pouring evenly over the pastry. Let the baklava sit for 1 hour or overnight before serving.

GOLDEN SHOFAR CAKE

¾ cup vegetable oil
1½ cups granulated sugar
4 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla extract
½ tsp. lemon oil or extract
1 tbsp. finely minced lemon zest
2½ cups all-purpose flour
¼ tsp. salt
1 tbsp. baking powder
¾ cup apricot juice or nectar
½ cup chopped dried apricots or chopped frozen mango pieces
¼ cup chopped golden raisins

Lemon Glaze/Topping
1½ cups confectioners' sugar
⅓ cup fresh lemon juice
shredded lemon zest, for topping

Preheat oven to 325. Generously grease and flour a 9-inch tube pan or a 12-cup bundt pan.

In a large mixing bowl, blend together the oil and sugar. Blend in the eggs, vanilla, lemon oil, and the zest. Stir in the flour, salt and baking powder alternately with the apricot juice. Blend until smooth. Fold in the apricots or chopped mango and the raisins.

Spoon the batter into the pan and bake until the cake is lightly golden and springs back when pressed gently (45-55 min.). Cool for 10 minutes before inverting onto a serving plate. Makes 14-16 serving.

Lemon Glaze: In a bowl, whisk together the confectioners' sugar and lemon juice. Using a cake tester, make holes in the still warm cake. Drizzle the glaze over the cake and garnish it with shreds of lemon zest Cool well before serving.

NOT JUST ANY LULAV AND ETROG
On the streets of Tel Aviv in 1949, just before Sukkot, this prospective buyer is seeking out the right lulav and etrog.

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A customer lovingly holds an etrog at the Tel Aviv Sukkot market in 1975.

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Some special holiday dishes

This time of year always brings back memories of how things used to be – the customs of our families, the special dishes that used to appear on the table, the crowded dining room table.

Johanna Ginsberg, assistant director of communications for the Jewish Theological Seminary, sent *The CJN* these recipes from her relatives.

GRANDMA EDNA'S CHALUPTSES (STUFFED CABBAGE)

2 lbs. chopped meat
1 large head cabbage
1 medium onion, grated or chopped fine
¼ cup ketchup
1 or 2 cans sweet style tomato soup
salt and pepper to taste

Sauce
1 28-oz can tomatoes
1 16-oz can tomato sauce
1 or 2 sliced onions
3 sliced carrots
⅓ - ½ cup brown sugar
lemon juice to taste
½ cup raisins
salt and pepper to taste

Boil cabbage until soft, 15-30 minutes. Cool. Remove core and carefully remove leaves.

Combine chopped meat with onion, ketchup, salt and pepper.

In a large pot, combine all sauce ingredients and simmer while preparing cabbage rolls. The amount of sugar and lemon is up to the individual. Keep tasting.

Place 1 tbsp. meat mixture on each leaf, roll, tuck in sides and keep rolling. Place seam side down in pot on top of sauce.

Cover and simmer about 2 hours, basting occasionally. Can be frozen at this point.

When ready to serve, place in shallow pan, cover with tomato soup and heat in 350 oven for about ½ hour, or until brown on top and heated through.

EVALYN'S HONEY CAKE

4 eggs
1½ cups sugar
½ cup oil
½ cup molasses
1 cup honey
½ tsp. ground cloves
½ cup nuts, chopped
1 cup raisins
sliced almonds
½ tsp. ground ginger
½ tsp. ground allspice
½ tsp. ground cinnamon
2 tbsp. brandy
1 tsp. vanilla
1 cup black coffee
3½ cups flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1½ tsp. baking soda

Beat eggs well. Add sugar and beat well. Add almost ½ cup oil, molasses, honey, cloves, ginger, allspice, cinnamon, brandy and vanilla. Add alternately coffee and flour, baking powder and baking soda. Fold in chopped nuts and raisins.

Bake in greased and floured 11 x 14-in. pan at 350 for 50 minutes or until done. Sprinkle with almonds before baking. Makes a very large cake or two smaller loaves.

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FOOD IDEAS FOR ROSH HASHANAH

Zucchini is just yummy

BY EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Zucchini is a great vegetable. It is full of vitamins, high in fiber, has a fairly long storage life, and its texture is so versatile that it is just as delicious in a casserole as it is in a dessert.

ZUCCHINI COBBLER

8 cups chopped, seeded, peeled zucchini (about 3 pounds)
2/3 cup lemon juice
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
Crust:
4 cups flour
2 cups sugar
1 1/2 cups cold butter
1 tsp. ground cinnamon

In a large saucepan, over medium-low heat, cook and stir zucchini and lemon juice for 15-20 minutes or until zucchini is tender. Add sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg; simmer one minute longer. Remove from heat and set aside.

For crust, combine flour and sugar in a bowl; cut in butter until mixture resembles course crumbs. Stir 1/2 cup into zucchini mixture. Press half of remaining crust mixture into a greased 15x10x1-inch baking pan.

Spread zucchini mixture over top; crumble remaining crust mixture over zucchini. Sprinkle with cinnamon. Bake at 375 for 35-40 minutes or until golden and bubbly. NOTE: Most people will think this is made with apples.

ZUCCHINI LASAGNA

2 1/2 cups zucchini, sliced 1/4 inch thick (about 2 medium)
1/4 cup chopped onion
1 red pepper, diced
1 green pepper, diced
2 small tomatoes, cut up
6 oz. can tomato paste
1 clove garlic, minced
1/2 tsp. dried oregano
1/2 tsp. dried basil
1/4 tsp. dried thyme
1/4 cup water
1/8 tsp. pepper
1 egg
1/4 cup low fat cottage cheese
1/2 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
1 tsp. flour

Cook zucchini until tender, drain and set aside. Fry onions and peppers until they are tender; drain. Add tomatoes, tomato paste, garlic, oregano, basil, thyme, water and pepper and bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered 10 minutes or until reduced to 3 cups and set aside.

In small bowl slightly beat egg. Add cottage cheese, half of shredded cheese and flour. In 1/2-qt. baking-roasting pan arrange half of the onion-pepper mixture.

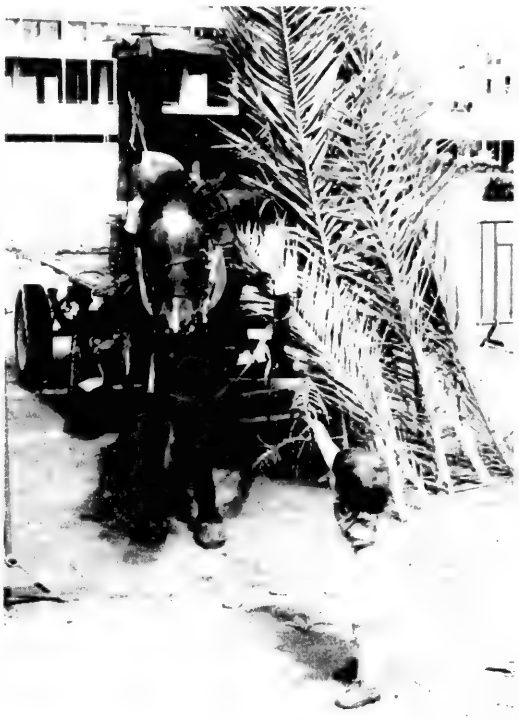
Top with half of the zucchini and all the cottage cheese mixture. Top with remaining onion-pepper mixture and zucchini. Bake uncovered at 375 for 30 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake 10 minutes longer. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Serves 4.

ZUCCHINI BREAD

3 eggs
2 cups sugar
1/4 cup oil
1 tsp. vanilla
2 cups grated zucchini
2 cups plain flour
1 tsp. cinnamon
2 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. baking powder
1 cup nuts, chopped

Preheat oven to 350. In large bowl combine eggs, sugar, and oil, blend well and set aside. In another bowl combine the flour, cinnamon, baking soda salt, and baking powder.

Add the flour mixture to the egg mixture, mix slightly and add the zucchini, mix together. Add vanilla and nuts; mix together. Grease and flour two loaf pans and split the batter between the two pans. Bake for 1 hour at 350.



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It's time to start cooking

BY EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

They say it's never too early to prepare for the holidays. I tend to agree. Getting those new "show off in shul clothes," finding the holiday prayer books and for me figuring out who's coming for lunch after services and what am I going to serve that doesn't require too much effort but looks like it did always keeps me busy.

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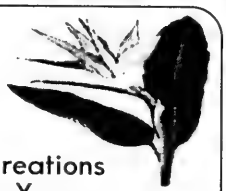

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APPLE CRANBERRY CRUMBLE

5 cups apple slices
1 cup cranberries
½ cup sugar
¼ cup honey
2 tbsp. flour
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup rolled oats
½ cup brown sugar, packed
⅓ cup flour
⅓ cup margarine (or butter)
½ cup pecans, chopped

Heat oven to 375. Grease a 12 x 8-inch baking dish. In a large bowl, combine apples, cranberries, ¼ cup sugar, honey, 2 tbsp. flour and cinnamon. Toss to coat and spoon into greased baking dish. In a small bowl, combine rolled oats, brown sugar and flour.

Using a pastry blender, cut in margarine until crumbly. Stir in pecans and sprinkle the topping over fruit mixture. Bake until topping is golden brown and apples are tender (35 minutes). Remove from oven and cool 10 minutes before serving. Serve as a side dish with meat or add ice cream (pareve or dairy) or whipping cream (pareve or dairy). Serves 6 to 8.

DELICIOUS APPLE DIP

1 package (8 oz) cream cheese, softened
½ cup crushed peanuts
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup brown sugar.

Mix together well. Serve with apple wedges. (If apples are going to be left out for any length of time

[Cont'd. on page 50]

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Apples have many uses

[Cont'd. from page 48]

during serving, dip wedges in lemon juice so they won't turn brown)

BUTTERNUT APPLE SOUFFLE

2 lbs. butternut squash, peeled and cut into 1-inch cubes
4 Jonathan or Macintosh apples, peeled, cored and chopped
1/2 cup sugar
2 cups cranberries, thawed if frozen
2 tbsp. plus 2 tsp. margarine (or butter)

Place squash in a steamer basket over boiling water. Cover saucepan and steam 15 minutes or until tender. Remove from steamer basket and set aside.

Combine apples and sugar in a heavy saucepan over medium heat. Cook 8 minutes, stirring frequently. Stir in cranberries and cook 4 to 5 minutes, or until cranberries and apples are tender but still chunky and the liquid has evaporated. Add the squash, margarine and salt and pepper to taste. Stir over heat until hot and serve immediately.

APPLE PECAN PASTRY PUFFS

1 cup brown sugar, packed
1/2 cup all purpose flour
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/8 tsp. ground nutmeg
2 cups Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and diced
1 cup chopped pecans
1 tbsp. margarine or butter, chilled, cut into small pieces
1 sheet frozen puff pastry, thawed
1 tbsp. confectioner's sugar

Preheat oven to 375F. Combine sugar, flour, cinnamon and nutmeg in a bowl and mix thoroughly. Add the apples, pecan and margarine or butter ingredients and toss to coat.

Unfold the pastry on a lightly floured surface. Roll into a 15 x 10-inch rectangle. Brush lightly with water. Spoon apple mixture over pastry to within 2 inches of long sides and all the way to short sides. Roll up jellyroll fashion. Cut into 1 1/4 inch slices.

Arrange 2 inches apart on a greased baking sheet. Bake 15 minutes on middle rack of oven or until golden. Remove and cool on wire rack. Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar. This recipe serves 12 people. Because this recipe is for a particular size pan, it adjusts the number of servings only in multiples of 12.

APPLE RUM TURKEY FILLETS

2 1/2 cups apple juice
1/4 cup plus 1 tbsp. dark rum, or 2 tsp. rum extract
8 6-ounce turkey fillets
1 tbsp. plus 1 tsp. honey
2 tbsp. cornstarch
1/4 cup cold water
2 tart apples, peeled and cut into thin slices

Combine 1 cup apple juice, 2 tsp. rum and salt and pepper to taste in a bowl. Pour this marinade over turkey in a shallow dish, cover and marinate 2 hours in refrigerator. Prepare the grill or turn on broiler. Grill turkey fillets for about 5 minutes per side or until cooked throughout.

Combine remaining apple juice and rum in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir in honey and bring to a boil. Stir cornstarch into cold water and add to boiling liquid, stirring constantly until well blended. Add the apples and cook 2 minutes. Drizzle apple rum sauce over each turkey fillet. Garnish with fresh apple wedges if desired. Serves 8.

APPLE ICED TEA

4 tea bags
4 cups boiling water
2 cups apple juice
1 tablespoon lemon juice
Sugar (optional or to taste)

[Cont'd. on page 51]

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Apples, apples everywhere

[Cont'd. from page 50]

Seep tea bags in boiling water for five to ten minutes. Discard tea bags and add all other ingredients. Chill. Serve in a pitcher and over ice. Serves 8 to 10

CARROT AND APPLE TZIMMES

4 cups carrots, grated
1 tablespoon fine barley
¼ cup apples, grated
1 stick margarine
½ cup water
½ tsp. salt
2 tsp. sugar
¼ tsp. nutmeg

Combine all the ingredients in a saucepan and mix well. Cover and cook over low heat for 2 hours, or until the barley is soft. Watch carefully while cooking and add more water if necessary. Stir occasionally if necessary. Serves 8

APPLE HARVEST RICE

1 cup thinly sliced carrots
2 tbsp. reduced fat margarine
1¼ cups water
¼ cup apple juice
2 tbsp. lemon juice
2 tbsp. brown sugar
1 tsp. salt
1 cup uncooked rice
½ tsp. ground cinnamon
½ cup raisins
½ cup sliced green onions
2 cups cored, sliced, unpeeled apples
1 tbsp. toasted sesame seeds

In a saucepan cook the carrots in the margarine until tender-crisp, about 5 minutes. Stir constantly so they don't stick. Add the water, apple juice, lemon juice, brown sugar, salt, rice, cinnamon and raisins. Bring to a boil. Then reduce heat, cover and simmer until the rice is tender and liquid is absorbed, about 15 minutes. Gently stir in green onions and apples, heat thoroughly. Turn into a serving dish and top with sesame seeds. Serves 6 to 8.

TAFFY APPLE SALAD

2 cups kosher miniature marshmallows
1 large can pineapple chunks, reserve juice
1½ tsp. white vinegar
½ cup sugar
2 tbsp. flour
1 egg, lightly beaten
2 cups Granny Smith apples, diced
2 cups Red Delicious apples, diced
½ cup salted peanuts (no skins)
8 oz pareve whipped topping

In a small bowl mix together the marshmallows and drained pineapple. The pineapple may be cut into smaller pieces if you wish. Save pineapple juice. Mix juice, sugar, vinegar and flour and lightly beaten egg. Microwave 6 to 8 minutes; stir halfway through cooking time and continue cooking until thick. Refrigerate and cover until next day.

*Alternative Cooking Method: Combine flour with sugar and then stir in juice. Cook on the stove until thick. Stir constantly.

An hour before serving combine apples, peanuts, marshmallows, pineapple, and juice mixture and stir well. Chill. Fold in whipped topping just before serving.

Note: I usually add an extra cup of marshmallows and more diced apples. Try the salad once as it is and then adjust to your taste.

Place a lettuce leaf on salad plate and spoon salad on top.

APPLE CAKE

Utilizing apples and honey, this easy-to-make cake is moist and delicious on its own, but the frosting turns it into a lavish holiday dessert. The cake and frosting can be made with non-dairy margarine for meatless meals.

2¼ lb. sweet apples, peeled, halved, cored and finely diced
1¼ cups sugar
1 cup plus 2 tbsp. (2¼ sticks) unsalted, non-dairy margarine or butter, softened
¼ cup honey
3 large eggs
3 cups all-purpose flour
2½ tsp. baking powder
2 tsp. finely grated orange rind
1 cup walnuts, coarsely chopped

PUTTING THE SPECIES TOGETHER
This young man is assembling the four species that he has just bought in Tel Aviv in 1951.

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Roast Brisket of Beef,
Lockshen Pudding,
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FOOD IDEAS FOR ROSH HASHANAH

Kosher cooking is anything but boring

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Many people still have the idea that kosher cooking is too bland, too rich, too old-fashioned and too unimaginative.

Ethel Hofman, a well-known food writer, proves in her book, *Everyday Cooking for the Jewish Home*, that this attitude is unjustified (HarperCollins, 1997). Roasted vegetables, a liberal use of herbs and spices, low fat recipes, and extensive use of today's popular grilling and broiling cooking techniques, coupled with a selection of foods from all over the world, are sure to appeal to the palate.

Jalapeno peppers, arugula and fresh mint are only a few of the interesting ingredients. And who could object to chicken roasted with pomegranate, minted peach soup, papaya with lemon cream and coconut, or halibut with rhubarb sauce?

That is not to say that traditional Jewish cooking has no place in this book. Hofman includes such familiar staples as chicken fricasee, herring, fruit compote livened up with dried cherries, kiwi fruit and amaretto liquor, and kasha and bow ties. There is even a recipe for grieben, "assuming of course you're not worried about cholesterol," Hofman allows.

There is one of the best Passover recipe sections I have seen in a long time, with such interesting selections as charoset made with apricots and cherries, peach mocha torte, and spinach-tomato matzah strata.

Instructions are easy to follow, and this is one book with a really helpful index.

SWEET CARROT AND DATE DOME

This is a Persian dish traditionally served at Rosh Hashanah.

½ cup long-grain white rice
2 tbsp. walnut oil
4 cups carrot coins
1 tsp. salt
½ cup chopped pitted dates
2 tbsp. thawed frozen orange juice concentrate
½ tsp. kosher turmeric
¼ cup chopped fresh mint

In a large saucepan, cook rice in walnut oil over medium-high heat, stirring, for 2 minutes. Add carrot coins, salt and 1½ cups water. Bring to a boil, cover, reduce heat to low, and cook 20 minutes, or until rice is tender and water is absorbed.

Stir in dates, orange juice and turmeric. Turn out onto a warm platter and shape into a dome. Serve at once, garnished with fresh mint. Serves 4.

APPLE AND ALMOND KUGEL

1½ cups chopped dried pears
½ cup dried cranberries
¼ cup kosher brandy
2 Granny Smith apples, cored and chopped
1 21-oz. can kosher apple pie filling
1 lb. small pasta shells (orecchiette), cooked and drained
3 eggs, beaten
1 tbsp. grated orange zest
2 tsp. cinnamon
⅓ cup packed brown sugar
⅓ cup ground almonds

Preheat oven to 350. Coat a large baking dish with nonstick cooking spray.

Place dried pears and cranberries in a small bowl. Pour brandy over fruit. Stir and cover tightly with plastic wrap. Set aside for 30 minutes.

In a separate bowl, mix apples, apple pie filling, pasta, eggs, orange zest, and cinnamon. Stir in dried fruit and brandy mixture.

Transfer to prepared baking dish. Mix brown sugar and ground almonds. Sprinkle over top of kugel.

Bake in preheated oven for 1 hr., or until golden brown and set in centre. Serve hot or at room temperature. Serves 10 to 12.

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Yemenite women perform a traditional dance in the sukkah at Neot Kedumim in September 1994. [Zvika Yisraeli photo]

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Vol. 1, No. 5 • September 10, 1998

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I answer ALL my mail, and if I use your letter in "Pickle Corner", I'll send you one of my "Pickle Guy" T-shirts and Hats. Thanks, and talk to you next month. Have a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Shana Tova Tikatevu v'Techatemu
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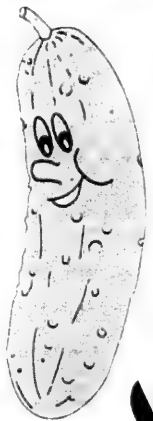

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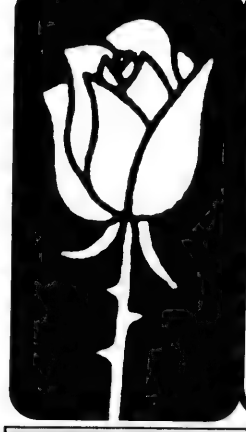

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FOOD IDEAS FOR ROSH HASHANAH

Variety of wines available

By SHARON KANON
WZPS

At Rosh Hashanah, Jews throughout the world will fill their cups with sweet red wine to make the traditional blessing for kiddush, to thank God for the fruit of the grapevine, to sanctify the day, and to give thanks for having endured another year.

If your tastes are more cosmopolitan, however, you might want to make a toast to the New Year with a soft berry fruit-flavored Yarden Cabernet Sauvignon (a prize-winning wine from the Golan Winery), or the Carmel Shomron Petite Sirah, awarded a bronze medal and best buy designation at the 1998 World Wine Championships. These are only some of the superior selection of award-winning wines produced by Israeli wineries today.

Israel has 17 wineries and three more are expected to begin production within a year. As the demand for wine increases in Israel and the rest of the world, local wine makers are taking steps to reclaim their centuries-old reputation as quality vintners. Increased demand for red wine has created a challenge for Israeli wine makers.

"There is a tremendous rebirth of the wine industry in Israel," says wine-maker Louis Pasco. The former Californian earned a master's degree in food science and technology at UC Davis and worked in the Napa Valley wine industry for seven years before moving to Israel in 1996. He has now found his niche at the Tishbi Estate Winery (Baron Wine Cellars) in Binyamina, near Zichron Ya'acov.

Typical of an "estate" winery, the Tishbi family cultivates its own grape vines and makes the wine. Initially, Tishbi was the first in a new wave of boutique wineries, but it now produces over half a million bottles a year.

The Mediterranean climate is suitable for growing grapes. In fact, viticulture was an economic mainstay in biblical times, and vineyards were planted throughout the land of Israel with adjoining wine presses.

"Israel was one of the birthplaces of wine-making, and wine is part of the Jewish culture," says Pasco.

Vineyards are used as symbols of positive qualities in biblical texts. In Genesis (49:11) for example, a glimpse of the Messianic era envisions Judah's vineyards, lush and flowing with wine.

Attesting to 5,000-year-old biblical know-how is the story of Noah. Unfortunately, the man who saved all the species of the earth guzzled wine from the vineyards he planted, became intoxicated and took off his clothes. His humiliation and curse reverberated throughout history.

During talmudic times, wine was a popular drink. The Talmud refers to more than eight Hebrew words for wine, to denote its age and mix with other ingredients. Among them are caper wine, raisin wine, wine mixed with honey and pepper, spiced, and smoked wine.

The sages not only appreciated "old wine," they also recognized its positive effect on good health. The story is told of a rabbi who was cured of a severe bowel disorder by drinking 70-year-old apple wine.

In Babylonia, the Jews were also vintners, and retained their reputation throughout Europe, even during the Middle Ages. Drinking wine instead of water was a common custom to avoid the bubonic plague.

The Jews of Spain were active in the wine trade, even after the expulsion. Copious wine drinking by the upper Jewish social strata is frequently mentioned in Jewish poetry from Spain.

Baron Edmund de Rothschild was the driving force behind the revival of viticulture in Palestine in the late 19th century.

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Pure fruit juices add zest

When the High Holy Days come, we realize that summer is over and fall is near. One way to keep the mellow warmth of the season in your bones, is to use pure fruit juices.

Ceres Fruit Juices, a company whose products are made from South African fruits, sent along these recipes as a Shanah Tovah gift.

DRIED FRUITY DESSERT

2¼ cups mixed dried fruit
4¼ cups papaya or medley of fruit juice
1 orange
1 lemon

Place dried fruit into dish. Pour juice to cover. Add very thin strips of orange and lemon peel.

Pour mixture into pot, and bring to a boil. Boil for 10 minutes. Remove from heat and let stand. Refrigerate.

Serve with fresh cream, yogurt or ice cream.

MANGO SORBET

⅓ cup sugar
¼ cup water
2 cups mango juice
1½ oz. lemon juice
½ grated lemon rind
2 egg whites

Dissolve sugar in water, and bring to a boil for two minutes. Leave to cool.

Place in a blender or food processor mango juice, lemon juice, and lemon rind. Blend.

Freeze until mushy and frozen around the edges (about ¼ inch). Remove from freezer and blend again.

Beat egg whites until stiff and fold into blended mixture. For a smooth texture, freeze again until mushy and frozen around the edges, and then blend again.

Freeze until solid. Serve in scoops with fresh strawberries or a fruit of your choice.

* * *

TURKEY A LA CERES

1 10-lb. turkey, whole or in pieces
1 or 2 onions, in slices

Glaze
3 tbsp. Dijon mustard
3 tbsp. brown sugar
3 tbsp. paprika
3 tbsp. olive oil
½ tsp. pepper
1 container medley of fruit juice

Place onions in shallow roasting pan. Mix mustard, brown sugar, paprika and olive oil into a paste. Apply paste to turkey. Pour juice over turkey. Sprinkle with pepper.

Cover with lid. Bake 20 minutes per pound until done, basting continuously. For the last 20 minutes remove cover.

THE ESTHETIC INTEGRITY OF THE FOUR SPECIES
The person in this photo from 1959 holds the four species in the way they were intended to be held.

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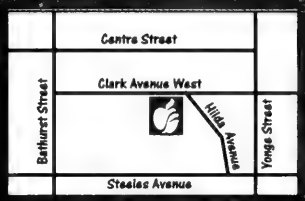

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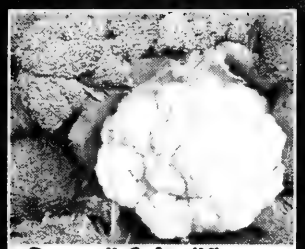

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FOOD IDEAS FOR ROSH HASHANAH

Za'atar an integral element in Israeli cuisine

By DANIELLA ASHKENAZY
Special to The CJN

An Israeli product called *za'atar* is an aromatic condiment made from hyssop, a herb known since biblical times.

Hyssop is a basic food among local Arabs. It is eaten on freshly baked pita bread, dipped in olive oil or even chewed by the handful by some. The herb, which is reminiscent of marjoram, is prized for its flavor and aroma. But it has also been credited with a number of medicinal characteristics: for example, it has a reputation as a cure for stomach aches.

Most *za'atar* is consumed as a condiment made by grinding hyssop leaves to produce an aromatic, coarse, brownish green powder, which is then blended with olive oil, toasted sesame seeds, sumac, chickpeas and wheat.

The hyssop plant is native to the hill regions of Israel and parts of Lebanon and southern Syria, and can also be found in small quantities in the arid hill regions of Jordan.

According to Dr. A.E. Putievsky, an expert in herbs at the Volcani Agricultural Institute, the herb was not harvested only for home consumption, but was also exported to the rest of the Middle East and North Africa. The export potential, dwindling supplies, fear of fines, and rising standards of living which allowed consumers to buy ready-made *za'atar* instead of gathering the leaves and preparing the mix at home, all contributed to commercial production of *za'atar* in Israel.

Putievsky spent eight years screening varieties of *za'atar* for high yield and strong aroma and streamlining labor-heavy harvesting procedures.

In the early '90s, when commercial growing began, the manufacturing and packaging of the herb was done in a small corrugated shed in a moshav in the Galilee. The business catered primarily to local Arabs at the time, but it has since grown into a full-scale business that includes a large Jewish clientele.

For Israeli Jews, *za'atar* used to be an exotic treat associated with visits to Arab bakeries. Today, commercial production has made it an integral element in Israeli cuisine. *Za'atar* is not only eaten with bread, it is also used to season meat, as a topping on spreads, and sprinkled on salads. Distinctive 100-gram pyramid-shaped containers, which retail at about $1.30 each, can be found on spice racks in any supermarket.

Israeli *za'atar* is also being taken home by residents of Arab countries who visit Israel. For years, all *za'atar* was confiscated by customs officials at the border when visitors left, under the assumption it was contraband, gathered illegally in the wild. Once commercial production began, however, rules were changed to allow tourists to take home commercially produced *za'atar*.

Today, fresh *za'atar*, once harvested only in the spring, is grown the year round in the Galilee, under drip irrigation. Even the back-breaking job of picking the leaves has been eliminated, as they are now harvested with a combine. The leaves are then dried in special ovens, and some are mixed with other ingredients to produce the condiment.

According to Nativ Dudai, a colleague of Putievsky, there are indications that *za'atar* is also being grown commercially in the areas under Palestinian self-government.

Putievsky believes the economic potential for export of *za'atar* is excellent. It is already exported to western countries such as Canada, England and the United States, which have large Arab communities. Jordan also constitutes a natural market for export, just over the border.

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Tantalizing tomato treats

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Just in case you have a few too many tomatoes on the vine or in the kitchen, I want to pass along my favorite tip to make sure your tomatoes keep the best flavor possible.

Do not refrigerate tomatoes! They will retain their flavor and ripen best at room temperature. Furthermore, once they are ripe, they need to be used within three days.

I also came across this little bit of tomato trivia while checking out the recipes, and while it is perfectly useless, it is a lot of fun and you can use it to amuse and amaze your family and friends. Did you know that in 1893, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the tomato must be considered a vegetable, even though botanically it is a fruit.

That was because then, as today, vegetables and fruits were subject to different import duties, and it was necessary to define it as one or the other. So, since it would be easier to get tomatoes into the country as a vegetable, the tomato was declared to be a vegetable (given that it was commonly eaten as one and nobody protested).

FRESH TOMATO AND CAULIFLOWER SCALLOP

1 large head cauliflower
1 tbsp. butter
½ cup chopped celery
¼ cup chopped onion
¼ chopped green pepper
¾ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. black pepper
¼ cup flour
2 cups milk
1¼ cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
2 fresh tomatoes, sliced
½ cup bread crumbs

Preheat oven to 400. Spray deep 2-quart casserole with vegetable oil spray and set aside. Break the cauliflower into florets. Cook florets in medium saucepan, in 1 inch of water, covered for 5 minutes. Drain them and set them aside to cool.

In small saucepan, melt butter. Add celery, onion and green pepper, and saute until tender. Whisk in salt, pepper and flour (mixture will be crumbly). Slowly whisk in milk and cook, stirring, until thickened. Stir in cheese until melted; remove from heat.

Arrange half of cauliflower in prepared casserole. Cover with tomato slices. Top with remaining cauliflower. Pour cheese sauce over vegetables. Sprinkle top with bread-crumbs and spray lightly with vegetables oil spray. Bake at 400 for 25 minutes or until bubbly and hot. Serves 4.

WARM CHICKEN SALAD WITH TOMATO VINAIGRETTE

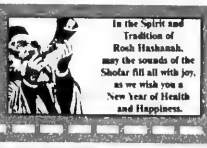
¼ cup oil-and-vinegar salad dressing
4 skinless, boneless chicken thighs or breast halves (1 to 1½ lbs.)
1½ cups diced plum tomatoes
1 large red onion, sliced ¼-inch thick (do not separate rings)
1 bag (10 oz.) mixed salad greens
½ English cucumber, cut in half lengthwise and thinly sliced

Pour ⅓ cup dressing over chicken; marinate 15 minutes. Pour remaining dressing over tomatoes and set aside. Preheat grill pan, broiler, or outdoor grill. Spray onion slices with vegetable cooking spray. Cook until tender, 8 to 10 minutes, turning once during cooking. Transfer to platter. Cook chicken 5 to 7 minutes per side or until cooked through.

To serve: Toss salad greens and cucumber slices and arrange on dinner plates. Slice chicken and arrange with onion slices over greens; top with tomato vinaigrette. Serves 4.

BRINGING FLOWERS TO MARKET
This young entrepreneur sells flowers for Rosh Hashanah, 1952.
[Fritz Cohen photo]

food Basics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Professional chefs make some offering for holidays

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

The Jewish National Fund staffer who thought up the idea for *The Great Chefs of America Cook Kosher* should have received a major pat on the back.

This spiral-bound cookbook offers recipes from well-known chefs, and popular eating establishments, adapted to kosher requirements. Each recipe has an indication as to whether it is pareve, dairy or meat, and a short biography of the chef. The designations are repeated in the index, a very helpful feature.

While some of the recipes are complicated, the instructions are straightfoward, and many ingredients are readily available.

And the urge to say nonchalantly that the meal is prepared a la Alice Aters of Chez Panisse in Berkeley California, or Wolfgang Puck of Spago, will be hard to resist.

DOVER SOLE POACHED IN VERMOUTH

From Chef Georges Perrier of Le Bec-Fin

2 tsp. butter for greasing
2 shallots, chopped
1/2 cup dry kosher vermouth
3 tbsp. butter
1 tsp. chopped chives
parchment paper
1 12-to-14-oz. Dover sole fillet, skinned
6 tbsp. kosher white wine
6 tbsp. fish stock
1 tsp. chopped parsley
salt and pepper

Preheat oven to 325.

Butter a shallow oven-proof baking dish and sprinkle the bottom with the shallots.

Season the sole with salt and pepper and place on top of the shallots. Add white wine, vermouth and fish stock and bring to a simmer on top of the stove.

When the liquid begins to simmer, cover the fish with buttered parchment paper, place the baking dish in the oven and bake for 10 to 15 minutes. Remove from the oven and transfer the sole to a heated platter and keep warm.

Reduce the liquid in the baking dish by half, whip in the 3 tbsp. butter, strain and blend with the chopped herbs. Drizzle the sauce lightly over the sole and serve. Serves 4.

JICAMA, MANGO AND WATERCRESS SALAD WITH PAN-ROASTED CUMIN

From Chef Allen Susser, of Chef Allen's

1 tbsp. cumin seeds
1 medium jicama, cut into julienne strips
2 tbsp. lime juice
1/2 tsp. salt
1 large mango, cut into julienne strips
1 bunch watercress, washed and dried
5 tbsp. peanut oil
1/2 tsp. pepper

Pan-roast the cumin seeds in a hot, dry saute pan for 3 minutes, browning them well.

Combine the mango, jicama and watercress in a stainless steel bowl. Add the toasted cumin seeds. Toss with the lime juice and peanut oil. Season with salt and pepper and serve. Serves 6.

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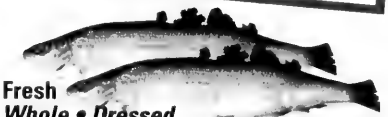

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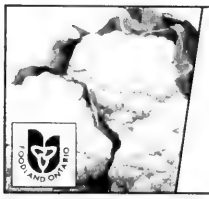

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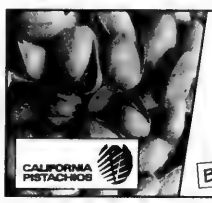

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Former Toronto director makes himself at home

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A Canadian who made aliyah 14 years ago is bringing his theatre company home from Israel.

The Nephesh Theatre's production of a romantic comedy, *Make Yourself at Home*, directed by Howard Rypp, is playing at Leah Posluns Theatre Sept. 17.

Before that, the comedy about an Israeli soldier who becomes accidentally involved with a Russian immigrant, plays for six performances in Winnipeg, starting Sept. 9 and in Sault Ste Marie, Sept. 14.

Though it has some Hebrew and Russian in it, *Make Yourself at Home* is played in English by its two Israeli actors, Eliran Caspi and Vicky Bahr.

"No one will have diffficulty in understanding the Hebrew and Russian," said Rypp, who is excited about bringing the Nephesh Theatre into the Leah Posluns Theatre for the first time.

"It is a comedy in the true sense but it has a serious underlying message about Israeli-Diaspora relations since the Israeli soldier, through the recent arrival from Russia, ends up learning things about his country he never appreciated before."

Make Yourself at Home has played for nine years in Hebrew all over Israel, and last year attracted 100,000 to its first performances in English in Israel. Its writer, Yitzchak Meshel, made aliyah from the United States many years ago.

Winnipeg-born Rypp, 43, lived in Toronto for 10 years where he founded Nephesh Theatre with lawyer Gordon Wiseman who writes under the pen name of Gabriel Emanuel. The latter's plays include *Einstein* and *The Night Children*.

Rypp is married to Beatrice, a Uruguyan-born Israeli, and they have three children. His wife is a playwright and actress who has appeared in Nephesh Theatre productions in Israel and written two of their plays.

Nephesh, headquartered in Tel Aviv, employs 38 actors, and in 14 years has mounted 14 different productions, running in repertory. They range over a wide variety of subjects but all, according to Rypp, have an underlying social message.

"Theatre in Israel today is alive and vibrant and Israelis are flocking to see good theatre," he said. "The only thing that would bring me back to Toronto, even temporarily, would be a chance to direct a truly, professional Jewish theatre."

Irving Berlin doc airs on Bravo!

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Irving Berlin has no place in American music. He *is* American music. That he defies simple categorization is a measure of his immense and unparallelled contributions to American culture.

The man and his music are showcased in a documentary *The Life and Times of Irving Berlin* on the Bravo! arts channel on Sept. 15 at 8 p.m.

This understated British film takes us from his birthplace in Russia in 1888 to his death in New York City in 1989 at the ripe old age of 101.

The son of a cantor, Berlin might never have left Russia had it not been for a pogrom that forced his family to flee.

Raised on the Lower East Side, Berlin gravitated toward show business, and worked as a singing waiter in a saloon.

Responding to the mood of the times, he wrote his first hit song, *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, when he was just past 20.

It was the first of a series of sensationally appealing songs, from *Cheek to Cheek* to *White Christmas*, which solidified his reputation as a peerless craftsman.

The film, which is graced by the presence of pianist/singer Michael Feinstein, claims that *God Bless America*, Berlin's alternative national anthem, languished in his drawer for 20 years before he finally released it.

Berlin, we learn, was an astute businessman who published his own music and owned the rights to all his material. He was also the proprietor of the Music Box, a Broadway theatre where many of his songs opened. He was, therefore, wealthy beyond his dreams.

Apart from writing for the stage, Berlin produced a medley of songs for popular movies, beginning with *The Jazz Singer*, the first talkie.

As he aged, he improved. For *Annie Get Your Gun*, a Broadway musical of the late 1940s, he wrote an unprecedented number of 10 hits.

Although he was a real trouper, occasionally appearing in productions in which his melodies figured prominently, Berlin was essentially a loner. And as time went on, he became a recluse, his daughter explains. She is one of several people who appear on screen to fill in some of the blanks about his personality and methods.

Though it is somewhat interesting, *The Life and Times of Irving Berlin* is only skin deep. Berlin, the person, remains an enigma, a cipher who never really comes alive.

We're told that he had a "giant ego," but no details are forthcoming. We know that his second marriage to a Christian evoked opposition in her family, but the matter is left hanging. We know that he was a consummate song writer, but we're given precious little information about anything else.

In short, the definitive cinematic biography about Irving Berlin has yet to be made. This one, certainly, doesn't deliver all the goods.

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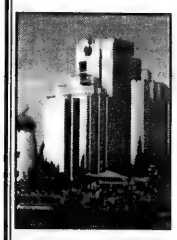
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT

DreamWorks' first full-length animated feature *The Prince of Egypt* is a retelling of the Moses saga, focusing on the two boys who grew up in Pharoah's court believing they were brothers.

The film features the voices of **Val Kilmer** and **Ralph Fiennes** as Moses and Rameses, "brothers" who are "torn apart by a secret revealed." The film also uses the vocal talents of **Sandra Bullock**, **Danny Glover**, **Jeff Goldblum**, **Steve Martin**, **Helen Mirren**, **Michelle Pfeiffer**, **Martin Short** and **Patrick Stewart**.

Dreamworks' Disneyesque offering is a musical with six new songs by Academy Award-winning lyricist **Stephen Schwartz** (*Pocahontas*) and a score by Academy Award-winning composer **Hans Zimmer** (*The Lion King*).

Look for three new CDs in record stores in the fall on the *Prince of Egypt* theme by such artists as **Boyz II Men**, **Kirk Franklin** and **Jars of Clay**. The music is a fusion of gospel, urban, r&b and inspirational. *The Prince of Egypt* opens Dec. 18.

* * *

Animated Antz: Speaking of animated films from Dreamworks, Toronto-born **Larry Guterman** was one of three directors to work on the upcoming release *Antz*, which features the voices of **Woody Allen** and a score of other celebs. A cinematic wunderkind only a few years out of film school, Guterman worked on Antz for two years at Dreamworks' Palo Alto studio under the overall direction of former Disney wizard **Jeffrey Katzenberg**.

Guterman is presently directing *Curious George*, a film that combines live action with animation, for Imagine Entertainment in association with Universal Studios. The producers are **Ron Howard** and **Brian Grazell**.

Antz, meanwhile, has been chosen as the closing film for this year's Toronto Film Festival. Guterman is expected to attended the screening at Roy Thomson Hall, Sept. 19, 8 p.m. If you see him, wish him happy birthday. He turns 35 on Sept. 22.

* * *

Cash Grants: The du Maurier Arts Council is inviting Canadian cultural organizations to submit applications for 1999 grants. Deadline for applications is Oct. 31 and notification of grants occurs in March 1999. Write to Ms. Celine Farndon, du Maurier Arts, 855 Irene St., Montreal Que. H4C 2P2.

Of the more than 400 grant applications received last year, the Council distributed $1.85 million to 215 applicant organizations.

* * *

Musical Dates: Acclaimed violinist **Pinchas Zukerman** joins the English Chamber Orchestra as conductor and soloist for an exclusive Canadian appearance at Massey Hall on Oct. 3. The program includes Bach, Neikrug and Beethoven. 872-4255.

Fans of American modernist composer **Philip Glass**, take note: The **Philip Glass Ensemble & Voices** are performing *Monsters of Grace*, a new digital opera in 3D by Glass, April 24 & 25 at Roy Thomson Hall. 872-4255.

* * *

Yiddish Scholar: Paul Glasser, a research associate at New York's YIVO Institute, speaks on The Development of Standard Yiddish, Sept. 12, 8 p.m. at the Workmen's Circle Bldg., 471 Lawrence Ave. W., Toronto. Guests $5.

* * *

Call For Stories: A phenomenon in the literary world, the inspirational and somewhat schmaltzy *Chicken Soup For the Soul* series of books has sold more than 20 million copies. Now founders **Jack Canfield** and **Mark Victory Hansen** are teaming up with **Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins** of The Jewish Center in Princeton, N.J. to compile *Jewish Chicken Soup for the Soul: 101 Stories to Open the Heart and Rekindle the Spirit*.

The editors have the recipe but lack the ingredients, and so are calling upon the public for "Jewish" stories of universal appeal that can uplift the soul and perhaps also teach Jewish values, history and heritage to Jews and non-Jews.

Contributions should be "strong tales with a dramatic flair" up to 1,200 words in length. (See the website [www.DPElkins.com] for further details.) Authors of the 101 best submissions will receive $300 and, Elkins asserts, an important boost to their reputations as published authors once the book appears. "A percentage of profits from this book will go toward an important cause in Jewish education," Elkins says.

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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*

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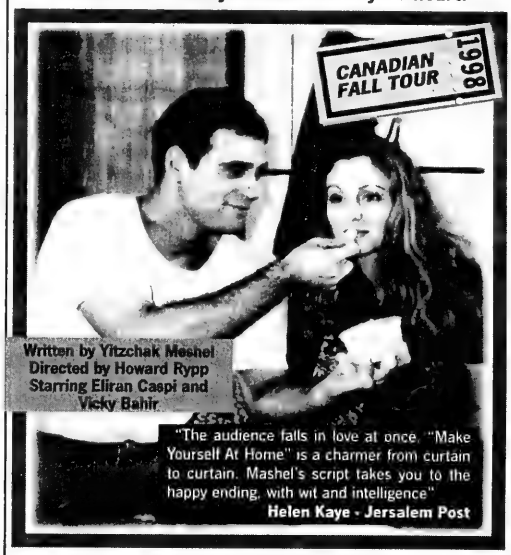

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Travel, Arts & Business

Vermont bicycle tour well worth the long drive

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

SHELBURNE, VT. — Is it worth driving 1,356 kilometres for a cycling trip through the verdant hills and dales of Vermont?

If you've never cycled here, the answer may seem quite obvious. Why bother? But if you've enjoyed the simple, unadorned pleasures of a Vermont bicycle holiday, as I just have, the answer is clear. The drive from Toronto and back again is a relatively small price to pay for what awaits you in Vermont, surely one of the most unspoiled states in the United States.

Last month, I joined Bike Vermont's four-day Shelburne/Lake Champlain tour, its newest inn-to-inn trip. Over the next few days, I averaged about 55 kilometres a day, just enough to work up a satisfying sweat.

The pastoral countryside, framed by the silhouette of two ancient mountain ranges, was exquisite. I rode past deep forests bordered by a profusion of wildflowers, cornfields, apple orchards, ponds glinting in the sunlight, tidy farms dominated by silver silos, cows, horses and bison grazing contentedly, and rustic villages seemingly untouched by the ravages of time.

From beginning to end, the pace was leisurely. This was not a race but an idyll. Riding a multi-geared Trek touring bike, I often pulled over to admire achingly beautiful vistas, breathe in the fragrance of newly mown grass, clamber upon haystacks and watch bathers frolicking in the cool waters of Lake Champlain.

The bucolic charms of a cycling holiday in Vermont. [Sheldon Kirshner photo]

The tour, led by Claudette Bourque and Mark Young, both of whom are seasoned cyclists, attracted 11 riders ranging in age from their 20s to their 50s.

Apart from myself, they were all Americans, hailing from as close as Concord, Massachusetts and from as far afield as Ann Arbor, Mich. and Charlottesville, Va. Well-educated professionals, they were a friendly and accommodating lot.

The tour began at the Heart of the Village Inn in Shelburne, a quaint Queen Anne Victorian residence listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The innkeepers are Bobbe Maynes and Pam Pierce, who happens to be the sister-in-law of *Frasier's* David Hyde-Pierce.

After a hearty breakfast, I set off, a schematic map and typed directions in hand. Within an hour, the majestic Adirondacks came into view. Along with Katie Kellett, a lawyer-turned grant writer, I boarded the ferry on Lake Champlain for Essex, N.Y. The ride over was refreshing.

A sleepy burg whose commercial importance peaked more than a century ago, Essex contains an appealing ensemble of pre-Civil War buildings, and is dotted with a host of antique shops and art galleries.

Leaving Essex, I cycled to Charlotte, where I bought a sandwich and a drink for a planned picnic. Coasting blissfully down a hill, I crossed a covered bridge, one of the few left in Vermont, and found myself in a well-tended park overlooking Lake Champlain. After an enjoyable lunch, I returned to Shelburne for the night, dozing off with an issue of *Vermont Life*.

On the following day, I cycled with Lisa Hillson, a mortgage broker. The route was strikingly scenic, taking us into the village of Monkton, near Chester Arthur's birthplace. In case you didn't know, Arthur was the 21st president of the United States, one of the most obscure figures ever to sit in the White House.

From Monkton, we climbed, sometimes laboriously, a series of steep hills to the village of Monkton Ridge, lying in the shadow of the Green Mountains.

We eventually reached our lodging, the stylish Strong House Inn in Vergennes, whose proprietors, Mary and Hugh Bargiel, were recently named Vermont's innkeepers of the year.

Like the Heart of the Village Inn, Strong House Inn is a sedate refuge of hospitality. Using it as a base, I visited Button Bay, a magical spot filled with sail boats and cottages.

Fortunately for all of us, the weather always cooperated. While much of Vermont was drenched by record-breaking rain, we were treated to dry and invariably sunny days. They were perfect for exploring Middlebury, a charming town on the banks of Otter Creek, Vermont's longest river.

Middlebury, the epitome of a serene American town as Norman Rockwell might have imagined it, is justly famous for its arts and crafts shops in the Frog Hollow district.

Walk a few blocks north and you find yourself on the sylvan campus of Middlebury College, a first-rate

[Cont'd. on page 64]

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Travel, Arts & Business

Disabled Montreal artist soars without limit

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Although she is confined to a wheelchair, the spirit of Nechama Werner soars without limit beyond her ground floor Montreal duplex as she sits at her easel.

She was born in 1947 in Budapest and raised in Montreal. At the age of 36, Werner was hit by a massive stroke which left the mother of two totally paralyzed, unable even to swallow. She fought back and from her wheelchair, with a paralyzed left arm and limited use of her right hand, has become in the truest sense, an artist.

That she turned to painting is in itself remarkable. An Orthodox background did not expose her to art but something inside demanded that kind of release. At first, using acrylics and a palette knife, she tackled only one subject, Jerusalem's Western Wall. Over and over the ancient stones came to life on canvas — small, large, horizontal, vertical.

Nechama Werner moved on to semi-abstract works.

And this Wall which could be trite because it is so often reproduced, was somehow new each time — not a barrier but a hope, the tufts of green breaking through the fissures, suggesting eternal spring.

Eventually Werner moved on to semi-abstract works.

A seascape, peaceful pastel clouds high above turbulent waters in deeper tones, invokes respite rising from turmoil.

A strong autumn scene, all golds and greens and warm browns touched with burnt orange, is just waiting for someone to amble through.

From inside her home, Werner has also visualized and put on canvas, a garden, not an enclosed city strip but a wide expanse, bright with bloom.

She reaches past a circumscribed world, producing paintings of merit and depth.

Werner comes to Toronto for a Wine and Cheese Art Opening on Sept. 13 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Early Canadian Furniture, 1599 Bayview Ave. (east side, two and a half blocks south of Eglinton). The exhibition, featuring a comprehensive collection of her paintings, continues through Sept. 20. For exhibition hours contact Early Canadian Furniture.

Sponsored by Early Canadian Furniture (owner Vim Kochhar) and the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons, the show will be brought to Toronto by a friend of Werner, Inuit art dealer Miriam Berke.

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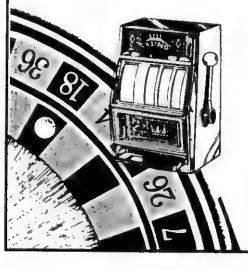
							DEPARTURE
MORNING							
1	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					9:45AM	5:00PM
2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)					10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)		10:15AM		Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)	10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq.Ctr. (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
AFTERNOON							
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)					2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)		2:15PM		Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
MIDNIGHT							
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					10:30PM	5:00AM

Passengers must be 19 or above. Schedule subject to change without prior notice.
Arrangements can be made for Departure from Casino



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Touring Ecuador and Galapagos

By GERALD SCHWARTZ
Special to The CJN

Native Ecuadorians in Quito. [G. Schwartz photo]

QUITO —Ecuador may be a relatively small country but it boasts a very impressive variety of landscapes and climates.

It is really three countries in one: the Amazon rainforest in the east (El Oriente), the Adean highlands (Sierras) and the tropical Pacific coast.

I arrived here via Houston and Panama City last June. Though El Niño had done some damage on the coast and to the Pan-American highway and rail line Riobamba-Guayoquil, the main tourist sites were quite accessible.

Quito, the second-highest capital city in the world (after La Paz, Bolivia) sits at an altitude of some 3,000 metres between peaks of the Andes, some capped with snow year-round.

Quito's old city was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1978 and offers imposing colonial architecture and squares as well as great photo ops and people-watching.

Quito is a surprisingly cosmopolitan city with many European cafes and restaurants and yes, two bagel companies. The Museo del Banco opposite the U.S. Embassy is a beautiful three-level museum depicting the art and people of Ecuador in its pre-historic, colonial and modern eras with bilingual explanations (English-Spanish). The cathedrals of Quito are reminiscent of those in Spain.

Just north of Quito by public bus is *El Mitad del Mundo* — also known as the Equator at exactly 0 degrees latitude. You can take an elevator to a tower-lookout and walk down to ground level in an Ethnographic Museum showing the various regional and provincial (Ecuador has 23 provinces) groups and tribes in the country.

An additional few hours on the Pan-American highway and you reach the town of Otavalo with its hectic weekly market close by the Lago San Pablo and its typical lakeside villages.

The Galapagos Islands, some 1,000 kilometres west (2 hours by jet via Guayaquil on the Pacific) are for the serious naturalist and can be very expensive. Its attractions include the legendary tortoises, marine iguana, sea-lions and albatrosses.

As my 'exotic' adventure, I booked a four day trip to a jungle lodge in north-eastern Napo Province. Eleven of us flew over the Andes and jungle in a small Fairchild prop-plane and after a smooth 50-minute flight with great views landed at the village of Coca on the Napo River.

From there, a five-hour boat ride brought us to the Yuturi Lodge on a small tributary of the Napo which is in turn a tributary of the Amazon itself. The lodge and the setting were out of a movie set: thatched huts with hammocks on the porch, mosquito netting over the bed and wooden 'sidewalks' connecting the huts and dining room. A generator provided power for water and electricity at peak demand times.

For two days we took nature rides on the rivers and hikes in the *selva* (rainforest) on muddy paths, observing exotic flora and insects including the fascinating marching "Leaf-Cutter Ants of the Amazon." We visited the Isla de Los Monas (Monkey Island) with a rare species of this animal and a local shaman (healer) in his hut.

The people of Ecuador whom I met — urban and rural — were very kind, gentle and interested in other countries. I was invited to a weaver's home in the small village of Salasaca to observe indigenous ways and culture and attended an unforgettable summer-solstice ceremony in the local cemetery in the late afternoon.

Ecuador is a worthwhile and interesting destination and not too difficult to tour alone with patience and flexibility. Knowledge of basic Spanish is definitely helpful outside of Quito, as is a moderate degree of fitness. The best season is June to October.

There is a Consulate-General at 151 Bloor Street West, suite 410, Toronto (968-2077) and at least four different guide books solely devoted to Ecuador and the Galapagos. Or check this website.[www.ecuador.org/ecuador].

Vermont worth the drive

[Cont'd. from page 62]

school renowned for its foreign languages courses.

Before I left Middlebury, I dropped into the local Ben & Jerry's ice cream parlor. Ben & Jerry's, a Vermont institution founded by two New York City boys, never disappoints and a tourist should savor its creamy treats.

That afternoon, I cycled to Kingsland Bay, a bucolic recreational area near Otter Creek.

On my last morning in Vermont, just prior to driving home to Toronto, I decided to cycle back to the starting point.

The one-and-a-half hour ride from Vergennes to Shelburne was relaxing. The day was splendid and the sights, as usual, were grand.

Could I have asked for more? I doubt it.

Bike Vermont offers inn-to-inn cycling trips lasting from two to six days between May and October. Bikes can be rented. For further information, call 800-257-2226, or write to Post Office Box 207, Woodstock, Vermont 05091.

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BATHURST-CLARK – 1ST AD! CLOSE TO SCHOOLS
4 bdrms., parquet flrs. throughout! Largest lot in subdivision. *Carey Rosenzweig

BATHURST-CLARK – 3 BEDROOM BEAUTY!
Detached with finished basement, new kitchen, new hardwood floors, new appliances, close to schools & shops. *Sarah Tamin

BATHURST-ANTIBES TOWNHOME $234,000!
Absolutely stunning 3 bdrm., totally renovated! Just move in! *Sarah Tamin

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-CLARK "7 TOWNSGATE" - $249,900!
Largest unit in bldg., 2 bdrms., appls., split bdrm layout! *Ted Waxman

STEELES & YONGE $172,000
3 bdrms., 2 parking spaces, balc.. Shows well! *Ted Waxman
2 bdrm., eat-in kit., 2 car pkg., large balc., appls., air, shows great! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-NEPTUNE – $140,000 - SHOWS GREAT!
2 bdr., hdwd thruout, air, appls., eat-in kitchen, bal. *Ted Waxman

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

BATHURST/WILSON/AVENUE RD.
Luxury 3000 SF 4 bdrm. Now being completed! Maple kit., bright, fin. bsmt., iron rails & more. Walk to synagogues & shopping. "Stunning" $689,000.
NATALIE HACKER
Sales Representative
Re/Max Realtron Rlty. Inc.
(905) 764-6000

BATHURST-CHABAD GATE
Reduced to $249,999. 3 bedroom detached, family room, fireplace, bsmt. with hot tub, jacuzzi, 4 baths, great condition! Look! Buy!
SALLY ROSEN, Sale Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor

(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

List with us and appear on our Website: www.foresthill.ca

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

JUST REDUCED! 476 SPADINA RD.
Lower Forest Hill Village, 6 bdrms., 4 baths, 56'x130' lot. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD! 30 FOREST WOOD! $449,000!
Wow! Up-dated 3+2 br., 4 bth exec. split level w/mn. fam. + nanny suite! Fab. 50' lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! BATHURST/YORK DOWNS!
$339,900! Spac'us 3+1 br., 3 bth., mn. fam.+lau.+2 pce! nanny suite, 50'x110'! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! YONGE/SHEPPARD 50'x300' LOT
$289K! Solid 3 br. bungalow on 50'x 300' lot! Renovate/build new! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

345 HORSHAM AVE! NOW $259,000!
Vendor says Sell! 3+1 br., 2 bth. bungalow on 54'x134' lot. Value + + Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

97 OLD COLONY RD. NEAR BAYVIEW
3+1 bungalow, approx. 10,000 sq. ft. lvng space. J. Gofman*/ A. Branitsky* 488-2875

SIX PLEX BAYVIEW & SHEPPARD AREA
Well kept building - excellent tenants, garages, parking, laundry room and more! Rollie Dash** 226-1987

BEST VALUE – SERIOUS VENDOR – $479K!
Fab. 4 br. exec., quiet st., Bayview/York Mills, Hurry! Rena Bader* 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

REDUCED TO SELL! OLD THORNHILL!
Cul de sac, 4 bdrms., hwd. flrs! Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

130 LISA CRESCENT NEAR BATHURST
3 bdrms., 4 baths, 2 kit., n SOLD agogue. J. Gofman* 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

HEATH ST./SPADINA RD. $436,000
Lge. lux. condo, 2 br., 2 baths, beautiful view, concierge! Won't last! Eleanor London* 226-1987

EXCLUSIVE CONDO ON RAVINE – GORGEOUS
2 bedroom, 2 bath, private elevator. R. Roebuck* 488-2875

RENTALS

SKYMARK CLASSIC
Gorgeous! 1528 sq. ft. + balc., long term lease pref. Tobi Smith* 488-2875

FAB. ROSEDALE RENTAL $2700/MONTH
2 bdrms., 2 baths, 2 car gar. parking. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

I.C. & I. PROPERTIES

EGLINTON/BATHURST INVESTMENT PROPERTY
2 retail stores & 2-2 bdrm. apartments. Same retail tenants for 20 yrs., 8% cap - $479,000. Allen Tobe, MVA** 488-2875

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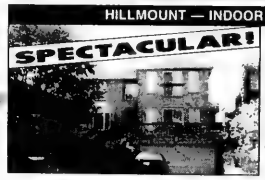
DAVID EICHORN
REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

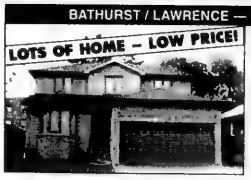
HILLMOUNT — INDOOR POOL!



Magnificent custom-built exec. home, 5 + 1 bdrms., 6 baths, fam. room, oak library, spectacular 32 x 16 ft. indoor pool, 50 x 140 ft. lot, loaded with upgrades, only $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — LOVELY QUIET STREET!
3 bedroom home, 50 ft. frontage, separate entry to in-law suite, only $259,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

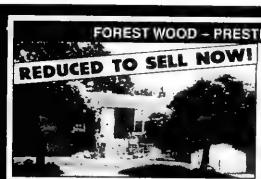
BATHURST / LAWRENCE — NEW LISTING!



Spacious fam. home! 4 + 3 bdrms., 6 baths, family room, gas fireplace, hardwood & parquet floors, huge finished bsmt., w/o to deck from modern kitchen, priced for immediate sale at only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / BAYCREST — SPACIOUS 3 + 1 BDRM. RANCH!
55 x 132 ft. lot, shows well! Large eat-in kitchen, custom built-ins, only $289,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

FOREST WOOD – PRESTIGE PLUS!



Spacious ranch bung. on wide 59 ft. frontage, gleaming hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, walk-out to deck from dining room, finished basement, demand location! Only $379,000 Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE / BATHURST — VENDOR SAYS SELL!
Updated 3 + 2 bedroom, 2 storey home, 4 baths, new kitchen, breakfast room walk-out to deck and garden, hot location, asking only $339,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

NEAR CASA LOMA — SUPER LOCATION!
Detached 3 storey facing park! Original charm: leaded glass, gumwood +++, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, large principal rooms, fireplaces, hardwood floors, only $445,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — REDUCED TO SELL!
4 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, parquet floors, 55 x 122 ft. lot, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Paul Slavens
REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR

RESULTS
RESULTS
RESULTS
483-4337

FINE HOMES

FOREST HILL - JUST LISTED
$769,000. Superbly updated home overlooking park. 4-5 bdrms. 4 baths. Ultra kitchen. Main floor family rm., sunroom w/marble floor, laundry & powder rm. Finished lower level. Double garage. *Elaine & *Bernard Pike

• • •

UPPER VILLAGE - $619,000.
Perfect family home. 3 bdrms. + den on landing. Family size kitchen + breakfast rm. CAC. Beautiful treed garden. Private drive & garage. *Linda Rose and *Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

LYNDHURST/WELLS HILL - $519,000.
Very special townhome overlooking a picturesque ravine setting. Features large family rm. w/walkout, double built-in garage, central air. *Edith Weiss

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE GATE - $459,900.
Lovely penthouse suite in Forest Hill features 2 bdrms., 9 ft. ceilings, skylight, balcony, 2 parking spaces. 24 hr. security Wonderful building amenities. *Leslie Dennis

• • •

ALLENBY GEM - $279,000.
Lovely 2 bdrm. home overlooking park. Kitchen w/walkout. Central air. Beautiful private garden. Walk to subway & shops. *Barbara Kaplan & *Jacqueline Yaffe.

• • •

LAWRENCE PARK - $499,800.
Reno'd, eat-in kitchen. Main floor powder room. Fin. lower level w/extra bdrm., bath & kitchenette. Gorgeous wood trim & stained glass windows. Terrific location. *Edie Winberg

• • •

BAYVIEW/DAVISVILLE - $369,000.
Fabulous 3 bdrm. home on quiet street. Main floor solarium. Lovely finished lower level. 2 car pkg. Bi-level deck w/hot tub. Steps to shops & transportation. *Carol Cotton

• • •

BATHURST/WILSON - $239,000.
Charming bungalow backs onto greenbelt. Finished lower level w/extra bdrms. & lots of storage space. Private drive & garage. Live in, add or build new. *Marlene Federman

• • •

BATHURST/SHEPPARD - $279,900.
Bungalow in desirable location, close to all amenities. 3+ bdrms. Finished lower level w/2 extra bdrms. Lovely garden. Private drive & garage. *Bobby Simpson

• • •

WELLINGTON/YONGE - $333,000.
Panoramic penthouse suite. 2 bdrms. Approx. 1,428 sq. ft. of downtown condo living. Parking. *Sharon & Marni Lokash

• • •

HOMES & GARDENS - $519,000
Custom built. 3+ bdrms. Main fl. family rm. Eat-in kitchen. Skylight. Fireplace. C[SOLD]m lower level. Landscaped garden. Dble. garage. Davisville/Bayview. *Sharon Lokash.

• • •

HILLHURST BLVD. - $698,000.
Exceptional 5 bdrm. home. Kitchen w/walk-out + breakfast rm. Main fl. family rm. [SOLD]y & powder rm. Finished l/level with sauna & bath. CAC.Double garage. *Leslie Dennis

• • •

ALLENBY AREA - $338,000.
Charming 4 bdrm. Tu[SOLD]tures inviting living rm. w/hardwood fl. & fireplace. Beautiful leaded windows & wainscoting. Private drive & garage. *Linda Rose.

• • •

KEELE & MAJOR MACKENZIE - $338,000.
Beautiful 4+ bdrm. ho[SOLD]sirable area of Maple. Kitchen + breakfast rm. Main fl. family rm. Professionally fin. lower level. *Carol Cotton

• • •

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* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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FAYWOOD & CLANTON PARK
$299,000. 3 bedrooms, large principal rooms, sep. ent. to finished basement.
MARSHA GOLDSTEIN
(416) 229-4454
Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Wilson, 3 bdrm., 2 bth., 2nd fl. $1350/mo. 783-6831.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Listen to CHIN radio 1540 AM Sunday Mornings at 9:35 a.m. and 100.7 FM Thursday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for the Toronto Women's Haddasah-Wizo Report. Proudly sponsored by Harvey Kalles Real Estate Ltd.

APARTMENT FOR RENT – BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Large 2 bdrm. on main floor, fireproof, attarctive building. Newly decorated. $775/mth - Call Super at 782-0479

"RIDGEGATE'S" FINEST @ $282,900!
Premium landscaped lot. Huge skylite; Mstr. retreat; 5pc. ens., FP, fin. bsmt. w/Nanny's ste., Child safe st. P. Steinberg*

JUST LISTED! BATHURST MANOR $429,000
It's stunning! Oversized [SOLD]split. 4 bdrms. on one level, 5 baths, reno'd kit. w[SOLD]rium. Hrdwd flrs. C. Lazer*

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

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SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST MANOR $269,900
1st time offered, 3 bdrm. bung., 2 bths., 2 kits., fin. bsmnt. w/priv. entrance, gar., steps to all, don't miss!

• • •

ALLEN RD. SHEPPARD
New, quality built 4 bdrm., 4 bths., fam. rm., fireplace, kit., w/out to deck, fin. bsmnt., steps to subway, asking $348,800.

• • •

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
Spac. 3 bdrm., L-shaped liv. & din., fin. bsmnt., dble. drive, gar.

• • •

BLUE FOREST WILMINGTON
Split lvl., 3 bdrm., 3 bths., fam. rm., w/out, rec rm., dble gar.

• • •

BATHURST WILSON TRI-PLEX
Fully rented 2-3 bdrms + 1-1 bdrm. apts., balcs., garages - A1 buy!

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK II
FINCH & DON MILLS
$255K - 1700 s.f. corner, open balcony, 2 bdrm. & fam. rm.

BATHURST & WILSON
$69,900 - With $15K down-less than renting!! 2 bdrm. co-op

YORK MILLS - DON MILLS
$158K - 3 bdrm., open balcony, super reno kit.

LAURA BARNETT
Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.
(416) 229-4454

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

BATHURST/STEELES
2 Bdrm., den, 2 bath, balc.
V. Fischler Sales Rep.
Re/Max Realtron
(416) 221-0999

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath. S/Steeles, Shomer Shabbat male to share lge. house, own bdrm., bath & pkg. Must be seen. Call 416-665-3018.

Bath./Sheppard, furn. apt. P/H, n/smkr., $444/mo. 636-8375.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/Lawrence - 3 bdrm. bsmt. apt., $750/mo. 789-9868.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lge. 3 bdrm. + den, wrap around balc., southern exp., CAC, immediate. 416-783-0542, 416-787-9451.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Bath./Steeles - furn. condo, 2 bdr., 2 bth., pkg. Aavail. Nov. 1 - April 1. Call 416-665-8303.

123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT

Towers of Mullet Bay, St. Maarten, 1 bdrm., full liv/din rm, kit., sleeps 4, golf incl, security. Dec. 5-12, 1998. $1,400/wk US. Call 954-341-6178 or email to: amherstw@worlnet.att.net

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Boca, Century Village, 2 bdr., 2 bth. Min. 4 mos.905-764-5388

Bonaventure - 2 br., 2 bth., del. remodeled, microwave, 2 TV, broadloom, sleeps 6, AC, ceiling fans all rms., ready to move in, golf, tennis, pool. 733-1019.

Century Village, Pembroke, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 bath, clubhouse facil., Feb, Mar. 905-731-1043.

Longboat Key, beautiful beach front, 2 bdrm., 2 bth. condo, Dec. 1 - Jan. 15. 905-731-0880

Longboat Key, Sea Place, on the beach, golf view, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., Jan. - Apr. Refs. 961-1556

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Palm Aire, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furnished, main flr., 3 months min., avail Oct 1-Apr 30. Call 416-496-2900.

Singer Island, 2 bdrm. apt., appl., avail. Jan, Feb, March. Joe at 249-0762, 905-833-1974

Sunrise Lakes, 1 br., 1 1/2 bth. condo. Jan. 15. 905-889-5009.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

Boca Raton, Century Village, lge. 1 bdrm. condo. Call between 1pm -11pm. 782-7086.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend
Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

138 FURN. FLOR. PROP. FOR SALE/RENT

WILLIAMS ISLAND, Mediterranean Village
Beautiful 2 bdr., 2 bth., decorator furn. condo in low rise villa style bldg. Gorgeous view of private pool/yacht club, 2 balc., concierge/valet, 24hr. sec., priv. pkg., close to restaurants, shopping etc. Avail. for sale or rental on mo./seas/yrly basis or rent to own. Call 416-587-4899.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Lady wanted to share condo at Century Village, Deerfield Bch. Own room w/TV. Close to shopping, shul, pool. 416-630-6250.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

ONE OF A KIND!!
Lake Simcoe - 2 km. from Barrie - 1 hr. to Toronto. 2½ acres TOTALLY PRIVATE waterfront estate w/201' frontage, architecturally exquisite home w/cathedral ceilings, soaring 2-way fieldstone FP, spectacular views, south exp. A year-round paradise. $1,495,000.
Call
Adrienne Meier or **Krista Alkerton**
Sales Reps
Royal LePage First Contact Realty Ltd.
1-877-728-4067

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Family of 5 with teens looking to share sailing trip in Caribbean at Christmas. Reply to steve@liteline.com

205 INDUSTRIAL/ COMMERCIAL SPACE

BATHURST-TRANSWELL
AUTO-BAYS for rent-high traffic area-suitable for auto finishing, transmission, repairs glass/radio/upholstry/etc. interior cleaning/etc. Reasonable rent-ready early 1999.
Bernard Sieger Rlty. Brkr.
650-5930

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

City of Vaughan
The City Above Toronto

Located in the Greater Toronto Area, the Municipality of Vaughan is one of Canada's fastest growing urban communities, with a population of 140,000.

Youth Leader - *Part-time*

Interested in working with young people aged 12 to 18 years? Use your enthusiastic outlook in this fun, exciting position, involving various shifts from 3:30-9:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. You will supervise programs, sports, tournaments and special events, while ensuring the safety of all participants. You must be at least 16 years of age and have a professional, mature attitude. There are also Fine Arts, Dance and Aerobic Instructor opportunities for skilled individuals with teaching experience.

Adult Instructor

Skilled in Cooking and Sewing, you will work with adults to promote and enhance skill knowledge. You must have teaching experience and be able to work evenings, days and weekends. Specific certification may be required.

Senior Fitness Instructor

An energetic, spirited individual, you will plan, organize and lead a safe, effective fitness class to participants 55 years of age and older. Your Fitness Class Certification or equivalent is coupled with teaching experience and an Emergency First Aid certificate. You must be able to lead a 45 minute class Monday to Friday, between 1:00-3:00 p.m.

To be considered for these exciting roles, please forward your resume, quoting the appropriate position title, by **September 30, 1998**, to **Gina Soriano**, Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill, P.O. Box 632, L4J 4E5. **Fax: (905) 881-0692.** *We thank all applicants but advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.*

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Hebrew & Judaic Studies teachers req'd. for Conservative Sunday Hebrew School. Call 416-226-0111 for information.

THE FIRST NARAYEVER CONGREGATION
An egalitarian, traditional minyan, located in downtown Toronto is looking for a dynamic, creative person to lead our Junior Congregation on Shabbat mornings. Davening skills, good knowledge of Hebrew, and teaching background are assets. Salary is commensurate with experience. Fax resume to 416-944-2888.

Tutor required to learn Polish lanquage. 905-660-6502.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in and live-out Caregivers.
Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
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APPLE DOMESTICS
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DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

*** Need Help For the High Holidays?** Top Agency will provide prof. support from serving to preparation of foods, cleaning & child care. Relax & enjoy your special holiday with the assistance of **No. 1 Domestic Service**. Call today to book an appointment. **Call 416-224-9907.**

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded Sylvia, 416-740-3034.

Ann Quality Cleaning Services. Exp. cleaning ladies. Also cleaning homes after renovations & painting, using our own products. Polish, Russian and English speaking,refs.744-0659

Cleaning lady available. Call Luna at 416-516-0766.

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned.
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
905-475-2518 416-759-4333

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Exper. and reliable European cleaning team can clean your home. Refs. avail. 214-0230.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Home cleaning. Introductory special offer including all cleaning products. 2 people will clean for $15/hour, minimum 4 hours. Fully insured. 7 days a week. *Call Sharon* 416-783-8068.

Jewish young Orthodox lady seeks work as babysitter or housekeeper. Experience, loves kids. 635-1928 or 631-9118.

Lady avail. to live-in Mon-Fri, for elderly. Refs. 416-265-3599.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

Nannies/caregivers for elderly & disabled seek live-in or out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

English speaking Filipino nanny req'd for new born, live-in or live-out. 905-761-6595, Jodi.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Exp nanny/housekeeper req'd w/valid drivers license. Live-in or out. Refs. 416-920-7905.

Exp. & patient lady req'd. to take care of 2 kids (2 & 4). P/T. Refs. Call Orly 905-770-5955.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H
"At Soulmates we know that for every soul G-d created he also created their mate!" Find your mate now! **SOULMATES INC.**
***Call* 905-709-3868**
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Bringing People Together. The top-rated service that puts your needs 1st. Ruth 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1650 registered. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUCEMENTS

MUROFF/MERBAUM
Rosalyn & Melvin Muroff (Windsor) and Sophie & Jamie Merbaum are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children, Allyson & Rich. Excited grandparents are Elaine Center, Pearl Muroff (Windsor), Yvette Kutscher (Toronto) and Zelik Schapiro (Chile).
Mazel Tov! We love you!

264 SOCIAL ANNOUCEMENTS

Epstein/Cooper - Estelle & Carl Epstein and **Annette & Dave Cooper** are delighted to announce the engagement of their children **Naomi & Robert**. Proud grandparents are Helene Epstein and Sidney Wolbrom. A Spring wedding is planned.

RACHEL KANNER wishes to thank all her faithful sponsors of the UJA Appeal Walkathon for the last 24 years and hopes to continue to the 25th anniversary. A Healthy and Happy New Year to you all.

270 PERSONALS

I can drive your kids to school and home or any other appt. Exp. with refs. 416-222-4230.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-48, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7091.

A tall, slim, good looking woman, 32 would like to meet an intelligent man. Reply to 1057 Steeles Ave. W., PO Box 81601, North York, M2R 3X1.

Seeking soulmate: Female 42, tall, warm, intelligent, attractive, curvaceous, with strong Jewish identity seeks communicative, healthy counter-mensch imbued with strength, integrity, accomplishments. CJN Box # 7047.

Senior male seeks female life partner or companionship, 60-65, Hungarian speaking pref. Reply to CJN Box # 7090.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
·CUSTOMER SERVICE·

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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

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LASTING RELATIONSHIP
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SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, fun to be with, enjoys movies, travelling, swimming. Seeking a male, 36+, with strong sense of humour, kind, sencere, intelligent. AD# 1602

MEDICAL DOCTOR
Single Jewish female, 36, 5'8", medical doctor, lives in Toronto, enjoys tennis, golfing, sailing, cottage life, dinning out. Seek a Jewish male, 34-52, either in the medical, law field or business man. AD#1494

WELL ESTABLISHED
Attractive female, widow, professional, educated, well established, non-smoker/drinker, enjoy long walks, reading, travelling, theatre. Seek a male 58-65, with similar interests who wants to establish a long term relationship. AD#1500

NIFTY 50'S
Divorced female, 55, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking a male with strong sense of humour, caring, sincere. AD#1507

SEEKING SOULMATE
Proffesional Jewish female, 37, warm, sincere, creative, enjoy reading, walking. Seeking a Jewish male, honest, sense of humour, family oriented, with a real sense of adventure. AD#1508

CALL ME
Single Jewish mom, 35, fit, attractive. Seeking a single Jewish dad, who is sports oriented & fun loving. AD#1491

STRAIGHT FORWARD
Divorced, mother of 1, 35, 5'3", long brown hair, blue eyes, honest, affectionate, straight forward, enjoy movies, music, travelling, long walks, outdoor activities. Seeking a male with similar interests for long term relationship. AD#1499

SEARCHING FOR YOU
Very attractive, intelligent, Jewish female. Seeking an unattached, established, honest, kind, affectionate gentleman, non smoker, 55-65. AD#1490

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 30 something, petite, cute, athletic, creative, loves kids. Seeks a Jewish male, 35-45, with similar interests and values. AD#1476

CALL ME
Single Jewish female, professional, attractive, enjoys movies, theater, long walks, dining, exercise, quiet evenings, family oriented. Seeks a male, who is easy going, for friendship possible long term. AD#1477

VIVACIOUS LADY
Lady, late 40's, pretty, good figure, 5'4", hazel eyes, blondish hair, enjoys cooking, quiet evenings, romantic walks, dining and dancing. Seeks male, 48, 58, handsome, established, caring. AD#1478

LIFE LONG PARTNER
Single female, Jewish, professional, pretty smile and eyes, enjoys conversation, laughter. Seeks gentleman, 38-45, with good sense of humour and zest for life. AD#1482

FRIENDSHIP
Single female, 44, 5'5", 155lbs, attractive, short brown hair and green eyes, tanned complexion, good natured. Seeks gentleman with same qualities. AD#1483

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOUR
Single Jewish female, 5'3", enjoys movies, art, bike riding, mother of 2 kids. Seeks a gentleman, 42-52, kind, sincere, non-smoker. AD#1573

ROMANTIC MOMENTS
Single female, 50, caring, sincere, employed, enjoys travelling, dinning out, working out, aerobics. Seeking for a male to share romantic moments. AD#1512

ENJOYS THE ARTS
Single beautiful female, 5'7", 138lbs, hazel eyes, good figure, enjoys dancing, movies, music, dancing and dinning, theatre and the arts. AD#1463

CHARMING
Single jewish female, 5'7", 138lbs, tall, attractive, intelligent, affectionate, charming, enjoys music, dinning out, theatre, movies. Seeking a male, 41-52, that's intelligent, caring, sincere and financially secure. AD#1464

INDEPENDENT
Single female, 26, petite, enjoys long walks on the beach, movies. Seeking a Jewish male, 28-33, that's kind, sensitive, outgoing, ambitious and independent. AD#1438

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 49, loving, caring, loyal, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, dancing, long walks, travelling, seeking a male, 49-57 for lasting relationship. Ad# 1420

COMEDY CLUBS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", dark hair, green eyes, warm, down to earth, enjoys movies, camping, music, dinning out, bowling, theatre, concerts, comedy clubs. Seeking a male, 30-43, with similar interests. AD#1466

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, mid 40's, conservative looking, stock marketing investor, has business degree, enjoy dancing. Seeking a female, non-slim is OK, children welcome. AD#1486

Men seeking Women

JEWISH DOCTOR
Jewish male, 47, 5'7", doctor, honest, slim, fit, European background, has shared custody of his 2 children, keep commitments & promises. Seeking a female under 40, slim, nice & intelligent. AD#1501

SHY AT FIRST
Single Jewish male, 41, no dependants, brown hair & eyes, handsome, sincere, caring, enjoy dining & dancing, travelling, music, not a pet lover. Seeking a single lady, non-smoker, 32-40, up to 5'3", sincere, no head games pls. AD#1525

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, early 60's, 5'9", 160lbs, fit, enjoy arts, sports, good conversation, good sense of humour. Seeking an elegant, slim, non-smoker, proud of her heritage lady. AD#1504

COMPANION NEEDED
Single male, handsome, slim. Seeking a companion to share expenses for winter trip to Florida for 3 months. Pls call. AD#1506

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, nonsmoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling. Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile. AD#1485

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single male, 50, 5'10", 184lbs, handsome, well built, responsible, financially secure, honest, sincere, non-smoker, non-drinker, well established. Seeking a Jewish female, 40-50, with similar interests. AD#1465

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music, movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth. Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship. AD#1469

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NIFTY 50'S
Single white male, 56, self-employed, caring and sincere, enjoys travelling, movies, quiet romantic evenings. Seeks a compassionate, loving, sensitive lady. AD# 1480

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, 45, with a business degree, conservative looking, enjoys dancing, has good sense of humour. Seeking a female, doesn't have to be slim, children are OK. AD#1405

SHARE LIFE'S BEAUTIES
Single male, 55, tall, attractive, European, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, affectionate, enjoys dancing, singing. Seeking a petite attractive female with similar interests to share life's beauties. AD#1458

ATHLETIC ROMANTIC
Tall single male, 54, attractive, non-smoker, easy going, athletic, self-employed. Enjoys quiet evenings, sports, movies, music. Seeking a single Jewish female, 38+, non-smoker, attractive with similar values. AD#1453

LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP
Gentleman, 39, 5'7", enjoys music, movies, sports, good sense of humour, seeks that special lady for romantic times, loves to cuddle. AD#1462

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'7", enjoy music, movies, dining, dancing, seeking cuddly lady to enjoy the finer things in life. AD# 1433

WELL BUILT
Single male, 59, 5'10", 182lbs, well built, handsome, good sense of humour, non-smoker,nondrnker, enjoy dancing, travelling, cooking, music, seeking a female, 45-52 with similar interests. Ad# 1398

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Single Jewish male, 30, brown hair, brown eyes, variety of interests, sports, movies, concerts, always willing to try something new, seeking a lady with similar interests. Ad# 1414

OUTGOING & CARING
Single male, outgoing, caring, enjoy live theatre, seeking a female for a relationship, someone who is honest, trustworthy, loyal, good listener & communicator. Ad# 1379

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Gentleman, sincere, sentimental, affectionate, love to cuddle, enjoy movies, music, romantic times & winters in Florida, seeking a slim, attractive lady, 55+ with similar interests. Ad# 1383

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest, not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere. Ad# 1364

WHAT A CATCH
Single Jewish male, 33, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, handsome, spontaneous, enjoy dining, dancing, movies, outdoor activities, travelling, seeking a single Jewish female 28-34, attractive, slim, easy going, brunette. Ad# 1387

AN ORIGINAL
Gentleman, kind, sincere, intelligent, easy going, professional, enjoy dining, dancing, quiet evenings, seeking lady with similar interests for long term old fashioned realtionship. Ad# 1409

STAND BY ME
Gentleman, 26, Jewish, police officer in Toronto area, educated, hoping to return to college, seeking good natured lady with good sense of humour, no more broken hearts. Ad# 1368

AMBITIOUS
Single male, 30, ambitious, outgoing, enjoy travelling, sports, long walks, dining out, seeking a warm, compassionate female who is sensitive & outgoing. Ad# 1370

DRIVES IN THE COUNTRY
Very conservative gentleman, 5'8", stock analyst, enjoy art auctions, drives in the country, looking for a lady or single moms, you don't have to be slim. Ad# 1348

330 OBITUARIES

BARRISON, Sylvia - on Aug. 24, 1998, late of 1583 Cummer Ave.
KRUPOTKINA, Susanna - on Aug. 24, 1998, late of 52 Mabelle Ave.
KALIFER, William - on Aug. 25, 1998.
LINDSAY, Lilyan - on Aug. 26, 1998, late of 94 Whitley Ave.
BENCHITRIT, Aaron - on Aug. 27, 1998, late of 120 Shelborne Ave.
KOHL, Emil - on Aug. 27, 1998, late of 7 Townsgate Dr.
LAUFER, Fanny - on Aug. 27, 1998, late of 40 Purdon Dr.
SWITZER, Udie - on Aug. 27, 1998.
KASMAN, Miriam - on Aug. 28, 1998.
SHLAGBAUM, Isaac - on Aug. 28, 1998, late of 536 Douglas Ave.
WEINTRAUB, Jacob - on Aug. 28, 1998, late of 100 Canyon Ave.
CAPLAN, Ada - on Aug. 30, 1998, late of 35 Wynford Heights Cres.
WAISBERG, Benjamin - on Aug. 30, 1998, late of 33 Granite St.
GALFI, Bela - on Sept. 1, 1998.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

PAPERNICK, Gerald - on Aug. 24, 1998, late of 7 Elliotwood Crt.
FIRTEL, Leon - on Aug. 25, 1998, late of 43 Anthony Rd.
JOSEPH, Betty - on Aug. 25, 1998, late of 244 Hillhurst Blvd.
KAY, Carl - on Aug. 25, 1998, late of 30 Almont Rd.
PEARL, Harry - on Aug. 25, 1998, late of 66 Wembley Rd.
NASH, Morris - on Aug. 26, 1998, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
AFRIAT, Doris - on Aug. 27, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
ALBER, Rose - on Aug. 27, 1998, late of 2601 Bathurst St., #406.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

ARONSON, Bess - on Aug. 24, 1998, late of 2 Hanover Rd., #1105.
MALLINICK, Sylvia - on Aug. 24, 1998, late of 10 William Morgan Dr.
TRENT, Kenneth - on Aug. 26, 1998, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W., #207.

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Section #10
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
POLA GROMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst St., South of Steeles
Stashover Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DAVID BROWN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth SholomSection
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DAVID KIRSCHBAUM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 1:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Beth Radom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SHEILA BERNICE DIAMOND ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Holy Blossom Memorial Park
(Brimley Road)
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ANN LERANBAUM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 10:00 a.m.
Lambton Hills Cemetery
Royal York Road
Ostrovtzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
AMNON AJZENSZTADT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Tzosmer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BRINA GILBERT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst, South of Steeles
Clanton Park Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LOLA KWINTER MIETKIEWICZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 10:15 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

Yad Vashem Monuments
MICHEL ROSEN ז"ל
LILLY ZAHLER ע"ח
UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, SEPT. 13
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Beth Emeth Section (3)
1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn
Clanton Park Section (52)
10:00 a.m.
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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GORDON KIDECKEL ז"ל
husband of Sarah, father of Ian, Alan, Marshall & Heather and brother of Wilfred & Harry
will take place
Sunday, September 13th, at 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MICHEL ROSEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 13th, at 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAURICE RAYMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie
The Independent Order of Foresters
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAMUEL *(Red)* RODNEY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Hebrew Friendly Sons of David
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MENDEL ROZENZON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ostrovtzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
IRVING SAMUEL SOLOMON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 2:00 p.m.
Pardes Sholom Cemetery
Toronto Hebrew Benevolent Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYDNEY SWARTZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Palmerston Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LILLY ZAHLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Clanton Park Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GISELLE WISE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

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Israeli kids excited about Neilson hockey camp

By REUVEN ROSENFELDER
Special to The CJN

METULLA — "The kids here are very eager. I believe it's a worthwhile project. For us, it's a nice kind of break."

For Roger Neilson, head coach of the NHL's Philadelphia Flyers, the project was the second consecutive summer hockey camp run under his supervision at the Canada Centre ice rink in Metulla. The kids were 56 Israeli and Canadian skaters, plus one from Harlem, New York, who participated in the hockey school.

As was the case last year, Neilson volunteered his services to the hockey program. He was joined in Israel by Alex Andjelik, a professional coach in Holland, goaltender coach Marshall Starkman, Jeff Budd, a Canadian who has worked frequently on the ice at Canada Centre, and Dainius Zubrus, a rising star with the Flyers.

Neilson was also accompanied to Israel by a producer from the TV program, *NHL Cool Shots*, who is working on a show on how NHL pros spend their free time.

"The program went great," Budd said. "There were no hitches. There was a good bonding between Canadians and Israelis."

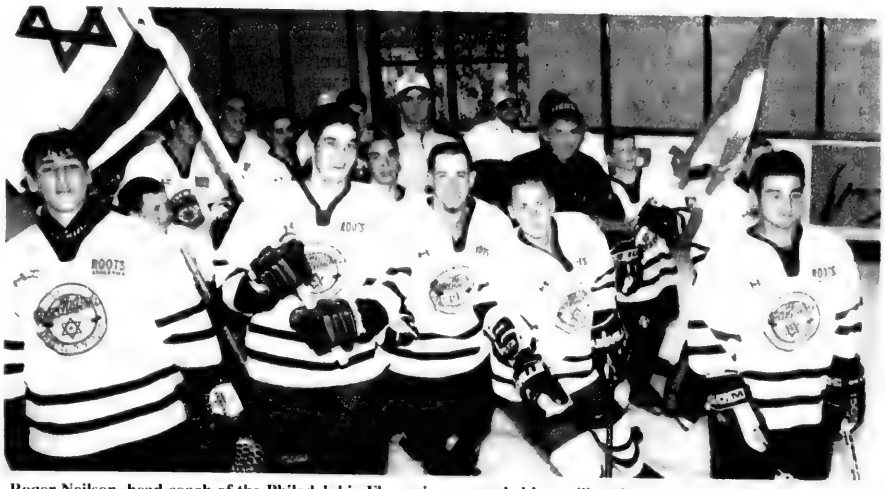
Neilson was prepared to continue with the hockey school next year.

"Israel needs more ice rinks like this, in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Beersheva, so the kids will be able to play each other," Neilson said.

Ten-year-old Dudi Badler of Metulla comes to the Canada Centre arena three times a week and practises as a goalie. His mother, Michal, sees an enormous change in her son since he started to play hockey.

"It strengthened his self-confidence and independence," she said. "Hockey has become his major interest. He runs from school to the centre."

For 12-year-old Metulla native Oz Gino, Neilson "knows what drills to give us and he doesn't work us too hard."



Roger Neilson, head coach of the Philadelphia Flyers, is surrounded by smiling skaters at his Israeli hockey school, which completed its second year in Metulla. [Photo courtesy UIA Federations Canada]

Jenya Kogan of Kiryat Shmona, whose parents came from Moldova in the former Soviet Union, says simply, "it's fun."

One of the Israeli players, Ran Oz, who is now serving in the Israeli army, was invited by Andjelik to play professional hockey in Holland. Oz played one season with the Midget Marlies in Toronto before returning to Israel.

Among the camp's participants, 13 were from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Vancouver. One skater, Deavon Wilson, plays hockey in Harlem. A connection was made through the Israel Experience Centre.

Hockey is a key component of the program, but not its only one. Lee Perlman of Melitz, an institute of Zionist-Jewish education in Jerusalem, coordinated travel, visits and talks designed to acquaint the older campers with Israel today.

"We are working to create an experience that will give participants a chance to meet not only around hockey, but to know themselves and others as Jews," Perlman said.

But there was no mistaking what motivated Sam Strasser of Toronto to come to Metulla. He decided to join his mother on a trip to Israel when he heard that Neilson would be running the camp. "His team is my favorite team," Strasser said.

Canada Centre is a major recreation complex in northern Israel, established with donations channeled to Israel by the United Israel Appeal (UIA) of Canada. It houses Israel's only Olympic-sized hockey surface.

The hockey camp was partially funded by UIA Canada as part of the Partnership 2000 program in northern Israel.

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

איש ואישה ואיש מאת: סביון ליברכט, כתר הוצאה לאור, 1998

חמוטל, גיבורת הרומן איש ואישה ואישׁ, היא אשת איש, אם ועורכת כתב עת לפסיכולוגיה. אנו פוגשים בחמוטל בעת משבר כאשר היא מבקרת את אמה המאושפזת במחלקה הסיעודית. לבטי החיים בצל הזיקנה המתאכזרת והמוות הקרב הם נושא הספר. סביון ליברכט אינה מרחמת עלינו, הקוראים; היא חושפת את פרטי החיים במחלקה הסיעודית במלוא כיעורם. שברי אדם בלים מאכלסים את המחלקה; כאותו זקן, שפעם נשים יפות היו שוכבות לצידו, ועתה הוא הולך ומצטמק; שוכב מחותל, משותק במיטת גסיסתו. אמה של חמוטל, שפרה, הוזה הזיות של מין ומאשימה את האח התורן שהוא "מתגנב בלילה ומנסה להסיר בגדיה ונוגע לה איפה שאסור."

מרבית הזמן אין האם מזהה את בתה וזו הבת חשה בצורך להכריז שוב ושוב: "אמא, זו אני חמוטל!". יש שהבת נזכרת בילדותה הבלתי מאושרת והייתה מבקשת לבוא בדין ודברים עם האם, על מה שקרה, אך האם מנותקת בהכרתה וכל שניתן לומר, נאמר בצעקה: "זו אני, חמוטל."

באפרוריות קפקאית זו של המחלקה הסיעודית, מהבהבת דמותה של האחות המעשית באור חינני. ליברכט מפליאה לתארה. אישה פשוטה, מדברת בהיגוי זר ובשגיאות, אך באופייה היא מיזוג נדיר של עוצמה ועדנה. בפשטות בוטה, מבלי לייפות מאומה, מטיבה האחות המעשית לבטא את מציאות המחלקה הסיעודית; "כולם מגיעים לפה. היום את רואה אותם מדברים בטלוויזיה, זה שר וזה בן-אדם חשוב, מדברים דיבורים בשמים...פה אין הבדל. פה שיא הדמוקרטיה,כמו שאומרים." היא גם זו שיודעת על אהבתה האסורה של חמוטל לגבר שפגשה בסיעודית (אף הוא נשוי ומבקר הורה באישפוז.)

תהיה זו גם האחות המעשית שבתום הסיפור, לאחר מותם של ההורים ולאחר נטישת שאול המאהב, שתעניק לחמוטל את הדחיפה המשחררת: "ולא כדאי לך לבוא לפה יותר. צריך לחזור לחיים, וצריך לשכוח מה שלא מוכרחים לזכור."

בשלב זה חמוטל אמורה לשוב למשפחתה; בעלה ושתי בנותיה. היא בגדה בהם וניהלה רומן סוער עם גבר זר, אך, קדמה לכך, בגידתם בה. ארנון, בעלה, בלייצנותו המטופשת ובנותיה באנוכיותן, זנחו אותה לטפל באמה ולא רצו להתייחס לסיוט העובר אותה. חמוטל תאשים את עצמה בכל מה שקרה ובחוסר האונים הנפשי שפקד אותה. היא תוהה לעתים אם ארועי המחלקה הסיעודית נתנו לדברים המתרחשים בחייה פירוש מעוות ואולי היא ממשיכה לבקר אצל אמה "...כדי לפצות את עצמי על כל השנים שהיא דרסה אותי; עכשיו אני חזקה והיא חלשה, ואת זה אני באה לחגוג..."

מצב נוראי זה שאליו אנו חשופים עם מותם הקרב של הורינו המזדקנים מעורר בכל אחד תגובה שונה. חמוטל מגיבה באדישות כלפי בנותיה, כעס כלפי בעלה ואהבה נואשת לגבר זר.

ברור לקוראים מראש שהזוגיות בינה לבין שאול היא תופעה חולפת שצמחה מתוך יאוש. בסופו של סיפור, חמוטל תאבד את אמה וכן את המאהב. במהלך הזמן, אנו מבינים שחמוטל תשלים ותבין את אובדנה; "כך דרכו של העולם, שאנשים מבינים את חייהם בדיעבד."

זהו הרומן הראשון של סביון ליברכט; עד כה פירסמה קובצי סיפורים. איש ואישה ואישׁ כתוב בסגנון עשיר וגמיש ועל אף הטיפול בחוויה הקשה של הזיקנה והמוות, הכתיבה זורמת והשפה בלתי מאולצת. ספר מאוד משכנע.

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1 cup honey	2 tsp. baking powder	2 3/4 cup flour
1 cup sugar	2 tsp. baking soda	

Sauce: 1 6 oz. can frozen orange juice concentrate, UNDILUTED
1/2 cup honey
1 peeled & diced orange

Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix eggs & honey. Add sugar and mix well. Add oil & mix well. Dissolve baking soda in coffee & add to mix. Add baking powder & flour and mix well. Pour into greased (or sprayed) tube pan. Bake for 55 minutes.

Blend orange juice and honey. Add diced orange. Serve over honey cake.

About families

Dear Susan,

My daughter, who is eight, is obsessed with the Spice Girls, as are her friends. They collect cards, stamps and music, and they mimic their dancing and singing. Should I be worried?

Dear Reader,

Not all that long ago, there was a group called the Beatles. Young girls (mostly teens) flocked to stores to buy their records and collect pins, cards or any other Beatle paraphernalia. They went to concerts and movies, and bought magazines in order to satisfy their Beatlemania. While many parents at that time were very concerned about the effects on their children, most of these kids grew into well-adjusted adults.

The Spice Girls are the Beatles of the '90s for preteenage girls. While their musical talents may fall short of the Beatles (although that could be the voice of age speaking), their social, emotional and psychological impact on this generation of preteens may be just as profound.

Preteenage girls are in the process of consolidating their female identity prior to confronting the challenges of adolescence and boys. They are learning and integrating skills that will prove invaluable as they attempt to master their world. They bond with their peers in order to develop critical interpersonal skills and sense of security. This emotional growth is a crucial step as they move into their adolescence.

Spice Girls represent a celebration of femininity that mirrors and validates the experiences of their fans. Like their preteen cohorts, they revel in dance, clothes and play acting, while finding emotional security in an all-girl world.

As adults, the Spice Girls represent women who manage their own careers and make their own creative decisions. They have clear goals and have systematically set out to accomplish them. Seeing the Spice Girls achieve their dreams gives young teens struggling to understand their place in the world a tremendous sense of empowerment. Now that's real girl power!

Susan Leventhal is a psychotherapist with 20 years of experience.

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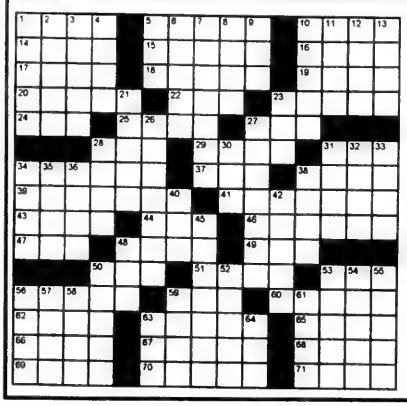
CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Actor Lee J.
5. Sis to Lot and Milcah
10. Bris must
14. Allen film, Annie __
15. Diving at Eilat
16. Adam's homeland
17. Uncle to twelve
18. City of Dan
19. Writer Ayn __
20. Order
22. Not: comb. form
23. Arrows
24. Haifa to Hebron (dir.)
25. Anne Frank's pop
27. Shiva sound
28. Feh!!
29. Reform Synagogues
31. Tref meat cut
34. Select
37. Ein Gedi
38. Few
39. Architectural structure by Safdie
41. Augustus or Caligula
43. Amalek
44. Hebrew letter
46. Bivakasha (Eng.)
47. Hebrew letter
48. Nu? (Eng.)
49. Tu B'Shevat planting?
50. "Sea" to Chagall
51. Long time
53. Imitate Hoffman
56. Ann Landers to friends
59. 106
60. Sage Akiva
62. Not on Yom Kippur
63. Sounds at the Western wall?
65. Maccabiah game?
66. Spar
67. Asher's second
68. Solo for Bubbles
69. Chagall's profession
70. Ta'am (Eng.)
71. Lot's wife?

Down

1. Lasker's game
2. Negev cool spots
3. Circumcision tool
4. Israeli flag hue
5. Sort of ? (ending)
6. Odor
7. Like a Budinsky?
8. Adam's son
9. Owns
10. Saul's oldest daughter
11. Purim month
12. Acted the Usurer?
13. Amens
21. Prepare Seder bone
23. My son the __
26. Shubert shop
27. Hawn film
28. Make the bagels
30. Imitate
31. Dance
32. Writer Oz
33. Bissel (Eng.)
34. Hebrew letter
35. Possess
36. Levaye notice
38. Search
40. Prayer for dew
42. El Al craft
45. Historian Josephus
48. K'tonton
50. Kamen and Gross
52. Israeli resort
53. Change for a NIS
54. Director DeMille
55. Nosh (Eng.)
56. Poet Lazarus
57. Seen at the Sukkah?
58. Legacy
59. "House" to Marranos?
61. Gershwin and Levin
63. Morey Amsterdam specialty
64. That woman

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut.
(Last week's answers are on page 62.)

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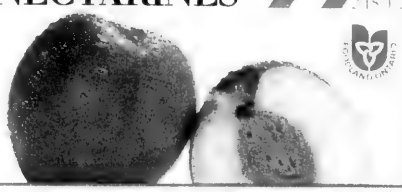

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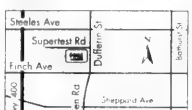

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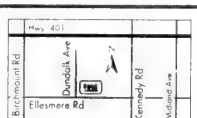

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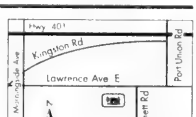

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Israeli rabbi helps with halachic issues arising from Swissair crash. *Page 3*

The fate of Raoul Wallenberg is unknown, but knowable, says David Matas. *Page 6*

Day school tuition fees have increased an average of two percent. *Page 20*

Givat Haviva internship gives student Sara Bordin new perspective on Israel. *Page 24*

On Campus

Afterword, the newest student publication, hits the streets. *Page 29*

Rosh Hashanah Food

A burger is no longer just a burger. *Page 52*

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Elul 27, 5758
Havdalah: 8:11

www.cjnews.com

The sun rises on 5759

The day is about to dawn over the eastern horizon. The man stands facing the sun as its daybreak corona lights up the world.

Holding his prayerbook, wearing his tfillin, and wrapped in his tallit, he is connected to the traditions and customs of his kinfolk. He peers into the prayerbook. From the dignity of the man's posture, inclining toward the onset of the unfolding day, we may also reasonably presume that he is connected to the stirrings of his inner soul.

The photo suggests serenity; but there is hardly anything serene about tuning in to the stirrings of one's inner soul. It is a lifelong preoccupation, fraught daily with doubt and struggle. For we are called upon to reconcile competing curiosities and even contradictory systems of belief. And that is no simple task.

Editorial

Therefore, we must not regard as personal failure the self-doubt that generally accompanies the striving to know for certain what we are and what we were meant to be.

CJN columnist, educator and thinker Elliott Malamet has referred to that striving as "the hunger for something higher." At some point, Malamet says, we all must ask ourselves, "What do I want to do with my life? Can my life be sustained without a spiritual basis?"

Perhaps this time of year and the self-assessment it evokes can help us answer Malamet's questions.

Like the man in the adjacent photo, let us metaphorically face the sun as its daybreak corona lights up the year that is dawning, 5759.

At the very least, even without definitive answers to the ultimate questions, this time of year ought to remind us of our possibilities, namely, individual uniqueness, individual responsibility, inherent goodness and a sense of belonging to a people whose common past and common memories have lead to one divinely inspired purpose: helping to build a better world.

* * *

Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the entire world, who has granted us life, sustained us and brought us to this day.

CONGRATULATIONS!

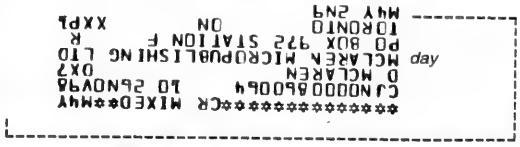
The winners of *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest are: Tamar Gordon, Ellie Leyman and Morden Shapiro. Gordon's photo appears on the front page of this issue. The photos by Leyman and Shapiro are inside. We thank everyone who submitted entries. Please do so again next year.

The CJN is also pleased to publish the ten winners of the Canada Israel Experience photo contest. The winning photos appear in our Rosh Hashanah Greetings supplement.

MORNING PRAYERS ON A MOUNTAIN TOP

Tamar Gordon

***CJN* Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest winner**



A healthy, happy, peaceful New Year

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

A call to join 'brothers and sisters' in Israel

Ezer Weizman
President, State of Israel

Message from the president of the State of Israel, Ezer Weizman.

Dear Friends,

During this past year Israel celebrated her 50th anniversary. Looking back, there was indeed much of which to be proud. Our country has grown and developed and has a thriving economy, a level of technology among the most advanced in the world, impressive scientific research, highly developed agriculture and a very cultural life. This, despite the internal and external problems we face.

Unfortunately, the much needed and longed for peace with all our neighbors has not yet been realized, but the peace process is still continuing. It is a very difficult and protracted process with many painful contentions, but all sides involved have too much to lose not to pursue it. I, therefore believe that eventually, we will attain the goal of living in peace with our neighbors.

During the past year we also justifiably celebrated the 50th anniversary of legal immigration to Israel. We have had great success in meeting the Zionist challenge of absorbing immigrants from all over the world, and Israel's population has increased tenfold to six million people since the country achieved independence. Unfortunately, not all our brethren in the Diaspora have chosen to realize the Zionist dream. At this opportunity, I once again, wish to call on all our brothers and sisters throughout the world to join us. Not only will you be strengthening our country, but you will also be ensuring the survival of your future generation.

May we, during the coming year, see the fulfilment of our prayers for peace and prosperity, and may we look ahead to an ever brighter future for Israel and the Jewish people. Shanah Tovah u'Gemar Chatimah Tovah.

'We need to re-establish dialogue'

Rosh Hashanah message from the president of Canadian Jewish Congress Moshe Ronen.

As the New Year 5759 approaches, we pause to examine our accomplishments and the new paths or directions that we must seek.

Our generation was shaped by the crucible of Auschwitz, by our people's battle for a homeland, by the State of Israel's ongoing struggle for peace and security, and by Canada's openness and pluralism. This year we celebrate and sound the horn loud on Israel's jubilee. We are at the dawn of a new millennium and renewed hope. We have accepted the torch of continuity passed on by those who suffered, sacrificed, strove courageously, and built anew. But as external threats lessen, we unfortunately have seen our internal divisions rise.

It is saddening, and indeed ironic, that we as Jews continue to struggle tirelessly for understanding and acceptance of others in our multicultural society, even as that same tolerance seems elusive within our own community.

There is no point denying that there is division among our people. As our brothers and sisters in Israel, so too, we stand divided on issues of religion, and even the peace process.

We may be divided by strong opinions, but we must present those in a civil tone and in the context of a united community. Yes, the Jewish community desperately needs bridge-building of its own. In-fighting and disunity always have led to hurtful and harmful consequences for us all. We need to re-establish proper dialogue, learn from one another, and reject intolerance and disrespect. We are all sisters and brothers: Am Yisrael – part of one family.

As we gather in synagogue during the High Holy Days, let us all pray for peace among our people and peace and security for Israel.

Moshe Ronen

May the New Year be a time for sweetness and warmth in Israel, the Diaspora, here in Canada and within our own Jewish community as well.

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Rabbi helping with halachic issues at crash

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — A member of Israel's police criminal identification unit joined Halifax Jewish clergy to help solve halachic issues arising from the Sept. 2 crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Peggy's Cove, N.S.

Rabbi Jay Levinson, who has assisted in post-crash identifications worldwide, was invited here by the Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC) to confirm Jewish deaths.

He was to interview those who last saw Jewish victims board the aircraft, and then testify before rabbinical courts in the United States to confirm the status of the widows.

Under Jewish law, a widow cannot remarry until it is proven beyond a doubt that her husband died. Otherwise, she is an agunah, and cannot remarry.

Rabbi Saul Aronov of the Beth Israel Congregation in Halifax said relatives of the deceased cannot observe mourning rites without confirmation of death. Only two of the 229 victims of the crash have been positively identified.

Recovery teams have been able to find only parts of bodies, not enough to bury under Jewish law.

"People want to get on with mourning rites and they can't do that," said Rabbi Aronov.

Jon Goldberg, executive director of the AJC, said there are so many halachic ramifications dealing with remains that rabbis have come to Halifax from New York and Israel "to help local authorities deal with proper burial procedures."

Earlier estimates of up to 50 Jewish victims have been scaled down to about 17, Goldberg said. "Relatives of 12 Jewish victims have come to Halifax and identified themselves to us."

Goldberg said families of Jewish victims felt they were treated very well. "We've heard only good comments."

A letter to the *Chronicle-Herald* and *Mail-Star* in Halifax from Jonathan Cohen of Brookline, Mass., said, "I am especially proud that the small Halifax Jewish community has taken an out-front and active role in this effort. My personal thanks to all the area rabbis and community leaders."

The crash has been understandably traumatic for the families.

The Abady family of Toronto flew here last week. Their son George, 24, was the sole Canadian Jew to perish in the crash.

The family of Stanley Klein of New York discovered his empty tallit bag among items lifted from the Atlantic waters. Rabbi Mendel Feldman of the Halifax Lubavitch Congregation speculated Klein put on his tallit "and davened when the plane was going down, and he had no idea if he would live."

On Sept. 6, about nine people climbed the picturesque rocks near the rugged coast where the plane crashed. Relatives of Jewish victims chanted Hebrew prayers, many from the Book of Psalms.

On the same day, members of the Jewish community held a public memorial service at Beth Israel Synagogue, with more than 250 people in attendance.

"Human existence in the best of times is precarious," said Rabbi Aronov of the Orthodox congregation.

"The [229] people who perished

[Cont'd. on page 20]

Toronto family mourns son

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto Jewish family is in mourning for their son — the sole Canadian Jew killed in this month's crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Peggy's Cove, N.S.

George Abady, 24, was on his way to Geneva, where he studied hotel management.

His parents and only sibling, a sister, traveled from their north Toronto home last week to Halifax, where other relatives of the flight's 229 victims gathered for a memorial service and to be present in case remains were found.

Jon Goldberg, director of the Atlantic Jewish Council, said Abady had to switch airlines at the last minute.

Abady's father drove his son to Buffalo to make the connection to New York, where he boarded Flight 111, Goldberg

[cont'd. on page 20]

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L'Shanna Tova,

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From the editor's desk

The 'Greeners' Shul

An 8-year-old was too old to travel by stroller. Though it took his parents more than an hour to get to the synagogue, walking quickly, up hill all the way, he was determined to get there by his own strength. He knew he wouldn't be able to endure the taunts his sister was sure to rain down on his head. And he couldn't count on his parents for protection because they probably wouldn't understand what she was saying anyway. Most of all, he wanted to avoid the huge embarrassment of being seen in the stroller, being pushed to shul, just like a baby.

Shul was no ordinary place of worship. It was a YMCA in mid-Toronto that a group of determined newcomers converted into a synagogue for the High Holy Days.

The congregation was made up entirely of "greeners," men and women who had arrived recently in Canada within the last few years, all survivors of Hitler.

As far as the 8-year-old could tell, as far as the 8-year-old could understand, most of the people in that shul were not religious. But it was clear to him because of the uncommon unison of singing and sobbing that he heard in the shul, and because of all that he saw in his own home, that most of the people in that shul knew a lot about davening and probably too, about God.

His father sang in the choir. Altogether, there were three men in the choir along with the chazzan. None of the four, including the chazzan, were trained singers. But when they sang, they sounded like 10.

The harmony was generous and true, four different strands woven together into a strong, significant cord that all the daveners in the makeshift shul wanted to touch.

The chazzan, an old man even then, was the bass voice, the binding that secured their four-piece vocal bouquet.

One voice in the choir was a baritone, a deep, broad cloth of sound that gave the bouquet a velvet body.

Another voice in the choir was higher than the baritone, but not quite high enough to be a tenor, the stem that usually carried the melody.

The third voice in the choir, his father's, was the tenor, the definition in the harmony that gave color, feeling and poignancy to their rich sound. His voice was not slick or refined or operatic. It was simply beautiful.

Neither the chazzan nor the other choir members had any children. That might have been the reason during the few years his family attended the greeners' High Holy Day shul, that the 8 year old had been allowed to stand at his father's side whenever he wanted to. Usually it was as a break from playing in the halls with the other children who were also too young to sit still in the "sanctuary" or to want to.

When he wasn't involved in a hallway game, at his father's side was the very best place in the shul to be. He stood in front of his father, leaning his body against the chazzan's table, resting from the exhaustion of a game of tag.

His father always held him close, even while the choir sang, his gentle, tailor's hands resting, without admonition, on the boy's shoulders.

There were two moments in particular during the service when the youngster preferred being at his father's side to playing tag with his friends in the hall.

The first came during the repetition by the chazzan and the choir of the Musaf Amidah. It was the quietest moment of the entire service. The deep bass of the chazzan introduced the prayer: *Unetaneh tokef k'dushat hayom ki hu norah v'ayom.* (And we will now tell of the great power of this day's holiness; for it is both dreadful and stirring.)

The choir sang with their eyes closed. How they remembered the words, he never knew. He stood at the table, comforted by the warmth emanating from his father's hands on his shoulders, delighted to be at the centre of this four-cornered musical rectangle.

Suddenly, the choir stopped singing and the velvet voice of the tall baritone filled the silence of the hall: *Uvashofar gadol yitakah.* (And the large shofar sounded a resounding blast.)

The baritone was "answered" by the boy's father. His tenor voice pierced the quiet like a fine line of clear, thin light cutting darkness. *V'kol demamah dakah yishama.* (And a small still voice was heard.)

Pure and perfect, the phrase his father sang hung in the air until it vanished from sound and entered memory.

It was obviously a moving moment for the immigrant worshippers, for almost immediately after the tenor solo, they sang with one loud pleading voice the poetic refrain at the heart of their prayers: *B'Rosh Hashanah yikatevun; uv'Yom Tzom Kippur yechatemun.* (On Rosh Hashanah, our destinies are inscribed; and on Yom Kippur they are sealed.)

The second moment the boy loved came soon after the first when the kohanim blessed the congregation. To protect him from the harm that might result from looking directly upon the kohanim doing their priestly work, his father enfolded him within his tallit, hidden from danger.

Many years later, the man who had been that young boy could remember even the smell of the wool of his father's tallit. And of course, he also remembered, and missed, the feeling of his father's hands upon his shoulders.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

ON THE SHORE, ADIEU, SINS

These men perform the ceremony of Tashlich on the seashore of Tel Aviv in 1980.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Hate crimes often understated: police chief

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The number of hate crimes in Toronto is higher than official figures indicate, Police Chief David Boothby recently told the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) Ontario region council.

"We believe the total of 187 hate crimes in 1997 to be understated," he said. "It doesn't tell the whole story. It doesn't tell of the serious consequences of hate crimes. A better indication of our concern is the extensive measures we are taking to combat it."

Boothby, the first Toronto police chief to appear before the community's Jewish leadership said, "There has to be a limit to what people have to say about another race. If it sounds like a hate crime to you and to me, it probably is."

He was accompanied by councillor Norman Gardner, police services board chair.

With regards to insensitive remarks by police officers, Boothby said that under a section of the Police Act, such remarks will be fully investigated, and new forms are in place for the complainant to state whether he is satisfied with the investigation.

Toronto's changing population, including immigrants who come from countries where law and order is not held in high esteem, is causing concern, he conceded, but the force is getting help from some of these communities.

The 18 hate crime units set up in the city are working well, he said, and are an expression of the force's new commitment to work with communities. More than 24,000 people in the general and school populations were given training in combating and recognizing hate crimes last year.

From left, Toronto Police Chief David Boothby; Police Services Board chair Norman Gardner; Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick; and CJC Ontario region chair Keith Landy.

Policing the Internet, he said, is a new challenge, with its instances of child pornography, hate crime and fraud.

Citing an example of community cooperation, Boothby said automobile crime and thefts were reduced by 40 percent at Yorkdale shopping centre last Christmas after car owners were warned to beware.

Minority groups account for one-third of Toronto's population, he said. "Toronto has become the destination of choice for immigrants."

The force's campaign to recruit members of minority groups as police officers is doing "great," and he noted that the percentage of successful applicants from minority groups is the same as in the general population.

Igor Ellyn, vice-chair of the community relations committee, presented Boothby with a copy of *A Coat of Many Colors* by Irving Abella. "We will continue to be your partners," Ellyn said.

Jim Pott, Urban Alliance of Racial Relations came to hear Boothby's address.

In other business, Jack Silverstone, CJC's national executive director, said that although $2 million (US) has been allotted to Canada from the settlement with Swiss authorities over Holocaust claims, the CJC has not yet received any money.

"We hope the payouts will be more liberal than allowed by the Material Claims Conference but nobody will be retiring early on the basis of what we pay."

He said the CJC Montreal and Toronto offices have been inundated with calls inquiring about the Swiss settlements.

"It was not on our agenda before, but it is now. It's a very complicated subject. I'm the most knowledgeable person on this matter, but I don't know anything."

He noted that the CJC was not a party to the class actions which resulted tentatively in a separate $2.5-million (US) settlement.

The interview with the Ontario education minister by a delegation seeking help for the operation of Jewish day schools was a "good step" said Attorney General Charles Harnick, a guest at the meeting.

By this time next year, the CJC's enhanced office in Ottawa will be set up, but the national office in Montreal is not closing down, as the CJC wants to keep an important presence in Quebec, reported CJC president Moshe Ronen.

It was the first regional executive meeting in a three-year term under the chair of new president Keith Landy.

The leadership of the
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wishes to inform the membership and relatives
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From generation to generation . . . . . We shall remember

End secrets on Wallenberg, Canadian researcher urges

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Only through full disclosure of all archives and records – whether in private or secret government files – will the world come closer to knowing what happened to Swedish World War II hero Raoul Wallenberg, a Canadian researcher says.

The fate of Wallenberg, who is credited with saving the lives of 100,000 Hungarian Jews in Budapest, is unknown, but is knowable based on existing documents, says Winnipeg human rights lawyer David Matas.

David Matas

The problem is that mountains of documents remain hidden or locked up, Matas says.

In a report released last week, Matas calls on several countries, including Sweden, Russia, the United States, Hungary and Israel, to open all relevant archives, even secret ones, in order to unravel one of the most enduring mysteries of the war.

"Neither privacy nor security concerns can justify a refusal to grant full disclosure of relevant information," writes Matas in a report that follows up on nearly two years of research into the Wallenberg case.

In 1996, Matas received a $5,000 grant from Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs to probe the fate of Wallenberg, who was taken into "protective custody" by the Soviets in 1945, and never heard from again.

Matas travelled to Riga, London, Stockholm, Moscow, Geneva and Washington; pored over thousands of documents; and interviewed dozens of officials and other researchers.

Matas, who specializes in immigration and human rights cases, concludes that given incomplete access to information, coupled with bureaucratic inertia, apathy and red tape, it is "premature" to come to any solid conclusion on Wallenberg's fate without more evidence.

For decades, the Soviets, and later the Russians, stuck to the same official story: that Wallenberg died in a Moscow prison in 1947.

Matas reports that the Swedish hero may have been shot and buried, poisoned and cremated, or died of a heart attack while under interrogation.

But Matas, as other researchers have before him, found evidence indicating Wallenberg was sent to different prisons and mental hospitals, and may have lived well beyond 1947.

In fact, given Moscow's contradictions and lies, it would be "a gross injustice" to assume Wallenberg is dead, Matas says. Further research "is a matter of utmost urgency because there remains the possibility, however remote, that Raoul Wallenberg is alive today," the reports states. If alive, Wallenberg would be 86.

In 1985, he was named Canada's only honorary citizen.

The scion of a wealthy family of industrialists, Wallenberg was dispatched from Sweden to Budapest by the U.S. War Refugee Board in 1944 to save as many Jews as possible from Nazi deportations. In the frantic months that followed, he issued up to 50,000 fake Swedish passports, and spirited their bearers to safe houses that flew the neutral Swedish flag.

Near the end of the war, he persuaded the Nazis to call off the razing of Budapest's Jewish ghetto, with its 50,000 inhabitants.

He was arrested by the invading Red Army as an American spy, and taken to Moscow, where years of obfuscation and lies began.

Matas bluntly states that the Soviets "were involved in fabrications, document destruction and obstruction that began with Wallenberg's arrest and continued almost to the end of the Soviet period."

Furthermore, today's Russia has "being less than cooperative in uncovering the truth." In Russia, Matas encountered intimidated witnesses, uncooperative officials and mountains of red tape. He believes it's all a throwback to the old Soviet system.

"The search for Wallenberg is a conundrum precisely because the Russians have done so little to clarify the Soviet past," writes Matas. "The Wallenberg case was a coverup within a coverup."

Evidence that Wallenberg survived past 1947 "is at least as compelling as the evidence that he was murdered in 1947," he argues, citing prison and hospital records, and interviews with former inmates of Soviet prisons who claimed to have had contact with Wallenberg, even into the early 1980s.

Matas believes that a famous 1957 memo signed by then Soviet foreign minister Andrei Gromyko, stating that Wallenberg had died of a heart attack in 1947, was fabricated, and became the basis for "continuing and repeated lies by the whole Soviet apparatus."

In 1989, the Soviets handed over to the Wallenberg family some of the hero's personal effects, saying they turned up during routine cleaning of filing cabinets. But Matas dismisses that explanation, saying the items came from several different archives and could not have all been found by chance.

But Matas' frustration is not limited to Moscow.

He slams the Swedish government, which has "failed" to do everything it could to help Wallenberg. Following the war, Matas says, the Swedes returned Russian spies, but asked for nothing in return.

Raoul Wallenberg

In 1991, two working groups, one Swedish and one Russian, were set up to probe Wallenberg's fate. Both have yet to deliver their findings – a delay Matas says is "appallingly long."

If Wallenberg was murdered, his killers should be brought to justice before they have a chance to get away with "one of the great crimes of the 20th century."

Ultimately, while the responsibility for Wallenberg's disappearance rests "squarely" on the shoulders of Moscow, responsibility for uncovering his fate rests with the entire world, Matas states.

Among his recommendations are that:

- Canada should participate actively in the case and should call on all concerned governments to open their archives;
- There should be full archival disclosure of all information about Wallenberg in Sweden, Russia, the United States, Hungary, Germany, Israel and the United Nations;
- The Swedish and Russian working groups should complete their work and release their findings;
- Russia should establish a presidential commission into the fate of Wallenberg;
- Any claim that Wallenberg died, whether in 1947, or at any other time, must be proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

Greater Toronto Area

CJC president meets with Latvian Jewish leaders

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Prospects are improving for the return of a religious school, Tora V'derech Erec, to the Riga Jewish community, Canadian Jewish Congress president Moshe Ronen said after recently returning from Latvia.

The three-story school building, estimated by Ronen to be worth between $1 and $2 million (US), is the subject of litigation by the community seeking restitution of the property, which was seized in 1940.

Thousands of Canadians are descended from Jews who lived in Latvia.

"The Latvians in general are quite good about restitution but they have been very slow on this and dragging their feet," said Ronen.

But the CJC president said he was heartened after a meeting with Gerald R. Skinner, Canadian embassy charge d'affaires in Latvia.

"The Canadian government is well respected in Latvia and the embassy's interest in the matter bodes well," Ronen said.

The CJC president was on private legal business in Riga when he was approached by Zalman Josse, the city's Jewish community president, to intercede. It was the first formal contact between the CJC and the Latvian community, Ronen said.

Following the meeting with Skinner, Ronen wrote a letter to Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy noting the school in question was a vital aspect of religious education until 1940.

As well, he wrote, the community has archival documentation and a certificate dated June 6, 1995 from Israel Meir Lau, the Chief Rabbi of Israel, attesting to its ownership.

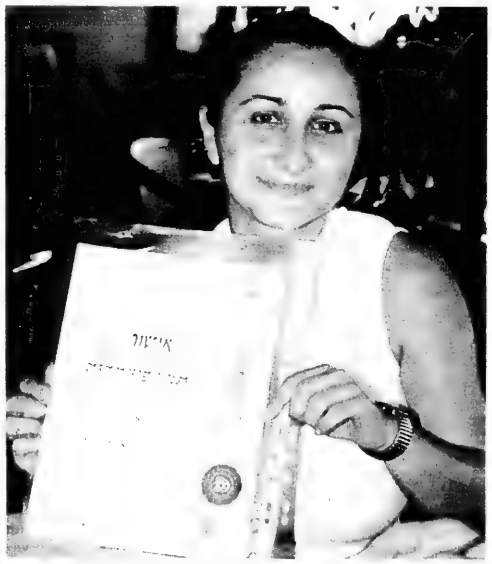
Currently used by the Latvian Ministry of Education, the building will be re-dedicated to Jewish education if it is returned, community leaders told Ronen.

At present, Jewish classes are held in inadequate spaces in two locations in Riga, one of which is sponsored by Lubavitch, Ronen said.

The once-large Jewish community in Latvia today numbers about 8,000 to 10,000. Most are in Riga and many are assimilated, Ronen said. Instead of six synagogues in Riga before World War II, there is now only one.

"The whole issue of anti-Semitism in Latvia is still of concern. Not too much has changed," Ronen said.

CJC president Moshe Ronen (left) meeting recently with Gerald Skinner, charges d'affaires at Canada's embassy in Riga, Latvia.



A proud Tamar Pichkahdze, an immigrant from Georgia, was among the first 128 graduates of a program designed to absorb single immigrants to Israel (aged 17-20) from the former Soviet Union through vocational training. The program is funded by UIA Federations Canada through the Jewish Agency for Israel. [UIA Federations photo]

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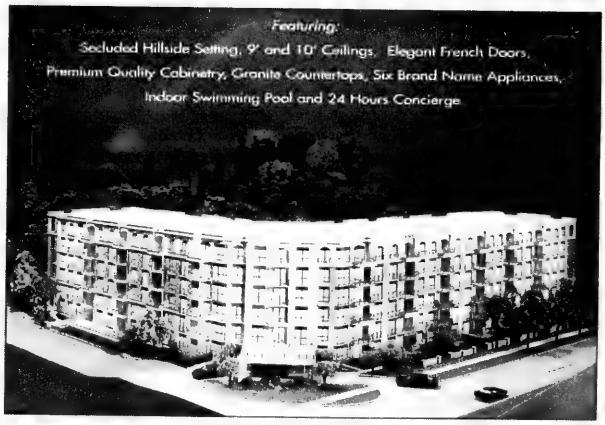
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Humanity, most high

Swissair Flight 111 from New York to Geneva fell to the ocean during the night of Sept. 2 with such deadly impact that as of this writing, almost two weeks since, only four bodies have been identified from the bits of human remains offered up by the cold Atlantic waters. And only a mere fraction of the total wreckage has been retrieved.

The scenes of grief and mourning from the picturesque shoreline of Peggy's Cove have touched us all, reminding us with each sorrowful sigh, that none of us is ever far removed from the sadness of a fellow human being.

But as deep as our feelings are of heartbreak, soaring high have been our feelings of homage and praise to the more than 1,500 people from the area surrounding Peggy's Cove who took part in the search, attempted rescue and salvage of the remains of that fateful flight.

From the very first terrible moments after they received news of the crash in the middle of the night, the local folk put comfort and self-interest aside for the sake of the humanity that they knew to be in distress.

Poignant stories of heart-rending sensitivity and compassion on the part of the local volunteers have poured from the crash site. As reported in the media, the attitude of John Butt, a medical examiner, typified that exceptional sensitivity. "People who are working with us in this difficult area cannot forget the beauty of the souls who suffered in the crash, and the families deserve nothing less than the sympathetic handling of the remains of their loved ones so that they can have some closure."

The small Jewish community of Halifax was also part of the humanitarian outreach. Indeed, as *CJN* Atlantic correspondent Joel Jacobson has written in this issue of *The CJN*, the response by the community was described by one particular family member of a crash victim as "out-front and active..."

And, it must be borne in mind, that outreach was exceedingly difficult. Few, if any, of the volunteers could have ever been prepared for what they saw "drifting into the rocks."

Helping the anguished mourners required extreme courage and fortitude. Lorraine Tobia, a member of the Shaar Shalom Synagogue and a nurse who worked 14- and 18-hour days to help the needy families, exemplified that fortitude. "In my business, I have seen many gruesome things...But [it] was nothing like what I saw here..."

In the kindness of these Nova Scotians, what we have seen is humanity at its very best, compassion at its highest, caring about another and not standing idly by the sadness of a fellow human being.

...and most low

In stark contrast to the deep goodness and high humanity of the people in and around Peggy's Cove, we saw standing in the prisoner's dock in Arusha, Tanzania, two days after Swissair Flight 111 crashed into the Atlantic Ocean, the surrealistic evil of humanity most low.

Jean Kambanda, the former prime minister of Rwanda was sentenced to life imprisonment for his role in the genocide of more than 500,000 Tutsi Rwandans in 1994. He was tried and convicted by the UN-established International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. It marked the first time that an international court had convicted anyone for the crime of genocide.

After the trial, Canadian prosecutor Madame Justice Louise Arbour noted that Kambanda's conviction and sentence "are the most significant steps to date in the eradication of the culture of impunity..."

We commend the tribunal for its diligent work.

If goodness, rather than evil, is ultimately to characterize humanity, those significant steps in Arusha must not be the last ones.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"May you all be inscribed for a good, peaceful, healthy year."
Traditional greeting

Dry Bones

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Arafat not responsible for Web site canard

A front page story (*CJN*, Aug. 13) and subsequent editorial dealt with a Fatah Web site posing a new constitution calling for the elimination of the State of Israel. We were greatly troubled by such a development and strongly condemned Fatah and more particularly Yasser Arafat since this totally contravenes the Oslo obligation that the PA/PLO recognize Israel's right to exist in peace and security.

Subsequently, however, news stories in both *Ha'aretz* and the *Jerusalem Post* strongly suggested that it was a small radical faction of Fatah – not Fatah itself – that was responsible for the activity. It would of course, have been helpful for Arafat to have immediately provided the necessary clarification and to have condemned those responsible, but it is important to recognize that there now seems to be no complicity in this story by the mainstream Fatah movement, the Palestinian Authority or Yasser Arafat. Arafat, who is by no means a saint, should be held accountable for those sins against Oslo for which he is responsible, and not for those which he had nothing to do with.

Simon Rosenblum, Frank Guttman
National Co-Presidents
Canadian Friends of Peace Now

Defends editorial on Israel in Catholic Insight

Re: "Catholic magazine slams Israel," (*CJN*, Aug. 27).

Reporter Ron Csillag calls our editorial "a vicious attack" on Israel. It was neither an attack, nor "vicious," which the Oxford dictionary defines as: of the nature of vice, morally evil or injurious. It was an editorial reflection on the meaning and future of the State of Israel which commemorated its 50th birthday May 14.

I avoided attaching blame for these developments to either Jew or Arab. I concluded that Israel – *as presently constituted* – cannot survive, nor should it. In other words, there has to be a deep transformation in order to make this miraculous ingathering of Jews an expression of the Almighty's providence to the benefit of all.

Rather than wishing moral evil ("vicious attack") upon Israel, I wish it Godspeed.

I apologize for one or two remarks that could have been expressed more felicitously, and for the telegram kind of style of editorials in a limited space which tends to short-change an argument.

Fr. Alphones de Valk
Editor
Catholic Insight

Applauds dialogue between Christians and Jews

I read with interest Ron Csillag's article (*CJN*, Sept. 3), concerning Rabbi Perry Cohen's efforts to create understanding among Christian communities regarding Jewish tradition and prayer. I would like to hear more about the result of his efforts; perhaps Rabbi Cohen is responding to a growing element among Christian communities interested in gaining a better understanding of the early roots of their own faith. If that is the case, then so much the better; no harm should come from keeping the road of dialogue open between Christians and Jews.

But why introduce references to what your reporter described as Rabbi Cohen's controversial past? Until I read your paper I was not aware of the controversy described and frankly, after reading it, I must say it seems to be a matter that is neither your business, nor mine, nor indeed that of any of your readers!

Murray Leiter
Toronto

Russian seeking relatives in Canada

I am seeking information about Isaak Ellemalah (Ellemelakh, Ellemelach) and his family, Mera and Mendel Ellemelah, Mera and Mendel's daughter, Riva, and her husband and younger son, and Mera and Mendel's grandson. They came to Canada from Ukraine during the period from 1912 to 1918. I have pictures of them taken in Montreal at 407 Ontario St. W.

Diana Rivkina
P.O. Box 2329
Kharkiv 310001
Ukraine

Claims thesis writer is David Irving follower

Re: University approves controversial master's thesis (*CJN*, Aug. 20).

The quotation, "No historian can prove formally that Hitler had the genocide of the Jews as a political objective," shows Pierre Asselin as David Irving's follower.

I recommend that he read Eberhard Jaeckel's, *David Irving's Hitler – A Faulty History Dissected.*

Not only has Jaeckel, professor of history at the University of Stuttgard (Germany), answered Irving's falsehoods, but also those of several others mentioned in Jaeckel's little book of 58 pages.

D. Broh
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

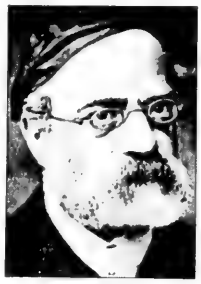
Perspectives

Prussian emancipation 'a sick swindle'

BY GIL TROY

One hundred fifty years ago last April, Prussia emancipated its Jews from centuries of legal restrictions. Impelled by the liberal democratic revolutions convulsing Europe, the Prussian constitution granted Jews full civil and political rights, despite their religion.

This grant of equal citizenship should have been a landmark event. But merely two years later, the Jewish historian Isaac Marcus Jost mourned that "the truly magnificent, lawful and virtuous uprising that brought admirable changes to our fatherland" had failed, and "all that followed was only a sick swindle."



Samson Raphael Hirsch

On one level, of course, the continuing scourge of anti-Semitism hindered emancipation. Of the 26 German states that debated or enacted emancipatory legislation in 1848 and 1849, only five states with a combined population of 12,000 Jews actually emancipated their Jews.

In Prussia, with its estimated 218,750 Jews (half of German Jewry), Article 14 of the revised constitution of 1850 revoked the equal status promised in Article 12. Article 14 declared: "The Christian religion shall be the prerequisite for [access to] all institutions of the state connected with religious observance." That meant that any positions requiring an oath of office, and any positions in the areas of education and culture, excluded Jews.

Issac Noah Mannheimer

For disappointed Jews, the swindle was even more unnerving. Not only had the backlash against the 1848 revolution robbed Jews of their new rights, the very act of emancipation forced Jews to choose between their people and their new "fatherland." The failure of the 1848 emancipation illustrates how 19th-century Jews – and their heirs – were mugged by modernity. These 150-year-old dilemmas about identity and loyalty, about tradition and change, continue to bedevil most modern Jews today.

Germans from across the political spectrum made it clear that "emancipation" required a Faustian bargain. Jews could only freely participate in modern life if they freed themselves from their traditions. The Jewish-born poet Heinrich Heine was correct; "the baptismal certificate" was indeed "the ticket of admission to European culture."

From the right, the Prussian Prince Ferdinand Radziwill announced in 1847 that "the doors are open all the time to complete emancipation. If they [the Jews] convert and assume Christianity, they will be our brothers in every way and will have civic and political rights." On the left, leading liberals sounded more reasonable. "The Jews must accept the hand being offered them," Count Renard insisted during the same 1847 debate in the Prussian Diet. "They may keep their faith, but they must put superstition and heresy away." Of course, to such "enlightened" folk, most Jewish traditions appeared superstitious and heretical.

The leading German Jewish parliamentarian, Gabriel Riesser, justified the bargain in tactical terms. German national liberation would liberate the Jews too. "Offer me with one hand the emancipation to which all my innermost wishes point, with the other the realization of the most beautiful dream of the political unity of Germany in union with its political freedom," he said, "and without hesitation I choose the latter! For I have the firm, deepest conviction that the latter contains the former."

But the elite Jews' zeal for reforming tradition was more than a mere tactic. By 1848, thousands of what Riesser called "Germans of the Jewish faith" had already liberated themselves from their past. The very formulation, "Germans of the Jewish faith," negated the centrality of Jewish nationhood to Jewish identity, and reduced Judaism from a complex, three-dimensional national, religious, and moral adventure into a unidimensional creed. Enlightened German Jews were busily freeing themselves from kashrut, Shabbat and other "ballast of an age gone by" that kept the Jews outside of the modern mainstream.

"Jewish matters naturally fall in the background; they don't fit this world," exclaimed Jost. "Whenever I run into people from the synagogue, I think I'm seeing ghosts from the Middle Ages."

The German Jewish elite had eagerly embraced the modern world. These liberal Jews had their priorities clear. "For us? Nothing!" Vienna's Rabbi Isaac Noah Mannheimer shouted above the din of revolution on March 18, 1848. "Everything for the nation and the fatherland... Now, nothing for us! No word of Jewish emancipation, if others don't speak it for us... First the right to live as men, to breathe, to think, to speak; first the right of the citizens, afterwards comes the Jew."

For over half a century, German Jews had been busily dismantling an edifice constructed over 4,000 years. Beginning with Moses Mendelssohn, the brilliant *maskil* (enlightened one) and star of 18th-century Berlin salon life, Jews ambitious to enter the modern world "as men" had jettisoned the practices that made them Jews.

The transformation was rapid and disorienting. Mendelssohn devoted his considerable intellect to making modern life palatable to traditional Jews and making traditional Judaism palatable to modern Germans. But opening the Pandora's box of enlightened thought, social ambition and universal idealism was dangerous. Like millions of Jews since, Mendelssohn struck a balance that worked for him, but he failed to pass his idiosyncratic formula onto the next generation.

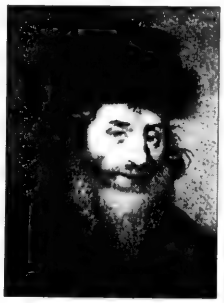
"We have educated you and your brothers and sister in the Christian faith, because it is the creed of most civilized people," Moses' son Abraham Mendelssohn wrote to his 15-year-old daughter Fanny when she was confirmed in the Lutheran church in 1820. "By pronouncing your confession of faith you have fulfilled the claims of society on you, and obtained the name of a Christian."

Moses Mendelssohn

While the story of this offshoot of the Mendelssohn family tree was an extreme case, it was a harbinger of things to come. The formula of "First... to live as men... afterwards comes the Jew" led Jews to Reform Judaism by applying non-Jewish standards.

"Why should we not draw a lesson from the peoples among whom we live," one Reformer asked, justifying modelling Jewish liturgical life on the practices of the German Lutheran church. In constructing elaborate temples, clothing rabbis in ministerial robes, using German instead of Hebrew, and playing an organ during the service, Jews mimicked the contemporary Christian burghers whose approval they craved.

These departures were so bold that they triggered an intense counterreaction. Facing the Reformers' unprecedented threat, traditionalists became obsessed with fighting change. Even Samson Raphael Hirsch, who founded "Neo-Orthodoxy" to preserve the religious framework while operating in the modern world, cried: "Only if, as in the days of our ancestors, we gird ourselves with swords can we today, on a rubble-covered field with enemies lurking all around, hope to advance the building of our sanctuary."



Moses Sofer

This rejection of change, this embrace of an "Orthodoxy," was in itself novel. Jews had traditionally described Jewish law as an *Eitz Chaim*, a tree of life that does indeed grow, albeit gradually, imperceptibly. All of a sudden, no change was acceptable.

"Never say, 'Times have changed!'" the great Rabbi Moses Sofer – the Chatam Sofer – who died in 1839, warned in his ethical will. "We have an old Father – praised be His name – who has never changed and never will change."

The liturgy, the siddur, eloquent testimonials to the wealth, diversity, continuity and fluidity of Jewish life over the centuries became etched in stone. "The order of prayer and synagogue shall remain forever as it has been up to now," the Chatam Sofer decreed, and no one may presume to change anything of its structure."

Looking back, it is tempting to dismiss the Reformers for being too wobbly, and the Orthodox for being too rigid. But the rise of Orthodoxy reveals just how profoundly revolutionary the modern impulse was – it even transformed the traditionalists.

And we moderns should be especially wary of dismissing these hyper-patriotic, eager to be accepted, German Jews. True, most readers of *The CJN* are too well-trained, and too immersed in the rhetoric of Jewish unity and self-sacrifice to echo Rabbi Abraham Geiger's 1840 sentiments that "it is more important to me that the Jews of Prussia can become druggists and jurists than that all the Jews of Asia and Africa, in whose fate I am interested as a human being, have or have not achieved salvation." But we can afford to relax because we have already become a community of "druggists and jurists." Besides, haven't millions of North American Jews today sacrificed their communal identities for professional advancement? Don't most of us choose modern indulgences over Jewish tradition?

Similarly, while in a post-Holocaust world, Riesser's vow that "the Jews will be Germans among the Germans" sounds deluded and pathetic, don't we, too, revel in our status as a model minority? Aren't we quick to strike anyone who dares to question our loyalty to our country of origin?

Ultimately, most of us try to live our lives "first as men" – or women – and only then as Jews. The short unhappy life of the 1848 Prussian emancipation should push us to look deep inside ourselves, assess our safer and more welcoming surroundings, and double-check that we make identity choices freely and intelligently, and not in response to some fear that we too will not be accepted. If we, unlike our 19th-century ancestors, are truly emancipated, our freedom should not be contingent on anyone's goodwill, or our communal good behavior, but on our inherent rights as free citizens.

Gil Troy is a professor of history at McGill University.

Opinions

On bullets and ballets

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Behind Benjamin Netanyahu's recent attack on former chief of staff Amnon Shahak lies a tale of shrewd political manoeuvering. However, it also marks the latest and most serious stage in the shifting relationship between the political and military branches in Israel. In a recent press conference, Netanyahu described Shahak as a "leftist" and criticized his role as chief negotiator with the Palestinians during Yitzhak Rabin's government.

Like Ehud Barak and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai before they joined Labor and Likud respectively, Shahak, who left his post just a few months ago, is perceived as credible and as a political centrist. His greatest asset is the pragmatism and non-partisanship associated with most senior commanders in the IDF. As soon as Netanyahu took office, he viewed Shahak as a potential political threat, but from the start, his personal criticism has been framed as an attack on the credibility of the IDF's decision-making process.

In spite of the military's great power, Israeli democracy has remained immune to the danger of a military coup, largely due to the unique nature of the Israeli "people's army" and the harmony that traditionally existed between the civil and military authorities. The peace negotiations during the 1992-96 Rabin government changed this historical situation. Rabin's reliance on the professionalism of the IDF led him to appoint military officers as key figures in the peace talks, thereby exposing them to attacks from opponents of Oslo on the right.

After the 1996 election and Netanyahu's rise to power, the rift became open and acute. In an unprecedented break with common practice, Netanyahu did not meet with his chief of staff for months, and he and members of his cabinet repeatedly questioned the professionalism of the army's leaders.

The IDF, in turn, felt the need to protect itself from being blamed for policy mistakes. For the first time in Israel's history, the press became the arena for open disagreements between political and military leaders over policy on issues such as withdrawal from Lebanon or dealing with Palestinian unrest in the West Bank.

Dr. Yoram Peri, who has followed the role of the military in Israeli society for decades, views the new status quo as dangerous. According to Peri, a young democracy, which is dependent on the IDF for its security, cannot afford the current alienation between the civil and military authorities. The army believes that it is being unfairly criticized for a political bias that does not exist, by politicians who have little regard for the exigencies on the ground in the territories. The current tension between the two branches could worsen in the event of hostilities in the West Bank. The IDF knows that half the people, and many reserve soldiers, may disagree with a government decision to move back into the West Bank cities in the event of such an outbreak.

In Israel's polarized society, the public is seeking an answer that appears to bridge the gap between right and left. To capitalize on this, Tel Aviv mayor Roni Milo is trying to run for prime minister as head of a new centre party, and this is why Shahak is the latest political star. He projects empathy and intelligence, and has not yet declared his political views. His star may wane once he is tested in the front line of politics, but right now, he is perceived as the answer to Labor's difficulties in presenting an effective challenge to Netanyahu. That is why it was so important to Netanyahu to brand Shahak as a "leftist," thereby trying to damage his credibility with voters in the centre.

The episode is also illustrative of a deeper problem in the Israeli political culture. The army is one of the few sources of newcomers to politics. In Israel, even today, a military career is worth more than many civilian achievements. By definition, this makes it more difficult for other groups, especially women, to break through the glass ceiling that exists. But it also parachutes into politics a cadre of men who sometimes have great difficulty with the open, competitive nature of the political arena.

The history of Israeli politics is littered with more former generals who failed in their political pursuit than the few who succeeded, like Yitzhak Rabin, Moshe Dayan or Ariel Sharon. For many observers, the automatic infatuation with "military politicians" is one of the negative dimensions of a society that needs to become more civilian in its orientation.

As for Shahak, he is still enjoying a media and public honeymoon, during which he has said very little but has looked very good. Netanyahu's political manoeuvre may marginalize him, but if he fights back effectively, it may mark the trial by fire of the newest star on the Israeli political horizon.

Is circumcision wrong?

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

For some time, Dr. Margaret Somerville of McGill's Centre for Ethics, Medicine and Law has been part of a movement opposing the practice of routine male circumcision. She argued in the Montreal *Gazette* of Aug. 22 that the procedure is harmful, not medically justified, and takes place without a baby's consent. She suggests further that male circumcision may well qualify as criminal assault. From this follows her claim that "it is ethically wrong" for a physician to carry it out. While she recognizes that religious circumcision – for Jews and Muslims – is a separate case, she nevertheless hopes that somehow religious leaders may be convinced to change their views. Jews are understandably concerned.

Before looking at the scientific merits of the issue, it is worth pondering why it has emerged for public debate at this time. One possible factor may be subtle or not so subtle pressure from radical feminists, relating to the issue of female genital operations (FGO). The evidence about the serious harm of those horrific procedures is overwhelming, far greater than any evidence regarding male circumcision. The mobilizations against FGOs are more than justified.

But some activists might see elements of sexism and racism in the hue and cry against FGOs, practised by and on women of color. Why does a practice common to (many white) men escape comparable criticism? To avoid a charge of a possible double standard, there may be pressure on feminists and/or physicians opposed to FGOs to consider condemning male circumcision as well.

Does the medical evidence justify such condemnation? I am neither a physician nor a rabbi. But let me stress that if there were clear scientific proof that male circumcision was causally linked to serious illness or dysfunction, this layman would urge Jews immediately to either abandon the practice or develop a symbolic substitute. And I believe that such a change would be sanctioned by Halachah (Jewish religious law).

Somerville cites the exhaustive 1996 review by the Canadian Pediatric Society (CPS), which I have read. Their conclusion is that on balance, the benefits do not outweigh the risks and thus circumcision should not be "routinely performed." But this neutrality seems far removed from criminal assault. Indeed, the two "overall assessments" (Lawler, Bisonni and Holtgrave, 1991, Ganiats, Humphrey, Taras et al 1991,) cited by the CPS agree that the medical and financial advantages and disadvantages of circumcision cancel each other out.

Moreover, I am unaware of reports of an increasing number of cases of penile-related illness or dysfunction among the circumcised which would suggest new scientific evidence of adult harm. Nor is there any evidence that Jewish men – a naturally occurring experimental group – have displayed epidemiological evidence, historically or at present, of any adverse health impact from circumcision.

Somerville's case rests largely on harm to the infant being circumcised. She indicates that this is a painful procedure, and that "some evidence" suggests it may disrupt breast feeding, or that "trauma to a child can interfere with mother-child bonding." These issues and the evidence were not investigated in the CPS report.

I have not reviewed this latest evidence. There may be a brief disruption of breast-feeding schedules. But I wonder if that is related to any evidence of malnourishment or lower birthweights for circumcised babies. If such evidence exists, along with similar evidence regarding Jewish infants, it should also lead to other observable consequences, such as higher infant mortality or morbidity rates.

As for "trauma to a child" I wonder if those studies used circumcision as their example of trauma. Circumcision lasts a few seconds and infants do not generally have any memory of the event. By contrast, most cases of child abuse usually involve chronic and multiple behaviors. I doubt if there is scientific evidence of a weaker mother-son bond among Jewish boys or men, which would be a natural confirmation of such alleged effects.

In short, I am not persuaded that any significant harm is done to circumcised infants, on balance. As to consent, little girls get their ears pierced and infants are strapped into bicycle rear seats, all without their consent…

There is no doubt that criticizing circumcisions can make Jews feel labelled as uncaring or primitive. Individual doctors can decide not to do them. But in the absence of convincing scientific evidence about real harms – as is the case with FGOs – there is no hope that identified Jews will stop circumcising their infant boys. Pushing the issue will create needless cultural conflict.

Our ageist society

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Just 30 years ago, Robert N. Butler created the words ageist and ageism. For readers unfamiliar with this terminology, ageism means prejudice towards the aged. Butler showed that, without a question, the old in North America are exposed to a great deal of prejudice – in language, social policy and popular attitude.

Says Butler: "Ageism manifests itself in a wide range of phenomena on a variety of levels: stereotypes and myths; outright disdain and dislike or simple subtle avoidance of contact; discriminatory practice in housing, employment and service of all kinds; epithets, cartoons and jokes. At times, ageism becomes an expedient method by which society promotes viewpoints about the aged in order to relieve itself of responsibility towards them. At other times, ageism serves a highly personal objective, protecting young (usually middle-aged) individuals from thinking about things they fear."

A few years ago, another researcher, Frank Nuessel, provided an eye-opening dictionary of ageist terms: Nouns – bag, battle-axe, biddy, codger, coot, crone, fogy, fuddy-duddy, geezer, goat, hag, little old lady, spinster. Adjectives – crotchety, doddering, grumpy, infirm, rickety, toothless, withered, wrinkled.

Of course, some of these words are perfectly acceptable in a neutral context, but when describing older people they become ageist terms. Aged or old are commendations when applied to wine, but not when applied to persons — not today anyway.

Positive terms exist as well, though in comparison they are relatively few: experienced, mature, mellow, sage, seasoned, veteran, well-versed, wise. Elder is pretty safe from verbal abuse, for the time being anyway. Generation gap was an objective description of age difference when it was first used but quickly became a put-down, suggesting that the older party lacked a proper understanding of the young (of course, not the other way around).

Discrimination is usually reserved for minorities, and in that sense old people have been called a minority, though that ascription has not been deemed proper by others. The problem is compounded by the fact that prejudicial terms can be found, not only in the media, but in also in children's books and school texts. We have been reasonably successful in cleansing our language of racist epithets and of geographic identifications that are no longer acceptable, but no comparable effort has been made to alert decent folk about the pernicious affect of using ageist terms. It's time we tried.

Unless we are stricken by debilitating disease, we are quite unwilling to be cast on the societal ash heap of unusable antiques, and be talked about accordingly.

Jewish tradition is quite firm on this whole subject. It demands that we rise before the old, and respect the aged. Unfortunately, all too often, we too follow the attitudes prevalent in our environment. We could and should do better.

Rabbi Plaut is presently working on a new book that he entitles tentatively: Being Old — A View from the Inside.

The Kirshner File

Neil Caplan: leading Canadian authority on Mideast

In this age of pop culture, you're more likely to have heard of the Spice Girls than Neil Caplan. But in the rarefied realm of Middle Eastern

By Sheldon Kirshner

scholarship, Caplan's name evokes widespread acknowledgement and respect.

Being modest, he describes himself as "an independent researcher who enjoys some credibility and a small reputation" among Middle East specialists. In actuality, Caplan, a 52-year-old political science professor in the humanities department of Montreal's Vanier College, is a top-notch scholar who gives new meaning to the hoary phrase "publish or perish."

Since 1978, he has written seven assiduously researched books and numerous monographs on the intricacies of the Arab-Israeli conflict. By doing so, Caplan – the son of Nat and Mary of Cote St. Luc - has become one of its leading Canadian authorities.

A 1966 McGill graduate, Caplan burst upon the scene with *Palestine Jewry and the Arab Question, 1917-1925*, a book based on his PhD dissertation at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Supervised by the late Elie Kedourie, Caplan's thesis offered a microcosm of the attitudes, situations and patterns which crystallized into enduring features of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Palestine Jewry and the Arab Question galvanized him to produce a series of related books, mainly under the umbrella title of *Futile Diplomacy*, about the efforts by Jewish and Arab leaders to reach a modus vivendi in strife-torn Palestine.

The first volume, entitled *Early Arab-Zionist Negotiation Attempts, 1913-1931*, was followed by *Arab-Zionist Negotiation Attempts and the End of the Mandate* and *The Lausanne Conference, 1949: A Case Study in Middle East Peacemaking*.

These works, in turn, spawned *The United Nations, the Great Powers and Middle East Peacemaking, 1948-1954* and *Operation Alpha and the Failure of Anglo-American Coercive Diplomacy in the Arab-Israeli Conflict*.

Caplan's latest book, published several months ago in collaboration with Laura Zittrain Eisenberg of Carnegie Mellon University, is *Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace: Patterns, Problems, Possibilities* (Indiana University Press).

The writing of these books, which Caplan calls a "lifetime project," has required him to be on an endless paper chase.

As he put it: "I love digging up original documents buried in various archives around the world, and reconstructing the historical puzzle of the Arab-Israeli conflict by carefully piecing together what I think is a more reliable and balanced account of what happened and why people acted the way they did."

Insofar as methodology is concerned, Caplan rigorously sticks to the facts. "Unlike the so-called 'new historians' or revisionists," he explained, "I try to avoid discussions of what *might* have or *should* have been, an approach which is usually ideologically driven."

Caplan, however, has a distinct point of view, as a reading of his newest work, *Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace*, confirms. Two examples will suffice:

• "Zionism focused on Palestine but largely overlooked the Arabs already living there, seeing them as residents of the larger Ottoman Empire but not as a Palestinian national people.

• "As Jewish immigration and settlement increased, so did Arab opposition. The willingness of many Arab landowners to sell property in Palestine to Jews persuaded many Zionists that the Arabs would eventually reconcile themselves to the establishment of a Jewish state..."

Caplan contends that, notwithstanding the inherent irreconcilability of their respective aims, leading Zionists and Arabs met informally on dozens of occasions to thrash out differences. And he points out that direct Arab-Zionist contacts were in and of themselves not considered the breakthrough they seem today.

None of the talks that took place between Zionist and Palestinian Arab representatives from 1919 onward were aimed at achieving "a mutually satisfactory solution," Caplan contends.

Until the 1948 War of Independence, the political issues which dominated their discussions turned on immediate practical concerns like Jewish immigration and communal representation in self-governing bodies.

Looking back at the cumulative negotiating experience of Jews and Arabs over the past 80 years, Caplan reaches several conclusions:

• Jews failed to appreciate the legitimacy of Palestinian Arab national sentiment and aspirations.

• Arabs failed to recognize the legitimacy of Zionism and the Jewish yearning for a homeland.

• The selfish interests and machinations of third parties, notably that of France, Britain, the former Soviet Union and the United States, undermined the chances for Arab-Jewish reconciliation.

Contrary to popular belief, he goes on to say, the record also shows that merely increasing the amount of contact between the two sides did not necessarily increase the chances for successful talks.

Caplan, a graduate of Baron Byng High School who is married with two grown children (Benjamin and Hanna), has been drawn to Middle East issues since the 1967 Six Day War.

"My interest in Middle Eastern studies evolved through three phases," he said.

Neil Caplan

Before the Six Day War broke out, he was in the middle of an MA program in Canadian studies at Carleton University in Ottawa. "As a Jew, I found myself a news junkie, emotionally drained by reports of the buildup to war. I began to identify with endangered Israel, and sensed a looming threat through the lens of the Holocaust. Like most Jews, I was filled with joy and relief at Israel's lightning victory."

The second stage of his interest drew upon the Canadian, rather than the Jewish, component of his identity.

"The mid-1960s were a time of intense introspection about the nature of the English-French partnership that made up Canada. I thought, at that time, that Canadian-style federalism might perhaps offer pointers toward a structural solution to the Arab-Israeli dilemma, and I applied to to do graduate work in Middle Eastern studies with such a thesis in mind."

During the last stage, in England, Caplan studied under such pre-eminent Middle East scholars as Bernard Lewis and P.J. Vatikiotis.

"I also took courses to beef up my Hebrew, and learned some Arabic." As well, he accepted a fellowship at Tel Aviv University's Moshe Dayan Centre for Middle Eastern and African Studies.

At Vanier College in the 1970s and 1980s, Caplan taught courses about the Middle East. In recent years, though, he has moved on to more Jewish-content courses turning on the Holocaust and "Jewish world views."

Caplan plans to spend the 1999 academic year at the Hebrew University, where he intends to study four peacekeepers and peace-makers: Count Folke Bernadotte, Ralph Bunche, Gen. E.L.M. Burns and Dag Hammarskjold.

Although he is not an avid newspaper reader, Caplan follows current Mideast developments closely. In general, he is optimistic that the Arab-Israeli dispute can be resolved through peaceful means.

"But in how many years? And after how many more deaths?

"I believe that any settlement, to be a lasting one," he added, "must lead to some form of (Palestinian) statehood that is both acceptable to the Palestinians and answers Israel's basic security needs."

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Books

By Bernard Baskin

***Jews*, by Arthur Hertzberg and Aron Hirt-Manheimer (Harper Collins, $36.50).**

This provocative and outspoken work on Jewish identity through the ages will, undoubtedly, arouse debate and even anger.

Arthur Hertzberg is the well-known Conservative rabbi, scholar, prolific author and essayist, prominent Zionist and former president of the American Jewish Congress. His collaborator, Aron Hirt-Manheimer, is editor of *Reform Judaism* magazine.

The authors project three basic themes or paramount ideas. The first of these is that Jews have aroused antagonism and opposition throughout history because they have been persistent dissenters in every society in which they have lived. "From the very beginning, when Abraham broke the idols of his father, Terach, he insisted that the faith in the one God is true and paganism is false. He challenged the culture around him.

"When the Jews encountered Hellenistic culture after Alexander the Great conquered the Near East, Jews were the lone dissenters. When Christianity became the state religion of the Roman Empire, the Jews refused to accept the new dispensation. In medieval Europe, nobody would have doubted even for a moment the divinity of Christ, until a Jew showed up."

So what is anti-Semitism? It is the fierce antagonism of the majority against a small people whose astonishing existence keeps calling their major beliefs into question.

Secondly, contend the authors, Jewish stubbornness and separateness flow from a belief in being divinely chosen for a singular role or mission in history.

"Even many Jews who have spent their lives outside the Jewish community have not shaken off this notion of being part of an elect people. It was bred into their bones by their ancestors, who were sustained in all their travails by the unshakable faith that God had chosen the Jews as a "kingdom of priests and a holy people." This biblical definition – that Jews have a special destiny – is at the very core of the self-image of Jews."

Did God, indeed, choose the Jews? The authors seem somewhat unsure. They speak of divine selection, yet they write, "It is not the belief that God chose the Jews that has kept us going. Abraham did not begin his journey because God suddenly appeared and said to him, I have chosen you and your descendants to be my special messengers of earth. On the contrary. Abraham first chose God by breaking the idols of his father, Terach; that is the driving impulse of Jewish existence.

Evidently, for the authors – chosen Jews or choosing Jews – it doesn't really matter. What is basic is that from ancient days, Jews accepted this role and its commanding imperatives.

Of course, choseness does not impose moral, spiritual, or intellectual superiority – or privilege. "The prophet Amos echoes this assessment in the name of God: Only you have I known from among the nations of the earth. But you are no better to me than the children of the Ethiopians (9:7). Amos defined choseness, not as merit but as responsibility, even as an affliction."

Finally, the authors assert that known conformity and choseness impose the need for righteous behavior. God expects Jews to live intensely, creatively, decently, in the moral vanguard of humankind. This includes the behavior of the state of Israel to its Arab minority, despite the actions and beliefs of some of the ultra-Orthodox and the ultra-nationalists.

Most of the book's popularly written text consists of brief, informative biographies of prominent Jews throughout the ages who have defied the conventional or prevailing mores of the time.

The book concludes with these inspiring words. "To be a Jew is to believe in tikkun olam, that the world can be redeemed. To be a Jew is to be carried by the current of the ancient Jewish river that keeps on flowing. The journey will continue."

Jews and their journey

Chassidic holiday stories

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Over the past few weeks, I have looked at some of the sophisticated Web sites created by various chassidic communities. One of the central elements shared by all Chassidim is the importance of stories and storytelling in passing on core beliefs, codes of behavior and of course, the ways of the rebbe.

As we approach the Yamim Nora'im, the Days of Awe, we could do no better than to emulate these tzaddikim and attempt to walk in their footsteps. Today: chassidic stories on the Jewish Highway.

For a lovely introduction to the power of stories and storytelling, I highly recommend Rabbi Eliahu Klein's About the Legends of the Baal Shem Tov **[http://www.storypower.com/hasidic/articles/klein_intro.html]**.

Rabbi Klein has not only written an essay about the chassidic masters, he has put together a touching essay about his personal experiences with everyone from the Ger, Satmar and Lubavitcher rebbes to Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach and Elie Wiesel.

A large compendium of tales can be found at the Archives of Chassidic Stories **[http://www.nishmas.org.il/htmldocs/stories.htm]**. There are several stories appropriate for this time of year including one whose title seems to have been updated. In Teshuva, Don't Leave the World Without It, we hear of a simple old Jew who doesn't seem able to die. We find out he has received an unusual gift: he has been permitted to live until he does repentance.

For more stories on a Rosh Hashanah theme, see the Web page by Eliahu J. Klein **[http://www.storypower.com/hasidic/stories/rosh.html]**. Also, see the link to The Rosh Hashanah Story, The Rooster's Message at Chabad's Jewish Children International **[http://www.tzivos-hashem.org/ storytime/storytime.html]**.

If you want to take a break from reading the stories and want to have one read to you, you can listen to an assortment of chassidic tales read by Rebbitzen Sterna Citron **[http://www.613.org/hasid.html]**. You'll hear such titles as *Why the Baal Shem Tov Laughed*, *The Miser of Zhitomer* and *Everything Happens for a Reason*.

Finally, a tale about the power of stories from the Jewish Storytelling Coalition of New England **[http://www.ultranet.com/~jewish/story.html]**.

Whenever Jews were threatened with disaster, the Baal Shem Tov would go to the forest, light a fire, and say a special prayer. A miracle would occur and the disaster would be averted. In later times when disaster threatened, his disciple the Maggid of Mezritch would go to the same place in the forest and say, "Master of the Universe, I do not know how to light the fire, but I can say the prayer." And again the disaster would be averted.

Still later, Moshe Leib of Sasov, would go to the forest and say, "Lord of the World, I do not know how to light the fire or say the prayer, but I know the place and that must suffice." And it always did. When Israel of Rizhyn needed intervention from heaven, he would say to God, "I no longer know the place, nor how to light the fire, nor to say the prayer, but I can tell the story and that must suffice." And it did.

I would like to wish all my readers and their families Shanah Tovah u'Metukah, a good and sweet New Year.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Jewish Life

UNTITLED
[Morden Shapiro photo]
CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest Winner

Agunah Get Day planned for Sept. 27

In a worldwide effort to help agunot (women denied a Jewish divorce) and their children, the U.S.-based group L'maan B'nos Yisroel International announces that Sept. 27 is Agunah Get Day.

On that day, which falls between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, "Jews all over the world are challenged to encourage recalcitrant husbands to do tshuvah (repentance) and give their agunah wives a *get* (Jewish divorce decree) before Yom Kippur," a statement from the group says.

Recalcitrant husbands urged to do tshuvah

"Batei din (rabbinical courts) will be ready and prepared in various locations in the United States, Israel and Canada to facilitate the *get* process."

The organization says it will cover the cost of the sofer (scribe) who fills out a *get*.

The following organizations have lent their support to the project: Amit; Beth Din of America; Central Office for Agunot – General Administration of the Rabbinical Court of the State of Israel; Congregation Machzikei Hadas Rabbinical Court, Ottawa; Emunah of America; The Jewish Press; Kayama; National Council of Young Israel; Orthodox Caucus; Orthodox Union; Rabbinical Council of America; Rabbinical Council of California; Rabbinical Alliance of America (Igud Harabanim); Sephardic Rabbinical Council of America; Vaad Hair of Montreal; and Vaad Harabanim of Greater Monsey.

Other organizations are invited to join "this very important mitzvah. Please remember that evil triumphs when good people do nothing."

For more information, call L'maan B'nos Yisroel International at 718-338-0833.

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To do good deeds, you have to get dirty

Rabbinic Reflections

By RABBI AARON FLANZRAICH

Seventeen years ago, I witnessed an event that had a wonderful effect on me. I was in my sophomore year in yeshiva, when we were told that the next morning we would be waking up at sunrise. A bus was going to be waiting to bring the students to the peak of the highest hill in the city.

Of course, when you have to get up before 5 a.m., there are lots of questions that need to be answered. We were told that this was going to be a rare opportunity to celebrate Birkat HaChamah – the Blessing of the Sun.

That day we did a lot of research and study into Birkat HaChamah. I learned that it occurs once every 24 years. I learned that the uniqueness of this celebration is the knowledge that the sun will be in the exact solar position it was in at the very moment of all creation. I also learned that the prayers must be said at sunrise.

The next morning, as I stood atop this hill, I uttered the ancient prayers, and one thought could not escape my young mind. I wondered where would I be at the next Birkat HaChamah? Who would I be? What would I be? Or even, would I be?

The awe-inspiring days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are very similar to this. In fact, there is great talmudic discussion on the idea that Rosh Hashanah is also the anniversary of the beginning of all creation (Talmud Bavli Rosh Hashanah 10b).

But Rosh Hashanah is different because it celebrates the annual re-creation of our lives and time, and all too often they both seem less than perfect. In fact, in comparison to the rest of the world, humanity and life can seem to be dirty and a failure. Nevertheless, in spite of our failings, there is greatness here as well.

We are told of the great chassidic Rabbi Aaron of Karlin, who in his youth, loved fine clothes and beautiful things. He would never walk the streets because the mud would splatter on his pants. But one day he was leaning in his carriage when he suddenly realized that this was not the way it's done. So he stopped the horse and stepped out onto the filthy road. He walked the rest of the way by foot getting completely soiled. Tradition has it that this was the beginning of his greatness.

I cannot tell you how to think, but I deeply believe that if you are looking to follow someone, look deeply at the beginning of Rabbi Aaron of Karlin to remind ourselves that to do good, we have to get dirty. To achieve we have to get down, and live in the midst of life. There are more slums in our world than palaces. More rags than silk. More homeless than there are vacation homes. More illness than health, far more poverty than royalty.

In this month of Elul, the month before Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we are called upon to wage war. To combat not merely ourselves and those habits which are destructive, but also to commit ourselves to making our world what God expects it to be.

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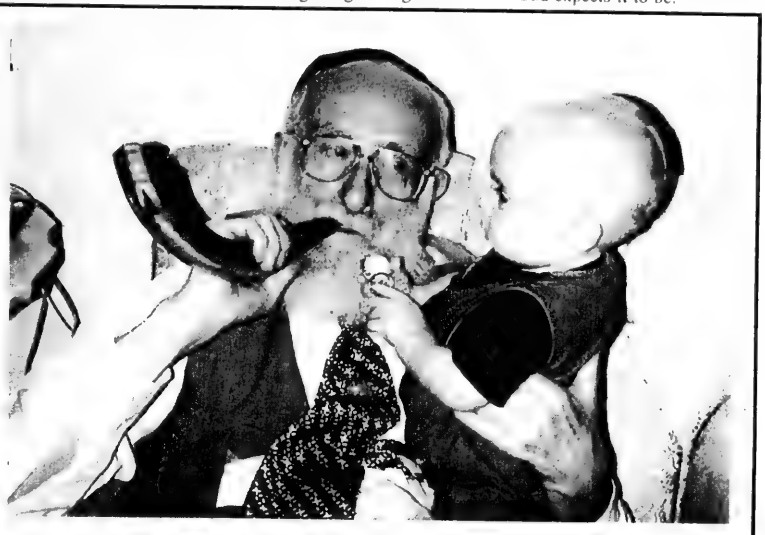

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Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave.W. (416) 635-0131	.....	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	.....
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave.W. (416)783-6103	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30& 9:00 AM	6:00 PM
Lodzer Centre (C)	12 Heaton St. (416) 636-6665	5:305 PM	9:00 AM	.....	9:00 AM-	.....
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905)889-2252	8:30 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	.....

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area.
The Toronto Board of Rabbis will periodically update the listings.
We hope to have information from the Vaad Harabonim about Orthodox synagogues in the very near future.

Rabbi remembered for his service, compassion

By RABBI PHILIP S. SCHEIM

During the sad early days of the month of Av that commemorate historical and spiritual loss, the Jewish world lost Rabbi H. Leonard Poller. At the time of his passing, Leonard Poller was rabbi emeritus of the Larchmont Temple in Westchester County, N.Y., where he had served more than 20 years.

Guest Voices

But prior to Larchmont, Rabbi Poller was the spiritual leader of Temple Beth Sholom of Montreal. In a relatively short number of years in Canada, his influence in the community was profound and far-reaching.

I was 9 years old in 1962 when the young rabbi arrived at Beth Sholom from Long Island to assume the pulpit of the second small Reform congregation in a predominately Orthodox community. He was, to say the least, a captivating personality. An inspiring speaker, he challenged his congregation to live up to their moral and spiritual potential.

During those years of assassinations, Vietnam, the beginnings of the Quebec separatist movement and the resurgence of Jewish pride following the Six Day War, Rabbi Poller led us through the multitude of transformations with a clear message: that passion mattered; that we had to care; that we had to feel the pain of the disenfranchised; that by mustering the best of our Jewish strength, we could make a difference, even in the confused and frightening world of those years.

Rabbi Poller was one of the finest preachers in the rabbinate; yet it was not through sermons that his impact was greatest. He was true to our sages' injunction that action far outweighs words in importance. Orthodox rabbis spoke from the Reform pulpit of Beth Sholom, because Rabbi Poller understood, even before it became a widely recognized issue, the need for Jewish unity based upon mutual respect and tolerant diversity. Rabbi Poller led us marching in support of Israel and Soviet Jewry, even as he sensitized us, in unforgettable fashion, to abhor apathy.

Mutual respect, tolerant diversity

Rabbi Poller's decade in Montreal represented the golden age of Temple Beth Sholom. Not many years after his departure for Larchmont, Beth Sholom merged with the larger Temple Emanu-el due to demographic reality.

His tenure in Montreal also coincided with the height of that city's greatness, his departure, with the beginnings of its decline.

But, in a sense, Rabbi Poller never left Montreal. He remained in touch with his former congregants. When my father died 25 years after Rabbi Poller left Beth Sholom, we received a beautiful letter of condolence, as did other families at their times of bereavement, in their moments of celebration.

Nobody could expect a rabbi to continue such contact a quarter of a century later. He had another, much larger congregation, which he had served more than twice the time that he had been in Montreal. Why would he continue to connect with congregants from so distant a past?

The answer is simple: Rabbi Poller never served his congregants because it was his job to do so. Rather, he laughed and cried with them because they were important to him on a personal, human level. He really felt their pain. He really celebrated their joys.

I am a rabbi today because of Leonard Poller. I was the 9-year-old child whom he showered with attention and interest, who, through my teenage years, saw an incredible example of service to community and to human beings.

Even though, through the years, I have moved a long way from my Reform upbringing, it was my teacher, Rabbi H. Leonard Poller, who taught me by example the importance of viewing what I do, not as a job, not as a profession, but as an opportunity to touch people's lives. His rabbinate is the model that stands before me as I face the challenges of congregational life.

Rabbi Scheim is spiritual leader of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation in Toronto, and currently serves as president of the Toronto Board of Rabbis.

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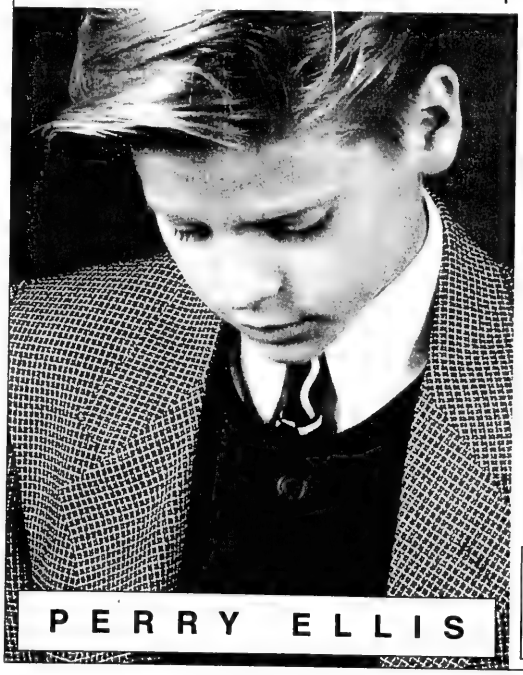
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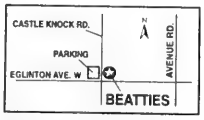

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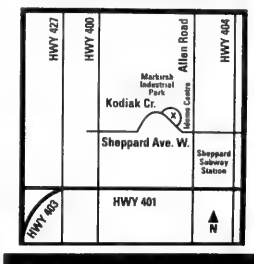

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Community Matters

THEY'RE PHONING FOR FIFTY

UJA Federation is in the midst of its most intensive week of fundraising during the current Campaign for Fifty. The community's Super Week began with Super Sunday, September 13.

More than 800 volunteers – 600 on Super Sunday alone – are contacting thousands of community members to seek support for the campaign, which was officially launched on August 31. The telethons are the first in a series that will take place until December.

The Campaign for Fifty intends to raise at least $50 million annually by 2001, an increase of $13.5 million over last year. The additional funds will be used by UJA Federation and its beneficiary agencies to strengthen Jewish identity, provide more assistance to the vulnerable and to rescue Jews in distress all over the world.

"We can't thank our volunteers enough for delivering our message to the community," says Maura Cooperberg, who co-chaired the Super Sunday telethon blitz with immediate past UJA Federation Campaign Chair Leo Goldhar. Dozens of organizations, schools, synagogues and youth groups were represented at the telethons as well as key community leaders. "It was a real community effort," adds Cooperberg.

Goldhar and Cooperberg credit supervised children's activities on Super Sunday for the large family turnout. "We wanted to make it as easy and convenient as possible for parents to participate in a great day together with their kids," notes Judy Engel, Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign.

Harvey and Maura Cooperberg

UJA FEDERATIONS RESPOND TO URGENT RUBLE CRISIS

These young girls, concerned about their future, are preparing to leave Russia for a new life in Israel.

An emergency mission of Jewish Agency emissaries will soon be leaving from Israel for Russia to encourage increased aliyah among an insecure Jewish population battered by economic chaos. Their presence will be accompanied by an expanded information campaign targeted to those who are contemplating emigration to Israel, but haven't yet reached a decision. Since 1989, the Jewish Agency, supported by the worldwide UJA Federation system, has funded aliyah for nearly 800,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union (FSU).

As the value of the Russian ruble plummets, so has economic security, which has always been tenuous. Many Russian Jews, who would like to leave for Israel, are unable to because financial panic has made it impossible to gather enough assets for the move. Age and illness are forcing others to stay behind.

Over 200,000 elderly Jews in the FSU live in poverty, with Russia's economic chaos now threatening even their meager pensions. "It is impossible to articulate the squalor," said Howard Lichtman, chair of UJA Federation's Marketing Advisory Committee, who recently returned from a mission to Moscow.

With winter approaching, the next few months look even more grim. The Russian government has announced a cutoff of fuel to Kharkov, the main oil distribution centre for Ukraine.

In response to growing insecurity in the FSU, many parents are sending their children on aliyah alone. The Jewish Agency will be encouraging these teenagers in Israel to provide even more encouragement for their parents to join them.

WELCOMING ED SEGALOWITZ

During his 20 year career in social planning, Ed Segalowitz has acquired an excellent understanding of Toronto's Jewish community. Now, as the new Vice-President for Community Planning and Development at UJA Federation, he's going to put his expertise to work in planning for the future.

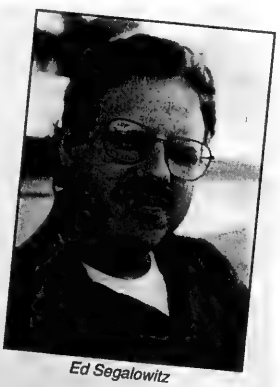
Segalowitz replaces Morris Zbar, who recently left UJA Federation to become Ontario's Assistant Deputy Minister of Correctional Services. Segalowitz, who earned a Masters degree from McMaster University in 1992, worked for a number of social welfare organizations both inside and outside the Jewish community before arriving at Jewish Vocational Services, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, where he served as Executive Director. While at JVS, Segalowitz helped increase revenues by 100% for the agency, which runs vocational training, counselling and employment placement programs. He also helped forge partnerships between JVS and other communal organizations.

Before JVS, Segalowitz served as Executive Director of both the Ontario Association of Homes for the Aged (1980-82) and the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living (1988-92). He also spent four years as an assistant administrator at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

This extensive experience makes Segalowitz a "natural choice" for the new position, says Sandra Brown, past president of UJA Federation and Chair of its Personnel Committee. "His tremendous people skills, combined with a strong grasp of important issues, make him a great asset," adds Brown.

Segalowitz's duties include managing UJA Federation's budget allocation process and working with lay leaders and other communal organizations to respond to growing needs within the Jewish community.

"This community has enormous expertise and our agencies provide invaluable programs and services," remarks Segalowitz. "I look forward to meeting the people behind the scenes and working together with them on the challenges we face."



Ed Segalowitz

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Community Matters

VOICES FROM THE HEART

The following is an edited excerpt from Voices from the Heart: A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel, *edited by Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, published by McClelland & Stewart Inc. The book, a collection of personal reflections by Canadians about their experiences in Israel, was produced as part of Toronto's Israel at 50 celebrations. This unique , specially priced 395 page volume is available by calling UJA Federation at (416) 631-5685.*

This excerpt, written by the late John Bassett, is the first in a series to be featured in Community Matters *over the next several weeks.*

I first went to Israel in 1958, the tenth anniversary of the State, as a guest of the Israeli government. The Israeli Ambassador to Canada, David Laurie, was a pal of mine. I paid my own way to get there – but once there, I was in their hands. Israel was just a little place; Jerusalem was split and you couldn't go to East Jerusalem. Israel reminded me so much of what it had been like in England during the War.

Because I was the publisher of the *Toronto Telegram* at the time, I met all the leaders.... But my favourite of them all was Golda Meir, who was then Foreign Minister. I don't know why, but we just hit it off particularly well together. The Foreign Ministry of the Israeli government had a very nice house in Jerusalem, built around an open courtyard, and my wife and I dined privately with Golda there. I was horrified to learn that Canada did not have an ambassador in Israel, only a charge d'affaires. We had an ambassador to Greece and Israel at the time, a fellow named Darcy McGee, but he remained mostly in Greece.

John Bassett with Golda Meir.

I remember saying in a boastful manner to Golda, "I'll get you an ambassador." She said "How will you get me an ambassador?" I said "never mind, trust me."

You see, in 1958 John Diefenbaker had just been elected Prime Minister. The *Telegram* was the strongest supporter he had amongst the media, and he and I were very close. When I got back to Canada, I informed him of the fact that Israel had no ambassador of its own. He hadn't been aware of this and he said "Yes, we absolutely should have an ambassador to Israel." He appointed Margaret Meagher immediately.

At that time, the *Telegram*, like other papers across the country, published a magazine supplement every weekend. I got in touch with Golda, and when Margaret Meagher presented her credentials, we had a wonderful front page....

In 1971, I was the honouree of the Negev Dinner in Toronto, the first non-Jew to be so recognized. With the money raised, we built the John Bassett Sports Centre, serving three kibbutzim about twenty miles north of Eilat, in Yotvata. About forty of us went from Toronto for the opening. I cut the ribbon, and it was very emotional.

A little boy, not more than eight years old, came running out of the crowd, jumped up into my arms, and said, "You're a wonderful man." I said, "How do you know I'm a wonderful man? You've never met me." "Ah," he said, "You've brought us water – swimming pools." Of course I started to cry as the little boy hugged me.

I wanted to get a television licence for Israel. I saw Ben-Gurion and asked him, but the Israeli government wouldn't give it to me, though I tried hard to persuade them. Instead, I went into partnership with Margot Klausner, an Israeli who owned a motion picture company in Israel, to start up the government-owned Israeli television station. Of course, they never would have gotten to air without us. They wouldn't have had any programs....

The Israeli people were dejected after the Yom Kippur War. I made a speech in Tel Aviv along with the President of Israel, Chaim Herzog, and I said, "You've no right to be downcast. You had an early setback. But you won the bloody War!" I said, among other things, I always believed, "Israel is not just for the Jews. Israel stands also for all of us who believe in freedom and democratic principles." It's the only country in the Middle East with those principles.

You know, Ben-Gurion said he didn't like the term "Zionist." He always said, "The only Zionists are those who live in Israel. Those who don't are 'friends of Israel.' We welcome them, we want them, we love them. But they're not Zionists." That was his view.

I never called myself a Zionist; I just call myself a friend of Israel. I'm as big a friend today at eighty-two as I was then.

- John Bassett passed away in April 1998.

Shabbaton Brings Jewish Deaf Closer to Community

It was a weekend full of firsts for members of the Jewish community who, more often than not, find themselves on the outside looking in. They were participants in the first Shabbaton for deaf Jews held in North America, sponsored by the Toronto Jewish Association of the Deaf with support from UJA Federation.

Dr. Hartley Bressler, who helped organize the recent two day retreat held recently at a suburban Toronto hotel, said for many of the more than 100 participants, it was the first time they felt like they were part of a Jewish community. "It was like being at home among strangers who spoke the same language," explains Bressler, who is Chair of Dévelopment for TJAD, which arranges social events for deaf Jews living in Toronto. "People enjoyed being a part of something Jewish so much that they found it difficult to leave," he adds.

Rabbi Rabinowitz signs with Esther Fass.

Bressler estimates there are between 300-400 Jews with some degree of hearing loss living in Toronto - many with little connection to the Jewish community nor their own Jewish identities. "A great number of deaf Jews tend to feel isolated and disenfranchised from the community because of communication barriers."

Rabbi Dovid Eliezer Rabinowitz, the first deaf Orthodox Rabbi in the world and his deaf grandson Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Kakon, an alumnus of Toronto's Ner Israel Yeshiva, led the spiritual portion of the program using the A.S.L. sign language. Many participants put on tefilin for the first time and were called to the Torah.

Rabbi Kakon assists Elliot Richmond to put tefilin on for the first time in his life.

"The gathering together of so many deaf Jews for a meaningful Jewish experience achieved the goal that Judaism is meant for everyone, hearing and deaf alike," wrote Kakon, who, like his grandfather, has dedicated much of his life to furthering the education and socialization of deaf Jews. "Although the shabbaton is now a memory," adds Kakon, "many participants are enthusiastic about creating new programs, becoming involved in the Jewish community and developing better awareness about the needs of the deaf Jewish population."

The shabbaton also included workshops, entertainment and supervised children's programming. "It was absolutely magical," notes Bressler. "We didn't want it to end."

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Full inquiry into IRB urged

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) is calling for a full and independent probe of allegations of bias and anti-Semitism at the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB).

But the IRB says it has received no formal request for an independent inquiry.

Congress, as well as a Jewish former deputy chair of the IRB, say an investigation already under way is inadequate.

CJC president Moshe Ronen says that over the past two weeks, "numerous" sitting members of the IRB have called Congress offices in Toronto and Montreal, claiming that some of their colleagues openly express anti-Semitic, homophobic and racist views.

Ronen says the board members are also claiming the problem is ignored within the IRB.

Congress says there is a "cloud" over the IRB, whose 200 or so federally appointed members determine which refugee claimants are admitted to Canada.

CJC's calls for an independent inquiry came just days after IRB chair Nurjehan Mawani appointed Ottawa lawyer David Scott to probe an incident involving deputy chair John Frecker's having said "sieg heil" or similar words to two board members.

Frecker's remark, made about a year ago, led to a formal complaint by IRB member Jeanette Goldman, a child survivor of the Holocaust (*CJN*, Sept. 10).

Despite Frecker's apology, Goldman called his actions "indefensible."

Scott's task is to determine the content and nature of Frecker's remark, whether his apology was an appropriate remedy, and if not, to recommend what further actions should be taken. Scott has until this Friday (Sept. 18) to file his report.

But Congress says the probe does not go far enough.

"We're not dealing with an isolated incident but [with] a problem in the system," said Ronen. "We want to know what happened with all these complaints [of bias]. Were they shoved under a rug?"

Congress warns that if its demands are not met, it will consider "other options," including going to Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard.

B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) voiced similar concerns, calling on the IRB to expand Scott's mandate to deal with "systemic" problems.

Michael Schelew, a former IRB deputy chair, also feels Scott's probe is too narrow, and he believes Mawani should step down pending the investigation's outcome.

Schelew, who says he experienced more anti-Jewish and anti-Israel bias during his year at the IRB than in his entire life, says Mawani is not acting in good faith.

"She still refers to [Frecker's remark] as an alleged incident," he says. And he wonders why the chair called an inquiry only after the media picked up the story.

As well, Schelew says Scott's probe does not encompass Mawani's own conduct. He also wonders why the board has done nothing about one member who is alleged to have made several anti-Semitic comments; and why it passed over two Jewish members up for promotion, overriding the recommendations of its own advisory committee.

Paul Hardy, a spokesperson for the IRB, said, "Nobody has made a request to the board that I know of. The only thing we know is what we've read in the newspapers."

He said CJC is reacting to "a lot of generalized and unsubstantiated allegations," but that the IRB is committed to examining all complaints.

Since 1995, the board has made 160,000 decisions, and received 33 complaints, Hardy pointed out. Of the complaints, 28 were finalized, and of those, just one was found to have any substance.

AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER

Participants in Israel Experience programs celebrate in Jerusalem's Rose Garden prior to the 3,500-strong march to Mt. Herzl to mark Israel's 50th anniversary. [WZPS photo]

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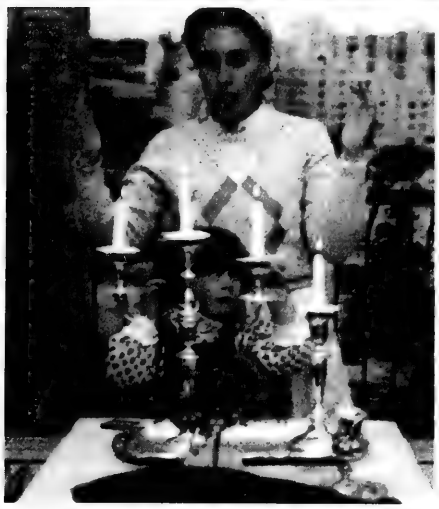

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Day school fees up an average of two percent

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Tuition is up this year at 12 of the 13 schools under the Toronto Board of Jewish Education (BJE), but at an average increase of two percent, the rise in fees is described as ordinary.

The only community-based school to see no increase in tuition is Leo Baeck, where fees this year, as last, include $633 for a building fund.

The sharpest rise is at Ner Israel Yeshiva in Richmond Hill, at four percent. The lowest, at just .6 percent, is at Bialik Hebrew Day School.

In between, all increases over last year are three percent or less.

The nominally higher fees are in line with low inflation and a moderate rise in the cost of living, says Bernard Shoub, director of school finances at the BJE.

"We've tried to keep things well under control. There's nothing unusual here," Shoub said.

Last year at this time, parents also faced an average two percent increase in tuition over the year before.

A year ago, the sharpest increase in fees over the year before was at Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT). This year, they've leveled off and "we don't anticipate any significant increases over the next few years," Shoub added.

That despite the fact that CHAT has the sharpest enrolment increase of any BJE school and is entering a building fund drive for its planned campus adjacent to the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

The BJE may soon expand its umbrella. The 3-year-old Toronto Heschel School, located in Beth David Synagogue, is now affiliated with the board, but has not yet applied for funding, Shoub noted.

School	1998-99	1997-98	% Increase
Associated Hebrew Day Schools	$7,100	$6,950	2.2%
Beth Jacob High School for Girls	$9,775	$9,675	1%
Bialik Hebrew Day School	$7,400	$7,350	.6%
CHAT	$10,700	$10,400	3%
Eitz Chaim Day School	$7,350	$7,200	2%
Leo Baeck Day School	$7,633 *	$7,633	—
Ner Israel Yeshiva	$11,950 •	$11,500	4%
Netivot Hatorah	$7,650	$7,500	2%
Or Haemet	$6,700	$6,500	3%
She'arim Hebrew Day School	$12,625	$12,500	1%
Ulpanat Orot Girls' School	$10,700	$10,400	3%
United Synagogue Day Schools	$7,500	$7,400	1.4%
Yeshivat Or Chaim	$10,700	$10,400	3%

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Toronto family mourns son

[Cont'd. from page 3]

told *The CJN*'s Joel Jacobson. It was the last time father and son spoke.

Friends and relatives of the family were not commenting last week.

The Abadys came to Canada about 15 years ago from the Caribbean island of Curacao, home of the oldest continuous Jewish community in the Western hemisphere. George Abady was born there.

A friend told *The CJN* the family had been members of Holy Blossom Temple. The family will soon rejoin the temple, the friend added.

According to Rabbi Michael Stroh of Temple Har Zion, there can be no burial if there are no remains, and the family will be deprived of visiting a cemetery. However, he said a memorial service with all the same rules may be held.

* * *

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has sent a letter to the Swiss embassy in Ottawa expressing condolences over the death of Daniel Dayer, Switzerland's ambassador to Canada.

Dayer, 58, was killed this month when he was hit by a train in the southern Swiss town of Sion.

Officials from CJC held several meetings with Dayer over the past 18 months on the subject of Canadian claims to dormant war-era Swiss bank accounts.

News of Dayer's death came just days after the Swissair crash and darkened an already sombre mood at the Swiss embassy.

For more coverage of the Swissair crash see page 36.

Rabbi helps at crash site

[Cont'd. from page 3]

were rising in their purpose, all with high ideals in their journey. God wants us all to carry on those ideals in our travels through life."

AJC chaplain Rabbi David Ellis was among many clergy participating in a Sept. 9 ecumenical service near the crash site.

More than 2,000 people, including 175 family members, attended the service, which attracted Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Swiss President Flavio Cotti, and Gordon Giffin, U.S. ambassador to Canada, and Nova Scotia Premier Russell MacLellan.

The AJC was represented by president Victor Goldberg, past president Larry Freeman, Rabbi Mendel Feldman and Constance Glube, chief justice of Nova Scotia.

CJC-STARLIGHT FOUNDATION PROJECT
Students working on Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region's Summer Camp Project delivered campers' "wishday" cards, caps and bracelets to the Toronto office of the Starlight Children's Foundation, which caters to the needs and wishes of seriously ill youngsters. The project brought programs to 22 Ontario residential and day camps. Standing (from left) are Starlight project coordinator Shirley Spicer; CJC students Lauren Cappel, Ali Engel and Ali Feldman; and Starlight executive director Mary-Ruth Flood. In front are student Morris Glazman and CJC outreach coordinator Leanne Rosen.

Notice to Visitors to Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Arrangements have been made by Pardes Shalom to provide transportation to the cemetery before Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, for those without transportation.

Bus service will be provided on the following 3 days: Sunday, September 13; Sunday, September 20; and Sunday, September 27.

On each of these days a bus, identified by a sign "**PARDES SHALOM**" will depart from the front entrance of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, at 10:00 a.m. for Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

The bus will make a stop at the parking lot of Betel Centre, located on Steeles Ave. W., at 10:30, to pick up passengers before proceeding to the cemetery.

The bus will leave the cemetery at 12:30 p.m. for return to the Betel Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information, and to register, please call the cemetery office (416) 635-2883, extension 211 - Trudy, or extension 224 - Dina.

Shana

AS Jews everywhere strive for higher levels of concern and compassion during these High Holidays, so are we. OUR **Campaign for Fifty** to raise $50 million a year by 2001 will take our community to an unprecedented plateau on behalf of thousands in need. FOR Jews who are poor, frail, isolated and abused. FOR those who are strangers to Jewish life or in distress because they're Jewish. THIS New Year, join our community's **Campaign for Fifty** to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews in danger. HELP us provide a sweeter taste of life to people who cannot ask for themselves. BECAUSE no one gift changes more lives and no other **cause stands behind them all.**

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Greater Toronto Area

Voices from the Heart captures Israel in 1948

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In June 1948, as the month-old State of Israel struggled for survival, armed Jewish units traded gunfire over a weapons shipment on board the cargo ship *Altalena* in Tel Aviv harbor.

As Jew fought Jew, a bystander onshore snapped a rare photo of the *Altalena* bellowing a column of black smoke. The picture is one of the many memorable photographs in *Voices from the Heart*, McClelland & Stewart ($75), a 395-page coffee table book about to be released to commemorate Israel's 50th anniversary.

Edited by Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, two longtime community volunteers, the book was commissioned a year and a half ago by Julia Koschitzky, chair of Israel at Fifty, a community-wide committee that cooperated in numerous celebratory activities to mark Israel's anniversary, and Karen Morton, chair of Israel at Fifty Showcase.

Voices from the Heart is a collection of reminiscences and anecdotes told by Torontonians, and serves as a testament to the close personal ties between residents of Toronto and Israel, dating back to the pre-state era.

The vast majority of the book's photographs, all reproduced in black and white, come from the personal collections of the 300 contributors to the book. One of the first is a shot of Lord Arthur Balfour, author of the Balfour Declaration, addressing a teeming crowd marking the opening of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1925. Another memorable image is a picture of a small sports car being used as an ambulance after an Arab bombing attack in 1948.

Equally compelling are the stories accompanying the photographs, particularly those told by participants in Israel's War of Independence. Members of Mahal, Diaspora volunteers who fought for Israel, members of the Haganah and Holocaust survivors on board the famed transport ship, *Exodus*, have remarkable life and death stories to tell. Several Toronto Jews were on board the *Exodus*, which was intercepted by British military forces en route to Palestine. The survivors recount their battle, using potatoes, chains and tin cans versus British soldiers boarding the ship.

One of the more fascinating stories from the 1970s is told by Allan Gross and Fred Langer, who as young doctors volunteered to work in trauma hospitals, including an Israel MASH unit, during the bloody Yom Kippur War.

While most of the contributors are Jewish, several of Israel's Christian friends also tell their stories. Jane Mowat Martin tells how her late father, Herb, became a dedicated Zionist and founded the Canada-Israel Association, which helped promote goodwill between Canada and Israel. The late John Bassett described his first visit to Israel as publisher of the *Toronto Telegram* and his lifelong commitment to the Jewish state.

Julia Koschitzky, chair of the board of trustees of Keren Hayesod (top photo, right) listens as a boys choir sings Hebrew songs in Samarkand, Uzbekistan while in the photo below, Betty Zweig and two Toronto friends are surrounded by soldiers as they salute Israel in 1959.

Section on young people

Turning to a more modern era, there's a section on young people connecting to Israel through common interests like the Maccabiah Games and the March of the Living.

Although the book contains stories told by many high profile individuals involved with community organizations, the bulk of the material is "not a who's who, but a broad, representative group," Goldstein said.

The research that went into creating the book revealed some amazing coincidences, she continued.

Shula Jacobi submitted a story describing how as a young child living in a temporary camp in Israel, she refused to go to a bomb shelter without her beloved red coat. For her it was associated with warmth and security.

Meanwhile, another story submitted by Kurt Weinberg described a clothing drive in the early 1950s to provide apparel for Israeli refugees. It turned out the red coat had been shipped to Israel from Toronto thanks to Weinberg's efforts, Goldstein said.

The UJA Federation plans to create a permanent, movable exhibit based on the photos, with accompanying audio, and employ it as an educational tool, Shulman said.

Voices from the Heart can be purchased in bookstores or by calling the UJA Federation offices at 631-5685.

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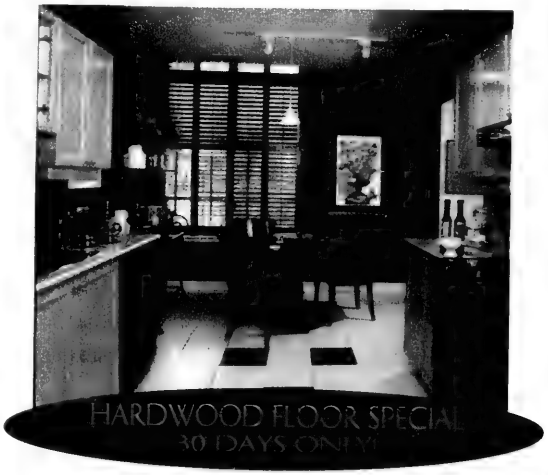

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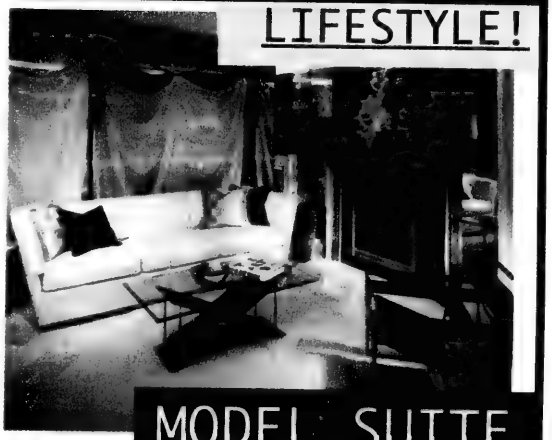

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INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION
Four Ontario Catholic educators, from left, Louisa DeCiantis, James Ryan, Maria Leitao and Anthony Bellissimo, recently took part in a Holocaust education program at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum under the auspices of the Anti-Defamtion League.

Givat Haviva internship gives student new perspective

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although she'd been to Israel half a dozen times, including two year-long stints (one in childhood and one as a university student), Sara Borodin had never spoken to an Arab there, aside from bargaining in the shuk. That changed this past year, when she served as an intern at Givat Haviva.

Borodin, 24, first heard about the Israeli institution, which sponsors programs fostering dialogue, tolerance and coexistence, in her final year at McGill University when a friend e-mailed her from the United States to let her know about the internship.

"I knew nothing about Givat Haviva, but it was right up my alley," said Borodin, a Middle Eastern and Religious Studies major who had taken part in a Jewish-Palestinian dialogue group in Montreal.

She returned to her home in Toronto in late August after a year interning jointly at Givat Haviva, where she spent three days a week, and the Zionist youth movement Hashomer Hatzair, an hour and a half away in Tel Aviv. Currently she is investigating graduate programs, and is hoping to gain more experience working in the non-profit sector and/or the Jewish community.

At Givat Haviva, she worked in the fundraising department. Her duties included grant writing, report writing and liaison with offices in Toronto and elsewhere in the Diaspora.

Sara Borodin

Both the Zionist youth movement and Givat Haviva are affiliated with Israel's Kibbutz Artzi Federation.

Last year Givat Haviva suffered "substantial" government funding cuts, Borodin noted. A program for Jewish and Arab junior high school students, Children Teaching Children, had its funding cut in half.

"I sense – especially among the younger people – a little hopelessness," Borodin said.

When you work at a place like Givat Haviva, she added, the work they do doesn't seem so difficult.

"Everybody gets along. It really is a model of coexistence. It's so basic – human rights issues, respect and understanding for each other and a desire to want to learn about each other."

Givat Haviva is not the only group in Israel to do what they're doing, noted Borodin, but they are the oldest (having been established in 1949) and the largest.

The organization serves students and educators on both sides of the nearby Green Line. It also has dialogue groups bringing together religious and secular Jews.

Meeting students and visitors both from Israel and abroad, Borodin "couldn't learn enough. I was asking questions all the time."

She is concerned about the effect of current government policies. "I really feel that every day the peace process goes nowhere, they're pushing people to the other side."

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Greater Toronto Area

Conversion Authority rabbi urges end to funding non-halachic Jews

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Scarce Jewish resources should not be squandered on encouraging non-halachic Jews from the Former Soviet Union to emigrate to Israel or to participate in programs intended for Jews, asserts Rabbi Raphael Ostroff, director of the Conversion Authority of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel.

Speaking to *The CJN* on a recent visit to Toronto, Rabbi Ostroff cited the example of a program in Kiev, where 88 per cent of the participants were not Jewish according to Halachah.

The Law of Return, he explained, allows "the third generation to settle in Israel," anyone with a Jewish grandparent. The upshot is that fully 44 percent of immigrants from the Former Soviet Union are not halachically Jewish; that is, born of a Jewish mother.

"To any Third World country, Israel is the promised land. Many are using Israel and Jewish money to escape their economic woes. They are using Israel as an escape route from the eastern bloc, or as a jumping board to another country," he charged.

While he was in Toronto to visit his parents, he said that he would use the opportunity to discourage Jewish agencies and philanthropists here from continuing to fund such people.

The Conversion Authority was established three years ago by the chief rabbi responsible for conversion, Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron. Its mandate, said Rabbi Ostroff, is to administer the Chief Rabbinate's policies on conversion, including batei din (rabbinical courts) and study classes.

An institution established for the purpose are essential. "You need rabbis that will understand the mentality and special characteristics of a potential convert. The approach is more educational, more friendly," he said.

While there are some potential converts from North America and Europe, the majority come from Ethiopia and, especially, the Former Soviet Union. For that reason, Rabbi Ostroff said, more preparatory classes are being established in centres with large Russian populations, such as Ashdod, Ashkelon, Carmiel and Haifa.

The 32-year-old South African-born father of four is well qualified for his post. After studying at Mercaz Harav Har Etzion yeshiva, and receiving smichah from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, he spent a year in Kharkov, Ukraine, on behalf of the Union of Orthodox Congregations, where he got to understand the unique problems of the Russians.

"For four generations, the Russian Jews have had to assimilate," he said, "so there are a large number of non-Jewish spouses and children."

This is the first time in 2,000 years that the rabbis are confronted with thousands of people who want to convert, and "psychologically and halachically no one was prepared," the rabbi said.

A large proportion of the potential Russian converts are young women, from teens to those in their 40s, he said,because they realize that Jewish status comes from the mother.

Being fully accepted as Jewish by the entire spectrum of the population is important to Russian Jews, he said. "They see conversion as part of integrating into Israeli society. They don't want to be recognized as converts."

For this reason, the two documents they receive after being examined by the beit din, going to the mikvah, and for men, having a brit milah, are very precious. They are given the conversion document issued by the Chief Rabbinate, and the corresponding document from the Ministry of Religion, which changes the nationality status on their identity card from Russian to Jewish.

For this reason also, Rabbi Ostroff believes, they would not go to Reform or Conservative bodies for conversion. "They want to be accepted by everyone – including Haredim, the dati (central Orthodox) and Sephardim."

The controversial Ne'eman Commission report will have little effect on the Conversion Authority, he feels. First, he said, everyone agreed that the beit din, the final arbiter of who is accepted for conversion, should be Orthodox. Also, he said, the chief rabbinate had already instituted some of the recommendations, including more rabbinical courts, more preparatory classes, and more presence around the country.

Those coming for conversion must accept the Jewish faith, as expressed in the Torah and the commandments. "The Jewish people symbolize a certain faith to the nations of the world. A convert must agree to continue that faith, and those morals," Rabbi Ostroff said.

Before the Jews accepted the Torah at Mount Sinai, the men had a brit milah, and they all immersed in the sea. Similarly, he said, those who convert now must do the same – mikvah, brit milah, and accepting the yoke of the mitzvot and the principle of one God.

After conversion, Rabbi Ostroff said, what they do, religiously speaking is "between them and HaShem. There is no KGB checking up on them."

According to the Kabbalah, the rabbi mused, the neshamah of everyone who converts was actually at Sinai along with Jewish souls. "We are just bringing them back to where they belong."

Circle of Care honors volunteers

TORONTO — Circle of Care (formerly Senior Care) kicked off its silver anniversary year by honoring thousands of volunteers at a Sept. 9 dinner at Adath Israel Synagogue.

Among the volunteers honored were Anita Ekstein, who received the one-time silver anniversary award, Thelma Herman, who received the Marie and Jack Freedman Memorial Award, and Bess Good, who received the Sam Rotman Humanitarian Ward.

In its 25-year history, Circle of Care has had 10,000 volunteers. It is Toronto's second largest provider of home care.

Executive director Michael Scheinert said the agency provides Toronto's only Kosher Meals on Wheels program. It also organizes social gatherings and support groups, as well as weekly in-person or telephone visits to housebound clients, accompaniment to appointments, and assistance with shopping for necessities.

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Jewish personalities celebrate start of Jewish new year

By JOYCE SINGER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Happy New Year! We questioned three well-known personalities about their High Holy Days plans, their hopes for the coming year, and their thoughts on the approaching millennium.

Arlene Perly Rae, author of *Everybody's Favourites*, and wife of lawyer, author, and ex-politico, Bob Rae, says, "For me this holiday is about the power of forgiveness. It's not that you can just instantly confess and be forgiven. It's about that whole capacity of people to recommit themselves, regenerate and rededicate themselves to goals.

"I've been a member of Holy Blossom Temple all my life," Perly Rae states, "and we go there for Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah. My daughters are all teenagers; so they can all come to the adult services now. We have dinners with my sister and break the fast at one of my aunts' houses. We're the same as everybody else. It's very typical, traditional."

Perly Rae says that although Bob is not Jewish, he enjoys all the Jewish holidays and the family

Arlene Perly Rae

times. "I think he's always found the services interesting. He has a wonderful relationship with Rabbi [Dow] Marmur. They've discussed literature and world events together for years."

Perly Rae has concerns as well as hopes for the near future. "I'm nervous about the rise of terrorism again. I've always found fanatics and individual craziness to be the only scary thing, really, out there. I'm excited to see that the world is starting to 'take on' terrorists. But I'm not sure what's the best way of doing that."

Her New Year's wish would be to reduce terrorism. "And [to have] people become more committed to finding solutions to all sorts of struggles around the world."

Legendary comedian **Frank Shuster** is best known as half of the comedy team of Wayne and Shuster. Although Johnny Wayne passed away a few years ago, Shuster is still entertaining us with his joie de vivre. He plans to spend the holidays "with the family."

As for the millennium, he says, "It's a scary thing because we're not sure which way it's going. But I believe most of us have a certain amount of optimism and we're looking forward to a wonderful new century.

Frank Shuster

"I'm getting on in years, and all I can say is that people should be as lucky as I am. I started in 1941 with the CBC, and here it is almost 1999 and I'm still doing shows for them! In the last few years, I've done several successful retrospectives, and I have one that's, as they say in the can."

Plus he just got the green light for another show – *Wayne and Shuster, The First Hundred Years!*

"They're gonna hafta shoot me to get rid of me!" he says with a laugh. "I wish everyone all the best for the New Year, and to have as much luck as I've had."

Author, journalist and broadcaster **Lynne Gordon** says that what's most important to her, not just for the New Year but on an ongoing basis, is growth and change. "My ideas are that the three Rs are *not* reading, writing and arithmetic, but reassessment, reorganization and risk-taking."

For this year, she is focusing on getting her book, *Working Without A Net*, the story of her fascinating life and career, made into a feature film or a movie-of-the-week on television. She hopes that actresses such as Glenn Close or Susan Sarandon, people who are very much their own person, with strong political views and their own pro-

[Cont'd. on page 27]

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Toronto wood artist Marty Rosen (left) has built a new donor board for Beth Tikvah Synagogue. The board — eight feet across and seven feet tall — was recently dedicated by members to Stuart Razin (right) in honor of his retirement and recognition of 22 years of service.

Lynne Gordon

Jewish personalities

[Cont'd. from page 26]

duction companies, will ultimately play her in the film.

Gordon plans to spend Rosh Hashanah with her children, and declares: "I am a free-spirit. Although my background is Jewish, the father of my children was a Methodist. Although I am not religious, all my children decided that they love the philosophy of the Jewish religion. This was entirely their decision. I was never brought up in anything, except to know philosophically that I am Jewish.

"Once in awhile I go to the synagogue, because I do like the feeling of being in touch with my roots. When I went to Israel, I went to get to know the people, not the politics. It was wonderful to see that country and to know that I would be welcomed there."

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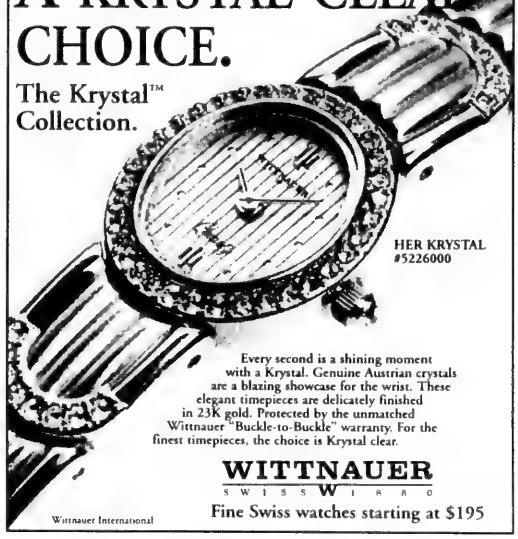

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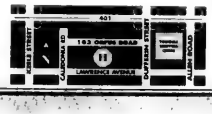

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On Campus

Newest Jewish student publication hits the streets

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Cutting edge. Hip. Young. Intelligent. Maybe a little bit rebellious. That's the attitude Dave Gordon hopes to project with *Afterword*, Canada's newest Jewish student publication.

The 48-page first issue of the new national newspaper was to be published this week. Gordon, 25-year-old former editor of the Toronto student paper *Images*, was inspired to create not only the new publication, but also a national Jewish Student Press Association, after attending this year's conference of the New York-based Jewish Student Press Service.

Eight of the 23 participants were Canadian, Gordon noted. He thought a Canadian Jewish student media network would be a "fantastic" idea. "Practically speaking, a writer in Toronto or Winnipeg or Montreal, simply has more in common with [his or her] Canadian counterparts than someone from Cleveland, New York or Baltimore."

Gordon has learned of over half a dozen Jewish student publications across the country and has recruited 130 national delegates to write, distribute papers and solicit advertising. He is planning a Jewish student journalists' conference to be held here next spring.

The new organization's mandate includes "networking information, offering troubleshooting assistance and sharing what I know and what our editors know so that no student publication or editor needs to begin at the starting block."

An English literature major who graduated from York University this year, Gordon as editor-in-chief is working with George Brown College student Shira Honig, 23, and David Fleischer, also 23, a recent graduate of the University of Toronto. Honig and Fleischer, who also worked on *Images*, are senior editor, and delegate manager and editor respectively.

"All of us are firm believers in 110 percent thinking big and having a back-up plan of a back-up plan of a back-up plan," said Gordon.

To that end, the paper boasts a 55-page constitution, a 10-page policy and procedural manual, and a 17-page budget.

Afterword will publish five times a year and will be distributed free to Canadian universities, synagogues, Jewish business and community centres. Initial circulation will be 5,000.

The paper will include issues of national interest, opinions, politics and arts, said Gordon. The first issue features interviews with *Shift* magazine editor Evan Solomon, filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici and Barenaked Ladies member Steven Page. Among *Afterword's* goals is fostering a nation-wide dialogue for Jewish students.

* * *

Other Canadian Jewish student publications are:

• *After the Flood* – a mouthpiece for the writings of students and other young adults. A free, 8.5 x 11 magazine, it made its debut last fall. The 32-page second issue – an odd mix of voices with some admittedly "controversial" elements – was published recently.

Editor Daniel Fogel, a 26-year-old Osgoode Hall law student, created the magazine as "a response to the alienation of many young Jews from Judaism and from each other." For more information, e-mail [flood55@hotmail.com].

• *Images* – Toronto's Jewish student newspaper, under the auspices of publisher Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto. Published three to four times a year.

• *Dorot* – Toronto-based Jewish student literary journal. Features fiction, non-fiction, poetry, art and photography. JCS is a co-sponsor.

• *Dateline: Middle East* – a 16-page independent, student-run magazine focusing on Israeli and Middle-Eastern politics and news. Staff includes an Israel-based editor as well as a local one. Occasionally features poetry or short fiction.

Published three to four times yearly out of Montreal's Canadian Institute for Jewish Research, an academic think-tank directed by Concordia University history professor Frederick Krantz. Distributed at selected campuses or by subscription.

• *Bleu et Blanc* – French-language student paper, published two or three times a year by Montreal's Centre Hillel.

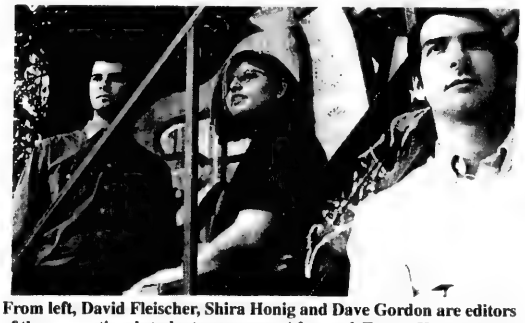
• *Grape Juice* (formerly *Lifeline*) – University of Western Ontario's Jewish Students' Union newsletter. Yet to appear in its new incarnation. Planned changes include beefed-up content. Aiming for six times yearly publication.

• *Hillel Hub* – four times yearly Jewish student magazine from McGill. *CJN* student columnist Erica Horn is a co-editor.

• *Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students' Federation (APJSF) Newsletter* – Jewish student newsletter of Atlantic region; an events listing mailed to members six or seven times a year.

• *CyberSpiel* – Vancouver Hillel's weekly electronic newsletter highlighting campus and community events. Address is [Hillel@ unixg.ubc.ca].

• *HaKesher* – newspaper last published by Hillel Vancouver three years ago is being revived. Print and Internet editions should be out around the end of September. Covers Vancouver campuses; looking to expand province-wide.



From left, David Fleischer, Shira Honig and Dave Gordon are editors of the new national student newspaper *Afterword*. [Lenny Kagan photo]

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2	eggs	2
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1 tsp.	vanilla	5 mL

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From coast to coast

Oberlander a member of killing unit: witness

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — An 81-year-old from Abbotsford, B.C., testified that he saw 3,000 Jews executed in Ukraine by a Nazi killing squad.

John (Hans) Huebert told a one-day Federal Court hearing in Vancouver on Sept. 10 that he and Helmut Oberlander of Waterloo, Ont., were members of a Nazi unit that murdered thousands of Jews and other civilians in the Former Soviet Union between 1941 and 1943.

The Justice Department claims that Oberlander, 74, failed to disclose his wartime record when he immigrated to Canada in 1954. The government wants to strip him of his Canadian citizenship and deport him. Oberlander denies the allegation.

Huebert, called as a government witness, testified that he served as a driver for the unit, known variously as Sonderkommando 10A and Einsatzkommand 10A. He said Oberlander was an interpreter for the unit.

During his 3½-hour testimony, Huebert described a massacre of Jews outside Taganrog, Ukraine, in November or December 1941. "The Jews had to register with the Germans in Taganrog," he told the court. "Then they were marched out of town, between two rows of Germans." Huebert said he saw thousands of Jews leave the city in this way.

A German officer ordered Huebert to drive him to a ravine outside the city.

As he drove, Huebert said he could see the footprints of the Jews in the snow. When they arrived at the ravine, Huebert saw rows of Jews who had already been killed lying face down in the snow.

An officer called the Jews who had been walking to come forward, Huebert said. "They had to lie down, and then they were shot in the back of the neck by six or eight Germans with machine guns." The victims included men, women and children.

Huebert said a group of non-Jewish Russians observing the executions covered the bodies of the dead Jews with dirt and snow. He noted that he did not see Oberlander at the site of the massacre.

Huebert also testified that on two occasions he saw about 110 Jews loaded into enclosed "gas vans" by officers of Sonderkommando 10A. Although he did not witness their murder with his own eyes, Huebert said he was told the Jews were suffocated by the vehicles' exhaust fumes in seven minutes. Oberlander was not present while the Jews were being herded into the trucks, according to Huebert's testimony.

Responding to questions by prosecutor Rob Goldstein of the Department of Justice, Huebert told the court he was born an ethnic German in Ukraine in 1917.

He was drafted by the Red Army in 1939, and his unit was overrun by the Germans in 1941. After he had returned to the family farm, he was sought out by a German officer and offered a job as a driver, which he accepted.

Huebert testified that the members of Sonderkommando 10A were "different" from other soldiers. "They were tough guys who didn't say much."

Sonderkommando 10A was one of several mobile killing units that followed the Wehrmacht as it swept eastward through the Former Soviet Union, killing Jews, Communists and anyone else deemed to be a threat to the Nazis.

Huebert testified that he drove Nazi executioners and their victims "once or twice a week" to the ravines outside Taganrog.

Huebert said Sonderkommando 10A left Taganrog in the summer of 1942 and went, via Rostow and Crimea, to Belarus, where the unit remained until 1943. Its primary activity in Belarus was combating the Russian partisans in the area.

Huebert left Sonderkommando 10A in the winter of 1943-44 and returned once again to the family farm. He remained a civilian until the summer of 1944, when he joined the Waffen SS, a combat unit.

After the war ended, Huebert was placed in a British prisoner of war camp in Schleswig-Holstein. He was released after six months in the camp and went to work on a German farm. In 1947, Huebert immigrated to Paraguay, where he lived for almost nine years. He came to Canada in 1956.

Defence lawyer Eric Hafeman told the *Province* newspaper that Huebert's testimony exonerates Oberlander, adding, "He was an interpreter – he had nothing to do with anything."

Saskatoon marks double anniversary

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

SASKATOON — This prairie city's Jewish community celebrated a double anniversary last month.

The community held a homecoming weekend Aug. 28 to 30, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Jewish Community Centre and the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel.

Eighty former Saskatonians from across Canada and beyond returned "home," joining about 140 members of the local Jewish community for the celebrations.

"When we started planning this event, we had more grandiose ideas," says Dr. Stephen Goluboff, chair of the 40-50 Committee.

"We were happy with the turnout though. There wasn't much room for many more people at the functions."

The weekend began with a "meet and mingle" at the Congregation Agudas Israel Synagogue (with a membership of about 200 families and individuals), which is part of the community centre complex. Following kabbalat Shabbat, Senator Sid Buckwold, a senior community leader, spoke of the history of Saskatoon Jewry.

On Saturday following the morning services, Jonathon Kaplan, now a resident of Jerusalem, gave an overview of all the issues facing Israel.

Kaplan is the son of David Kaplan, a longtime professor of music at the University of Saskatchewan and a member of a local klezmer band that entertained on Saturday evening at a gala reception at the Sheraton Cavalier Hotel.

David Kaplan and Monty Floyd also performed excerpts from *Love and Latkes*, which Kaplan co-wrote with Henry Wolf, a Jewish professor of drama at the university.

On Saturday evening, UIA Canada's Dov Harris also brought greetings from a number of different national Jewish organizations. The highlight of the evening was a performance by Yuval, the Israeli dance group touring Canada.

Sunday, the community staged its third annual Joe Rosenberg Memorial Golf Tournament.

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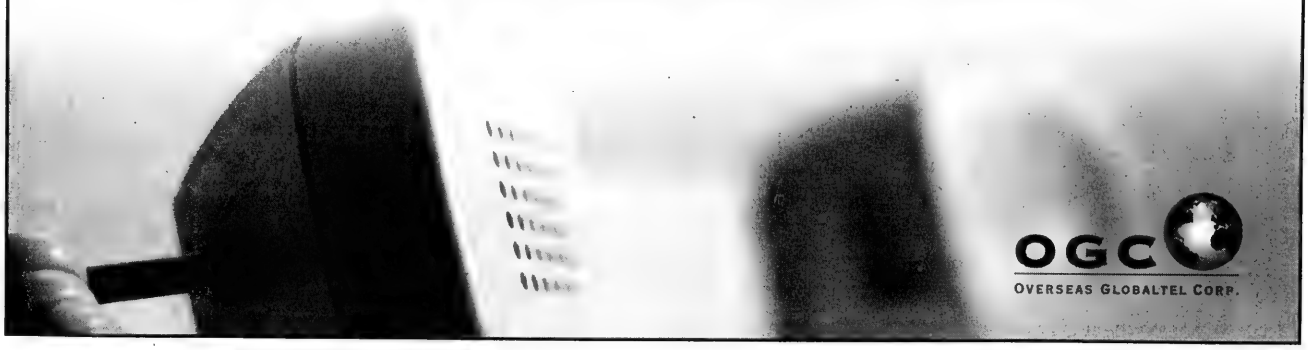

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People holiday deadlines:

Wednesday, Sept. 23, is deadline for Oct. 1 issue; Monday, Sept. 28, is deadline for Oct. 8 issue; Wednesday, Oct. 7, is deadline for Oct. 15 issue.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Sept. 19

CONCERT

North York Symphony benefit concert, Rhapsody in North York, for North York General Hospital, 8 p.m., Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, celebrates the 100th anniversary of **George Gershwin's** birth and benefits children's services at the hospital. $50 includes concert and reception. 756-6944.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

CANADA-ISRAEL

Prof. Irving Abella speaks on Fifty Years of Canada-Israel Relations: A Retrospective, at a luncheon sponsored by the Canadian Club of Toronto and the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. Lunch at noon, address 1 p.m., Royal York Hotel Ballroom.

MAN TO MAN

Man to Man and Side By Side, prostate cancer awareness meeting, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Civic Garden Centre, Garden Auditorium, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. Speaker, urologist **Dr. Michael Jewett**. 932-8820.

Thursday, Sept. 24

ABOUT LITURGICAL MUSIC

Forest Hill Place features **Srul Irving Glick** speaking about his personal involvement with Jewish liturgical music. 2 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

At Mount Sinai Hospital, 18th floor, noon to 4 p.m.

And What Else Is New

TORAH CELEBRATION

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham Torah Celebration and Fair, Sunday, Sept. 27, 12:15-4 p.m., 83 Green Lane, Thornhill. Highlights include dancing and festivities, live scribe, learn the scribe art, Hebrew birthday certificate, arts and crafts, face painting, audio-visual presentation, family barbecue. 905-886-0420.

MUSICAL SOIREE

Dental Volunteers for Israel (DVI) Musical Soiree, Sunday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m., McDonald's head office, McDonald Place. Jewish and classical music dedicated to the memory of **Dr. Alfred Intrator,** co-founder and chair of DVI Canada. **Rochelle Florence** 661-5674.

1948 WAR VETERANS

The 1948 War Veterans Tribute would like to honor veterans of Israel's 1948 War of Independence. If you know any War of Independence veterans, call **Karen** or **Yossi Adler** 633-4801 or fax 630-8177, so that they may be added to the growing list of over 75 honorees. The tribute takes place Nov. 9 at Beth Avraham Yoseph Synagogue.

SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

MAZON Canada: A Jewish Response to Hunger announces speakers are available for groups wishing to learn about poverty and hunger in Canada, tzedakah and the work of MAZON. Educational programs available for both adults and children. Book one month in advance. **Jacqueline Kott-Wolle** 783-7554.

PLAY 'N LEARN

A two-hour program for ages 2-4, offered by City of Vaughan in conjunction with Jewish Family & Child Service, encourages interaction between pre-school children and their parents in a playgroup setting. The eight-week program runs Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. beginning Oct. 7. $150. **Karen Turack**, City of Vaughan 905-831-8552, ext. 5212 or **Pat Lieberman,** JF&CS 638-7800, ext. 215.

[Cont'd. on page 33]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 32]

CHAVERIM CHAPTER, JWI

Jewish Women International Chaverim chapter opening meeting features author **Charlotte Vale Allen,** Sept. 26, 8:30 p.m. **Carla** 225-7576 or **Maureen** 905-731-9248.

SUPPORT GROUP

Circle of Care (formerly Senior Care) Support Group for Adult Children of a parent with Alzheimer disease or related disorder begins Monday, Sept. 28, 6-7:30 p.m. for eight sessions. $25 per person. Register. 635-2860.

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

Congregation Yediday Shabbat services at Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Traditional and contemporary readings, egalitarian, pluralistic, participatory. Public welcome. 488-0688.

Markham Street Shul: Free Learning Non-Services with **Rabbi Michael Skobac** of Jews for Judaism, for Rosh Hashanah, Monday, Sept. 21 and Tuesday Sept. 22 10 a.m. to noon and for Yom Kippur Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m. Kol Nidre and Wednesday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m. Yom Kippur. 397 Markham St. **Paul** 530-0070.

DIABETES RESEARCH

Does someone you know have Type 1 diabetes? The Diabetes Research Unit at Mount Sinai Hospital is conducing a study to prevent kidney disease in diabetes. 586-8775.

SCHOOL OF DANCE

After a successful run as a principle dancer in *Needfire*, **Deidre McCloskey** has joined the teaching staff of the Koffler Centre School of Dance to conduct all-Irish (Riverdance) classes for ages 6 to adult. 636-1880, ext. 273.

VENDORS WANTED

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section's Holiday Gift Show and Sale, Thursday, Dec. 3. Interested vendors, 633-5100.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ASTEH

Training sessions for new volunteers for ASTEH – Alternative Short-Term Emergency Housing for Abused Jewish Women and their Children, co-sponsored by Jewish Women International of Canada and Jewish Family & Child Service, take place in October. For application and interview 630-9313.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Conversational Yiddish classes at Adath Israel Congregation, 10 sessions with **David Newman**, start Wednesday, Oct. 7. **Louis Gula** 4495-0919.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Shabbat service:morning prayers 9 a.m.; lecture on the weekly portion and Torah reading 10 a.m.; children's service 10 a.m.

New Kabbalah 10-week beginners course starts Thursday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. Register.

Sunday School for ages 4-11, basics of Judaism, Hebrew language, Jewish holidays, drama, arts and crafts, singing, dance.

LEARN TO SPEAK YIDDISH

Adult Yiddish conversation classes, all levels, locations across Toronto including downtown and Thornhill. Evening and day classes, 10-week sessions, Sunday-Thursday beginning mid-October.Yiddish Hotline, 635-2883, ext. 150.

SHIRA CHAPTER, JWI

Wanted: New members of Jewish Women International Shira chapter. Come and be a judge for a present-member baking contest. **Jacqueline** 787-8276.

FALL COLOR TOUR

Join Wagman Centre members for a fall color tour, lunch at the Falls, visit to the Butterfly Conservatory, local winery, Thursday, Oct. 15, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Members $32, non-members $40. Register at Service Desk. **Mara** 785-2500, ext. 2275.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Do Your Kids Have Trouble Making Friends? a peer social skills group for children ages 6-17 years, begins Oct. 26.

The Challenge of Anger: For Women, daytime and evening groups, begin Oct. 22 and 27; Bereavement Groups for both younger and older persons who have lost a spouse, begin Oct. 14; Single Parent Challenge, begins Oct. 22.

BETH TIKVAH SINGLES

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles (35-55) is joining the Body N' Soul Run/Walk for Gastro-Intestinal Cancer Research at Mount Sinai Hospital, Sunday, Oct. 4, 9:30 a.m., East Don Parkland, Leslie south of Steeles. Meet at registration table. Pre-registration $20, at race $25. (tax receipts for over $10) **Bunnie**. 905-731-7545.

VOLUNTEER PUPPETEERS

Be professionally trained as a puppeteer and educate young people about viruses, HIV/AIDS, drug awareness or substance abuse. The Concerned Kids needs volunteers to help present programs to young people ages 4-14. Must be willing to commit to a half a day per week for the school year. A car is necessary. **Joyce** 636-1656.

STUDY CLUB

Forum 15 Study Club welcomes new members for the 1998-99 season. Club offers six lectures with emphasis on Literature and Jewish Studies. Meetings are Thursday evening. **Randy** 756-0183.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 38

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue weekday services, Shacharit 8:30 a.m. Minchah, Ma'ariv 7 p.m. Shabbat 9 a.m. preceded by Torah study with **Gershon Samonovitz**. Call **David** 256-1600.

THE CHORALAIRS

The Choralairs of North York, a volunteer choir singing for seniors and disabled persons, welcomes singers of all ages and all voice ranges. Rehearsals Tuesdays 8-10:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre, Room 2. **Fay Cohen** 633-7233 or **Judy** or **Myer Gordon** 221-3161. To book a concert for your facility **Rose Terrance** 633-0433.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors yom tov dinner, Sunday, Sept. 27, 5:30 p.m., Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Tickets $18 at the Centre, Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to noon or at Senior Care, 530 Wilson Ave. Reserve. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Sept. 17, bingo and other games; Sept. 24, video, *Songs of Gabi Berlin* ; Oct. 10, dance with Teddy Band. New executive: chair **Jerry Bengall**; vice-chair **Menachim Wallach**; treasurer **Rena Alexander;** secretary **Rifka Kreutzer;** communication, **Dahlia Dahary;** trustee **Zahava Artman;** social committee chair **Malka Colla;** organizer **Mane Artman.** For information, Jerry Bengall 905-707-7334 or Dalia Dahary 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip, Nov. 22 to Dec. 9. with nine full days touring including entertainment. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Oct. 15 and 28, Casino Rama; Oct. 22, Shaw Festival for *You Can't Take It With You* , members only; Oct. 29, Shaw Festival for *Lady Windermere's Fan* , members only; Nov. 22-25, Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Discussion of Yom Kippur with Jewish Studies teacher **Penina Steiner**, Thursdays, 11 a.m. to noon Sept. 17 and 24.

Movie, *Mrs. Soffel* , Sunday, Sept. 20, 1 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880

Limited Tuesday, Thursday Tic Tac Two spaces. Two-hour morning program for 2-year-olds. Jewish holidays, music, gym, creative activities, circle time, outdoor play. Ext. 248.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Seniors Club, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2 p.m. The Traditions and Customs of Rosh Hashanah, **Rabbi Chezi Zioncе** of First Narayever Congregation, also booklet of recipes for the High Holy Days and Sukkot. Thursday, Sept. 24, 2 p.m. the film *Overture to Glory* with **Moishe Oysher** in Yiddish with English subtitles. **Judy**.

THIRD GENERATION PRESIDENT

Shawn Goldenberg (second from right), newly elected president of Beth Torah Congregation, is the third generation of his family to serve the congregation in its 35 years of existence. With him are new executive officers (from left) Jack Kates, treasurer; Nathan Naymark, secretary; Jack Greenberg, immediate past president; and Gord Fenwick, vice-president. Absent officer is Eva Zimmerman, vice-president. [Mollie Rothman photo]

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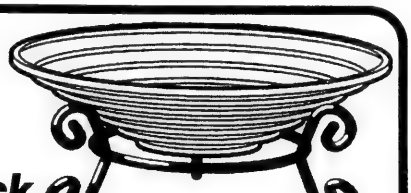

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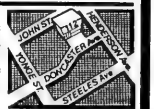

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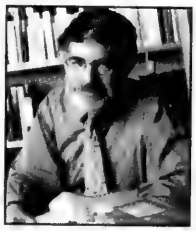
The Centre for Jewish Studies at York University

A Challenging Environment for Growth and Continuity

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



This coming year York will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the University and the 30th of Jewish Studies at York. The emergence of Jewish Studies at our university and others is, in part, a product of the rebirth of Jewish life following the Holocaust. After suffering perhaps the greatest catastrophe of their history, the Jewish people sprang back to life inspired by the new State of Israel which has just celebrated its jubilee. In the postwar era, both Jews and non-Jews have been seeking to explore the meaning of the Jewish experience with its unique cycle of tragedy and triumph, and York University has proved to be a very congenial setting for such a quest.

York's Centre for Jewish Studies is also the result of another historic shift. In the postwar years, Canadians have turned away from the narrow national focus of the past and towards a broader vision of the nation which includes people of all backgrounds. The presence of Jewish Studies at York and elsewhere testifies to a conception of Canada as a multicultural country where people of different religions, races, and ethnic origins are all "at home."

Our Centre, then, is a tangible sign of a renewed Jewish community and of the new Canada. I am confident that our two new chairs in Jewish Studies will help lead the way, not only in understanding the past, but also in creating a better future for members of the Jewish community and for all Canadians.

My colleagues and I at York University's Centre for Jewish Studies want to thank all of our supporters for their assistance during the past year, and we look forward to your continued support in the future. We invite you to share in our activities, to enrol in courses, and to participate in our public events. *Shana tova*

Professor Michael Brown

FIRST SURVEY OF JEWISH STUDIES IN CANADA

The recent *Guide to the Study of Jewish Civilization in Canadian Universities* published by the Centre for Jewish Studies together with the International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem is the first comprehensive survey of the field ever undertaken. Copies can be obtained from the Centre.

CREATING THE JEWISH FUTURE

What does the future hold for world Jewry? Who's right, the doomsayers or the optimists? In a challenging new Centre for Jewish Studies publication, some of the world's leading younger and veteran scholars ask these vital questions and suggest some answers. The book grew out of a conference at the Centre sponsored by Bernard Ghert and attended by hundreds of community activists from across North America. The launch will be held at Beth Tzedec Synagogue on November 11.

J. RICHARD SHIFF CHAIR FOR THE STUDY OF CANADIAN JEWRY

The first endowed chair for the study of Canadian Jewry at any university in the world was established at York's Centre for Jewish Studies this past year. Professor Irving Abella, a distinguished, award-winning historian, has been appointed first chairholder. The chair has been given by J. Richard Shiff, his family, and friends.

KOSCHITZKY GIFT FOR A CHAIR IN JEWISH TEACHER EDUCATION

York's pathbreaking Jewish Teacher Education Programme is now receiving an additional gift from the Israel Koschitzky Family Foundation to upgrade to a chair the professorship endowed by the Foundation three years ago. The position now occupied by Professor Alex Pomson is the first of its kind at a public university in North America.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE

York's long standing exchange with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has received a major boost with the new scholarships connected to the Ontario Government Matching Grant Programme. The Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University are endowing new graduate and undergraduate scholarships for York students in all areas of study. York will be providing fellowships for Hebrew University students to come to York as part of their graduate programme.

NEW YIDDISH LIBRARY

The Yiddish-language books of Rabbi Nachman Shemen are now being placed on the shelves of York's Scott Library where they will be used by students and faculty. A gift of the Shemen family, the collection is notable for Holocaust memoirs and other works. It will give York one of the largest Yiddish collections of any university in Canada. A gift from the Howard and Carole Tanenbaum Foundation has made the cataloguing possible.

FACULTY HONOURS AND AWARDS

Several Centre for Jewish Studies faculty members were awarded major grants from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada in 1997-98. These include Professors Martin Lockshin, Maynard Maidman, Howard Adelman, and Steve Mason.

Jewish Book Awards went to Professor Irving Abella for *Growing up Jewish*, which he co-authored and Professor Martin Lockshin for *Rashbam's Commentary on Exodus*.

J. Richard Shiff, Q.C. *Professor Irving Abella*

JOIN US...

November 11 Creating the Jewish Future Book Launch – at Beth Tzedec Synagogue

March 14 **The Leonard Wolinsky Lectures**
New Directions in Jewish Education:
A Symposium with Rabbi Irving Greenberg, Professor Barry Holtz, Ms. Dvora Steinmetz and Dr. Michael Shire

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Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University Scholarship
Jacob Garmaise

Molly Eisenberg Memorial Award in Judaic Studies
Val Strawczynski

Gertrude and Jack Friedman Memorial Award
Neta Chitayat Avi Mintz

Berek and Regina Gertner Bursary in Holocaust Studies
Elke Grenzer

Hebrew University Exchange Scholarship
Lauren Lubell Brooke Lofsky

Shoshana Kurtz Book Prize
Michelle Cohen

Metro Toronto Lodge B'nai Brith Prize
Brian Levine

Samuel Rosen Book Prize
Susan Haber Geri Carmelly

Judith Rosner-Siegel Vanier Award
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Leonard Wolinsky Scholarships
Brooke Lofsky Lauren Lubell Jacob Garmaise

Joseph Zbili Memorial Book Prize
Chana Lockshin

Alumni Breakfast in Israel July 1998

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For further information, please contact:
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Centre for Jewish Studies, York University
4700 Keele Street, Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3
(416) 736-5823 e-mail: michaelb@yorku.ca
website: www.yorku.ca/research/CJS

From coast to coast

CBC names successor to Clyde Gilmour

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Jim Manishen, a classical music reviewer and occasional CBC radio host, is host of CBC's new *Collector's Corner*, successor to the long-running *Gilmour's Albums*.

Manishen, who began collecting classical records when he was a child, and asked guests at his bar mitzvah to buy him records, has a collection of 5,000 classical and other music discs and 8,000 CDs to draw on for his new show.

"Our format will be similar to *Gilmour's Albums*," says Manishen. "I play the classical pieces first and save the eclectic stuff for the end. I play a mixture of classical, light classical, broadway numbers, comedy records and music from around the world. I have scheduled a segment on klezmer, for example."

Like Gilmour, Manishen plays selections from his own collection, and talks about the artists and composers. "I will try to explain to listeners why each recording is special. Hopefully, people will find it enjoyable."

"He was inimitable," Manishen says of Gilmour, who died just over a year ago. "He had a non-highhanded way of describing music that I hope to be able to emulate."

Manishen differs from Gilmour in that he is a musician as well as a music lover and reviewer. He has been a member of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and studied clarinet under Leon Russianoff at the Manhattan School of Music.

After graduating with a masters degree in music, he taught at the University of Brandon School of Music. He returned to Winnipeg in 1979. "I missed the Jewish community here," he says.

"I love working in radio. You can write about the experience of listening to a performance but it is not as effective as being able to play an excerpt on radio. It is a far superior way of getting the message out," he says.

Manishen first submitted his proposal for *Collector's Corner* when *Gilmour's Albums* went off the air. "Local CBC producer Andrea Ratuski helped me with the proposal," Manishen says. "To our surprise, a few months later, we were notified that it was on the short list."

Manishen has signed on initially for 42 shows, 10 of which will be rerun during vacation periods. The show will also be available on CBC's Web site.

Contact ProMontreal aids youth

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Over its five-year history, Contact ProMontreal has directly placed 1,154 young Jews into career-level jobs in Quebec, according to the latest statistics, and estimates are that another 800 or so were given assistance that helped them find employment here on their own.

This week, ProMontreal is celebrating its fifth anniversary with a series of events. Its career placement service for recent and soon-to-be university graduates is the cornerstone of the program, which was launched by FEDERATION CJA with the goal that the community do whatever was within its control to stem the outflow of young people from Quebec. It was believed that if young Jews could find suitable employment, many would prefer to stay here than leave.

"We've changed the lives of many young people," declared ProMontreal co-chair Lynne Kassie.

Despite the province's political and economic travails, Contact ProMontreal has each year recorded a steadily higher number of placements, said director Lois Liverman Selick.

In 1993, the program launched the careers of 134 young people. Last year, the total was 238 and, by the end of this August, the total had already reached 213, she said.

"For every 100 placements we make, we figure 80 others find jobs thanks to other services we provide, such as help with preparing a c.v., coaching for job interviews and referrals," she said, adding that it can't be assumed everyone who finds successful employments reports back to Contact ProMontreal.

The higher numbers this year and last are partially explained by the fact that Contact ProMontreal now also places second- and third-year students in summer and part-time work in their chosen careers. In its first year, the service was limited to recent university graduates, generally speaking within five years of getting their degrees. This latter group continues to account for the great majority of the placements.

The number of applicants for Contact ProMontreal's services has, over the same time, increased as well. In the first year, just over 300 graduates registered. In 1997, 748 persons sought Contact ProMontreal's services.

Selick said she is seeing some young people returning to Montreal from elsewhere in Canada. "Some have gone to school elsewhere, or want to come back because a boyfriend or girlfriend is here. Home has a big draw for Montrealers. There's something about this city and this community that they miss," she said.

"They come in saying, 'I know I'm bucking the trend,' but really they are not. The perception is that no one comes back, but they do."

Jewish entrepreneurs, mid- and large-size, remain the best employers of Contact ProMontreal's clients, but many large corporations also use the service. "This is a free service, unlike our competitors, the private placement agencies that charge a fee," Selick said. The program maintains a bank of over 2,000 companies that it can prospect. Cocktail receptions are held regularly at the Montefiore Club where employers and job-seekers can meet.

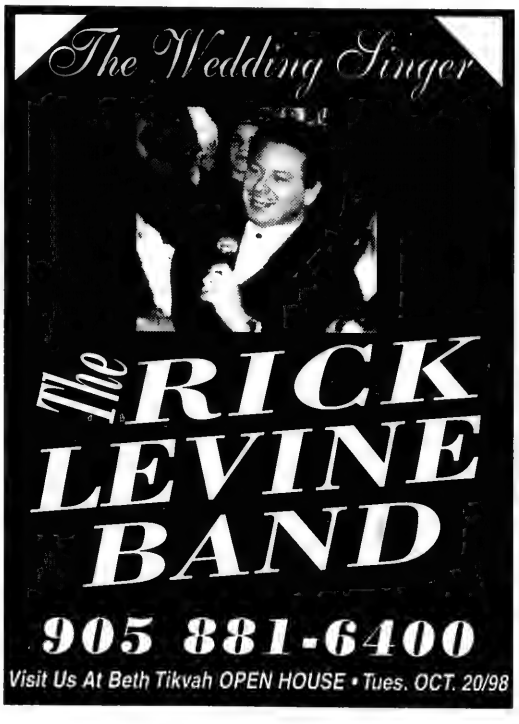
Contact ProMontreal has also received financial support from outside the Jewish community. This year it received a "substantial grant" from the McConnell Family Foundation, which boosted its $235,700 allocation from the federation.

"There is a great deal that is outside of our control," she admitted, "downsizing and politics, but we are good at providing opportunities that link people up [with potential employers]."

"It's been an incredible five years," said Laurence Paperman, ProMontreal's other co-chair. "We're constantly growing and excited about what we have already accomplished and our plans for the future."

Paperman adds that ProMontreal is more than an employment service. Its mission is to promote Montreal as a good place to live, by playing up its positive aspects. "It's about changing attitudes," he said. "Five years ago, you kept hearing that all the young people were gone, all the talk was negative.

"ProMontreal is about making young people aware of what they may not know exists here, and taking a second look at what they take for granted."



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From coast to coast

MAYOR'S AWARD FOR ISRAEL PAVILION

CNE Israel at 50 pavilion chair Karen Morton beams as she accepts the Mayor's Award of Excellence on behalf of all who made the attraction a success. The award was presented by Deputy Mayor of Toronto Case Ootes on behalf of Mayor Mel Lastman, members of council and the board of directors of the CNE. The award cites the Israel at 50 pavilion for "an outstanding presentation of Israel which was entertaining, educational and enjoyable for people of all ages." [Stephen Wilson photo]

Nurse helps deal with tragedy at crash

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Lorraine Tobia is tired. It's evident in her eyes, her voice, her demeanor. Yet she is ready to go again, if necessary, to give of herself so that others may have comfort.

The Halifax nurse spent a traumatic two days ministering to suffering families who lost loved ones in the crash of Swissair flight 111 off the coast of Nova Scotia. As a volunteer, she coordinated Red Cross personnel at the rocks of Peggy's Cove when families of the 229 victims arrived to view the crash scene.

A member of Shaar Shalom Synagogue and a single mother of two boys, ages eight and six, Tobia assisted in briefing sessions at Peggy's Cove, preparing families for what they might see, explaining the Red Cross role in providing professional nursing care and assistance, and helping distribute tangible keepsakes.

"We took people to the rocks, showed them the area where the plane went down, gave them hand-picked stones indigenous to the area, bottles of sea water, postcards, one-use cameras, and, for the children, teddy bears.

"No matter what the language, the children, and even some adults, reached out for the bears, pulled them in and hugged them. It was very powerful and had a profound impact on all of us."

The crash occurred late on Wednesday evening and by Friday, Tobia knew she would be on site Saturday and Sunday. She works in the oncology unit of the Queen Elizabeth II Health Science Centre, Victoria General site, in Halifax. She is also in the cardiac arrest unit, is licensed to give medications and is familiar with CPR.

"My father died when I was 10 because no one knew how to administer CPR," she recalled. "That's why I know it."

She said her original shift was seven hours Saturday and Sunday but she worked 14 hours Saturday and 18 hours Sunday. "Once we realized more and more people were coming, my presence was requested and I was willing to stay."

Knowing that several Jewish families who lost relatives would be arriving, and realizing she would be the only Jewish person in the support team on Shabbat, she took with her kippot and copies of the Shaar Shalom's Friday night service, with a transliteration of the Kaddish. (She is a member of the Shaar's chevrah kadishah.)

"I had the privilege of taking the family of Harvard professor and AIDS researcher, Dr. Jonathan Mann, and his wife to the rocks. I made sure the two pre-teen sons had kippot. The only thing I regret is not having a tallit with me. I was asked for one on that occasion."

She was upset Saturday at the presence of messianic Jews. "I was trying to do my Red Cross job for all the families as well as steer the Jewish families away from the messianic Jews. Fortunately, Rabbi [Pamela] Hoffman [of Shaar Shalom] stepped in and they quietly went away. Sunday, [Lubavitch] Rabbi Mendel Feldman was there and was very visible."

Late Sunday evening, just before support tents were dismantled, rescue staff, firefighters, army, police, Salvation Army and Red Cross personnel held a service on the rocks. Maj. Ron Stuckless of the Salvation Army read psalms and portions from the Bible. Tobia finished the service by reciting Kaddish and placing a small stone, on one of Peggy's Cove's large rocks.

"There was a full moon shining on us. It's something I'll never forget," said Tobia. "There was total silence as I said Kaddish. People were moved. My father's yahrzeit was two days earlier on the 13th of Elul, and I planned to be in shul Saturday. I didn't get to go, of course, and didn't say Kaddish until Sunday; so it was especially moving for me."

Many support staff will require debriefing and counselling, including Tobia. "I had a group debriefing session for a couple of hours with United States counsellors who worked the TWA crash and World Trade Centre bombing sites. I'm sure I'll have more counselling.

"In my business I have seen many gruesome things. I once saw a man who had been in a river for seven days and that was hellish. But it was nothing like what I saw here, drifting into the rocks."

Tobia said the experience of working with the families was nevertheless good for her.

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From coast to coast

Condo owners fail to suspend anti-sukkah ban

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Residents of the Le Sanctuaire condominium apartments who want the right to erect on their balconies or patios the temporary huts associated with Sukkot have failed in their bid to be exempted for this holiday while their case is in appeal.

Quebec Court of Appeal judge Jean-Louis Baudouin denied their motion to suspend the permanent injunction against the installation of sukkot and other structures issued in June by Quebec Superior Court Judge Andre Rochon, who ruled in favor of the Syndicat Northcrest, the co-owners' association.

That judgment is being appealed, but will not be heard for many months and a decision could take up to two years, said lawyer Steve Slimovitch, who is representing the B'nai Brith League for Human Rights as an intervenor in the case.

A suspension would have allowed the tenants to put up the huts during this Sukkot. The eight-day festival begins the evening of Oct. 4.

Baudouin cited testimony before Rochon from Syndicat Northcrest expert witness Barry Levy, a rabbi and dean of religious studies at McGill University, that the erection of a sukkah, or having one close to one's home, is not an obligation of Jewish law. He added that the residents' witness, Rabbi Moïse Ohana, principal of École Maïmonide, confirmed essentially what Rabbi Levy said.

Baudouin stated that there is a "major distinction" between "an obligation fixed by the Jewish religion and simple convenience concerning the exercise of it..."

He continued that, according to the evidence, the erection of a "personal" sukkah has "a purely optional character" and, consequently, maintaining the injunction would not cause the appellants "serious prejudice" or irreparable harm, "but simple inconvenience that can be easily compensated for." He noted that the Syndicat has made offers of accommodation.

Appellants Moïse Amselem, Gladys Bouhadana (who are married), Antal Klein and Gabriel Fonfeder, backed by respondents Miguel Bernfield and Edith Jaul, also Le Sanctuaire condo owners, argued that they were entitled to an exemption because "the very exercise of their religious convictions" will be prevented if they cannot install a sukkah. They say they will have "no other choice than to move to their children's or relatives' home for the Sukkot festival, which they do not want to do..."

The motion claims that Thomas Klein, who lives in the condo owned by Antal Klein, will, in fact, be moving out soon "in part as a reaction to the judgment rendered in this case" in Superior Court.

On the other hand, they maintained that "the only possible harm which might be experienced by the (Syndicat Northcrest) or non-Jewish owners or occupants of (Le Sanctuaire) if the judgment is suspended is of a temporary esthetic character..."

The co-owners' association has offered to put up a "common" sukkah on grounds adjacent to the building, but the appellants' argument is that this should not prevail over the "the right and interest to have one in one's privacy," especially considering that two of the aggrieved tenants are over 70 years of age. They add that what they were offered was actually a tent, which would not conform to Jewish law.

"It's unfortunate their request was denied," Slimovitch told *The CJN*. "It would not have caused anyone any harm to maintain the status quo."

The case has been in court since before Sukkot 1997, when the co-owners' association sought a temporary injunction to prevent the installation of sukkot, citing "numerous complaints" and condo bylaws prohibiting any type of construction or storage, except for garden furniture, on balconies, patios and porches, which are considered common areas of the co-ownership. Exceptions may be made for the placement of articles of decoration of these areas, if prior written consent is received from the administration.

The appellants have noted that other owners have had Christmas decorations, a jacuzzi, awnings and satellite dishes on their balconies and patios.

They also dismiss the objection that sukkot are a fire hazard because the huts are put on balconies at the back of the building, and it is the front balconies that are conceived as a fire escape as they allow one to go from one to another.

The association filed another motion for a permanent injunction against sukkah installations.

The appeal says the bylaws contravene articles 3 and 10 of the Quebec Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which protects citizens from religious discrimination.

This protection is "not limited to actions required by specific commands within a religion but extends to the exercise of one's religion or conscience according to an honest and sincere belief...", it is argued.

The appellants also contend that no court should arbitrate "religious controversies, evaluate the correctness of a religious belief or determine the content of religious laws..."

Moncton park honors Israel

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

MONCTON — The soon-to-be named Parc Israel Park, a greenbelt between Lewis and Steadman Streets, will be dedicated to the Jewish community to recognize Israel's 50th anniversary and to honor the contribution Moncton Jews have made to the city.

Mayor Brian Murphy made the announcement at a Yovel concert held at the Capitol Theatre in early September, where he and more than 250 guests enjoyed the music of the Israeli group.

On the same day, the mayor declared Israel Day, and had an Israeli flag, provided by community leader David Attis, flown on the city flagstaff.

Attis, president of Moncton's Tiferes Israel congregation, said the concert attracted a busload of people from Fredericton, 120 km away, and another dozen people from Saint John, 100 km to the south.

"We also had a large number of non-Jews," he said, indicating that the production was to "educate and inform the public that three minutes of a newscast is not what Israel is all about."

He laughed and added, "[This] was definitely not a fundraiser. We had to really sell the show. We had cooperation from local radio stations and newspapers. They ran contests and gave tickets away for us, and created great awareness."

At the concert, Murphy praised the contribution of Moncton's Jewish citizens. "They have contributed enormously to our business community, to academia, to the practice of medicine and the compassionate caring of our sick, to the legal profession and the judiciary, to the cultural community, and they are leaders in our political and spiritual lives.

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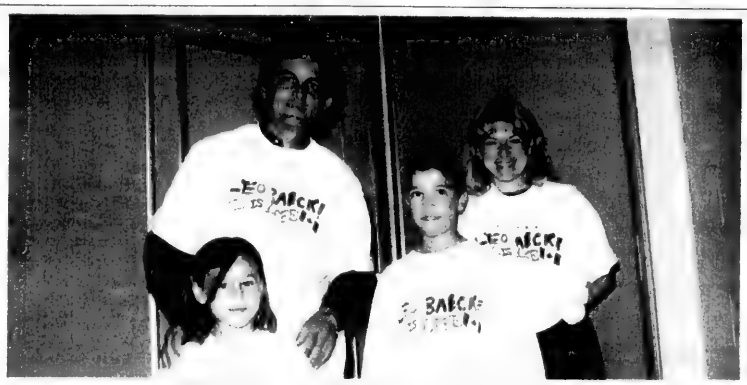
From coast to coast



T-SHIRTS KICK OFF 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Senior kindergarten student Michelle Polster and Ari Lyon-Wein of grade 5 (front) join project co-chairs Loren Kruger (rear left) and Andrea Rifkin to model commemorative T-shirts presented on the first day of classes to all students and staff on both campuses of Leo Baeck Day School. The shirts kick off the school's 25th anniversary celebrations during the coming year. [Ron Csillag photo]

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

שנה טובה:

אוטוטו ראש השנה בפתח. לאלה מיכם שלא השתלבו עדין בקהילה כל שהיא, תמיד פתוחה הדלת במרכז הקהילתי לישראלים של חב"ד ליובאוויטש. וכך מזמין אותך הרב לנדא:

"לקראת קול השופר בחר אחת מן האפשרויות הבאות: משקיף אדיש/ משועמם ביציע/ מתעניין אך מבולבל / או שותף לחויה המרגשת והשתתפות חדורת ידע והבנה למתרחש לאחר שהשתתפתי בהרצאות מתאימות לחגים!" טלפון 905-731-7000 שלוחה 25. ואם אתם מעוניינים, ישלח לכם הרב בפאקס גליון שבועי "לקראת שבת", ובו ניתוח פרשת השבוע ועניינים אחרים שבסדר היום. יש בעולם הזה כל כך הרבה שנאת חינם, שנעים למצוא, כמו בנווה מדבר, אהבת חינם.

"המדור לחיפוש קרובים"

ישראלים רבים אשר התנחלו בקנדה השיגו הישגים מרשימים בתחומים מאוד מגוונים, והביאו לקהילה סיבות להיות גאים. ואני קצת משויך כי לפני כמה ימים כשהייתי במונטריאול, ביקרתי בסטודיו של הצייר הישראלי יהודה שקי, ומה שראיתי הזכיר לי פעם נוספת שאנחנו באמת יוצאי חלציו של העם הנבחר. שקי גדל בחולון ואחרי שרות בצה"ל למד אמנות בארץ ובפריז והגיע למונטריאול. במשך השנים הציג הבחור בהרבה ערים מכובדות בכל רחבי כדור הארץ, ויצירות פרי מכחולו מעשירות מוזיאונים, אוספים פרטיים, ומפארות אולמות ציבוריים ובתי מלון. בחדשים האחרונים עובד שקי על ציורים ומוצגים שהשראה ליצירתם באה מתוכנית רדיו אשר שודרה בקול ישראל בשנים שאחרי השואה ונועדה לעזור למשפחות ניצולים שרק יצאו משערי הגרמיזם למצוא אחד את השני. זו תוכנית שכולנו זוכרים - "המדור לחיפוש קרובים". בסטודיו ראיתי ציורים, סקיצות ועבודות אחרות שהשאירו אותי פעור פה בגלל עוצמתם ועושרם הויזואלי. התערוכה אשר מתוכננת להיות מוצגת ב - 12 ערים בתבל, תהיה מתוקשרת ותכה הרבה הדים. חבל רק שבטורונטו - עיר בה שוכנת קהילה יהודית גדולה וחמה, ובניהם הרבה נגולי שואה, לא נמצא עדיין פטרון שיארח את התערוכה.

יהודם פירוצקי

מכתב מלוּבה שולר

"לגידי קורן, אני קוראת את המאמרים שלך ופשוט אוהבת אותם. אני שייכת לקבוצת "Hidden children of the holocaust", של אנשים כמותי שהיו ילדים בודדים בשואה. בין 19-16 באוקטובר יתקיים מפגש גדול ב Washington DC, וקבוצה מטורונטו תצא באוטובוס מיוחד. המעוניינים להצטרף יתקשרו בבקשה אלי, לטלפון 416-783-5582. זו עומדת להיות חוויה נדירה."

SMOKE SIGNALS:

לפני כחודש חווינו חוויה נפלאה בסרט חדש, שכמעט כל יוצריו הם אינדיאנים צעירים. "סימני עשן" הוא סיפורם של שני צעירים אינדיאנים משמורה של ילידים באיידהו שיוצאים למסע כדי למצוא את אביו של אחד מהם, שהציל את החבר השני ממוות כשהיה תינוק. כולנו התרגלנו לסטריאוטיפ האינדיאני שמפסיד לאמריקנים בסרטי קאובי, או האינדיאני השתוי שאיננו מסוגל לקחת את גורלו בידיו. והינה בא סרט קטן ונהדר ומראה את האינדיאנים באור אנושי, עם בעיות קשות מאוד, חברות, מסורת, משפחה, והכל מסופר בחוש הומור נדיר, כצחוק ודמע מעורבבים בו. והמוסיקה- משהו! אני מודה שיש בעיה מסויימת בסרטים שאני ממליץ לכם: הרבה פעמים עד שיוצא המדור שלי, הם הצליחו לרדת מן האקרנים. מצטער - אין לי חשק וגם לא עורך לדבר כאן על טיטאניק ואחיותיה. מה עושים בכל זאת? חכו כמה שבועות והסרטים האלה יצוצו בספריות הוידיאו. הפעם יש לי הרגשת בטן שהסרט יישאר יותר, כי הסיפור סוחף, השחקנים (ילדים ומבוגרים) נפלאים והמוסיקה - מדהימה. עשר בסולם קורן.

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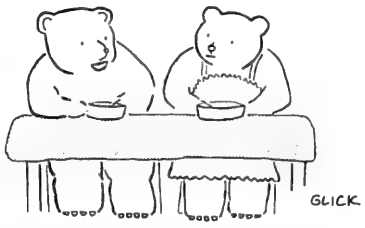

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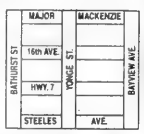

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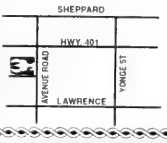

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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Serious reflections on repentance

At this time of the year we are all asked by God to do *tshuva*, repentance. All is forgiven for any wrongful acts we may have committed against God, such as not keeping the Sabbath or failing to keep kosher. However, we are also commanded to seek forgiveness from individual men and women for wrongful conduct against them. Therefore, allow me the indulgence to seek forgiveness in this column on behalf of the species known as the Divorce Lawyer.

1. Forgive him/her for advising you to seek reconciliation (which the law demands) before demonstrating how to demolish your spouse.
2. Forgive him/her for quoting a reasonable fee for services based on past experiences in similar files and thereafter being confronted with certain opposing lawyers who never heard of God or the concept of morality.
3. Forgive him/her for believing in God and having a concept of morality.
4. Forgive him/her for having to race to the washroom after waiting two hours to do so in the middle of heated negotiations.
5. Forgive him/her for not having the gift of prophecy, since the Court will not divulge the Judge's identity before you appear before him (so sayeth the Court Clerk).
6. Forgive him/her for telling you that black is, in fact, black, not white and that the Sun does rise in the East, even though you've been done a great injustice as a result.
7. Forgive him/her for not sending verbose and combative letters to opposing counsel every time you call and then charging you $100 for the privilege.
8. Forgive him/her for having to refer to opposing counsel, when before a Judge, as "my friend" when you feel like eating his liver.
9. Forgive him/her for having a spouse and children whom he sees, occasionally.
10. Finally, forgive him/her for failing to have a sense of humour.

Have a *gut yontef*, meaning: be good this year. On behalf of myself, my family and my colleagues, allow me to wish you a very Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 365-0300, ext. 22.

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Elder abuse said under-reported in Jewish community

By NADINE BONNER
The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle

MILWAUKEE — Sam was a member of Rabbi Isaac Lerer's congregation, Temple Menorah, for many years. A widower, Sam (not his real name) came only to High Holy Day services.

He was "a sweet man, a humble man" said the rabbi, who would call Sam's home throughout the year to check in on him.

Then, a few years ago, when Rabbi Lerer called, Sam's son or daughter-in-law would say, "Sam is sleeping," or "Sam's out." The rabbi accepted their statements and called again a few weeks later. Somehow, Sam was never available.

But Rabbi Lerer was totally unprepared for the telephone call from Dorothy, a social worker who informed him that she suspected Sam was being abused.

Rabbi Lerer arranged to meet Dorothy at Sam's house, which he shared with his daughter-in-law and grandson. The son had by this time abandoned the family and the visitors were not allowed to enter.

Rabbi Lerer returned, accompanied now by the police, and broke into the house, which was filthy and filled with junk.

Sam was locked in a room on the first floor without any toilet facilities.

"How are you Sam?" asked the rabbi.

"Everything's okay, rabbi," Sam replied. But it wasn't.

"He was wet from head to toe," said the rabbi. Later, they discovered bruises on his body.

When confronted, the daughter-in-law denied any wrongdoing, though it turned out she was forcing Sam to sign over his pension and social security checks to her. She had already used up his savings.

"How could you let this happen to your grandfather?" Rabbi Lerer demanded of the grandson. He received a shrug in response.

Rabbi Lerer called an ambulance, alerted the Jewish Home and Care Centre, and had a reluctant Sam admitted to the home.

In an interview, Rabbi Lerer said it was the fastest admission to the home on record.

Rabbi Lerer became Sam's legal guardian and saw that his income went to keeping him comfortable at the home, where he lived until his death last year.

It is a shocking story, and Rabbi Lerer insists, an unusual one in the Jewish community. Or is it?

According to Judy Strauss, director of clinical and case management for Jewish Family Services here, abuse of the elderly occurs in the same proportion in the Jewish community as in the general community. Strauss has seen other "Sams" in her career, some in more affluent settings.

Elder abuse, she said, is even more under-reported than spousal abuse in both the general and Jewish communities.

In an interview, Strauss pointed out that abuse of the elderly takes many forms, and they are not necessarily violent. Controlling an elderly person's finances, isolating him or her from friends and relatives and controlling medication and care are all forms of abuse.

"Forms of abuse can be subtle," said Strauss. "It's not always the battering victims who end up in the emergency room."

And the abuse can come from a spouse, caretaker, child or grandchild. Moreover, the abuse can occur without malicious intent.

For example, Strauss explained, it can begin when one spouse sees the other deteriorating and is "not able to acknowledge it." As a result, he or she does not respond with appropriate behavior changes and may, for example, leave a spouse no longer able to care for himself alone for several hours.

Or the spouse may refuse to permit necessary medical interventions, such as surgery.

Although the partners in these cases do not intend to harm their spouses, the result is the same, according to Strauss.

Children are also threatened by deterioration of an elderly parent. Strauss said the Jewish community has a lot of aging parents with unmarried children, who have been living with them all their lives.

As their roles change and parents require care, the adjustment for the children to the role of caretaker is difficult.

"They aren't equipped to do that [care for anyone], because that's why they've been living with their parents all their lives."

The situation becomes even more complex, she said, if the child has a psychological problem such as schizophrenia, that has caused them to remain in the home.

Carol Seaver, chair of the Task Force on Older Battered Women for the Milwaukee Women's Centre, estimated that two-thirds of the women she sees are abused by their spouse or partner and another third by their adult children.

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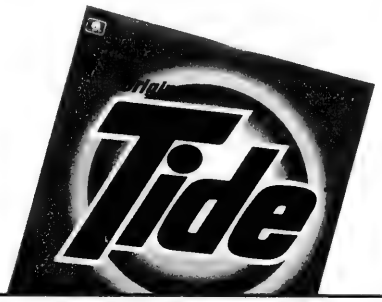

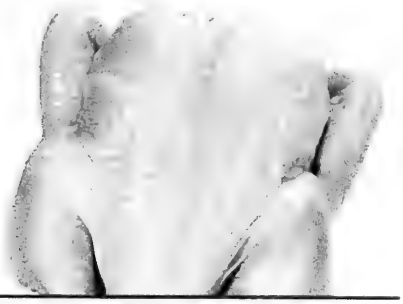

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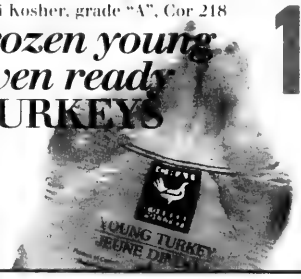

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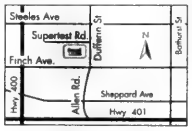

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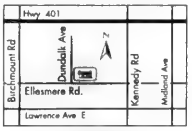

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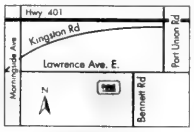

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Bill Lishman of *Fly Away Home* fame, poses in the cockpit of the Crane Plane that he used to guide Canadian geese to their winter home in the south.

'Father Goose' opens up home

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Fashion designer, Paula Lishman, and her husband, William (Bill) Lishman of *Fly Away Home* fame, will open their home in Port Perry for A Day In The Country, a fundraising event for The Koffler Centre of the Arts.

On Sept. 27 at 10 a.m., a bus will leave the Bathurst Jewish Centre to visit the Lishmans' home, enjoy a kosher gourmet lunch, and visit the home of Dr. Ralph and Mrs. Patricia Price to see their Folk Art collection.

The Lishmans' 2700-square-foot, 21st-century earth-integrated domed home has been featured for its innovative design, in *Equinox* and *Harrowsmith* magazines and on numerous television programs.

Bill Lishman is an artist, sculptor, filmmaker, author, art director, inventor, pilot, naturalist and entrepreneur. His metal sculptures can be seen at the City Centre in Campbelton, N.B.; in the IMAX films, *The Last Buffalo* and *Titanica*; and at Canada's Wonderland.

In 1988, working with naturalist William Carrick, Bill raised a flock of Canada geese, imprinted them to an ultra-light aircraft he designed and built, and flew with the birds around southern Ontario.

Teaming up with a photographer, a pilot and others, he conducted imprinting and migration experiments by acting as surrogate parent and leading separate flocks of Canada geese on their journey south.

An award winning documentary, a book on his experiment with the geese, which is now in many public schools, and his best selling autobiography, *Father Goose*, led to the filming of Columbia Pictures' major hit featurt, *Fly Away Home*.

Lishman has also helped develop a highly successful, internationally renowned fashion company headed by his wife Paula, the president of Paula Lishman International. She was chosen Woman Entrepreneur of the Year in the category of International Competitiveness.

She created and patented a process for knitting and weaving narrow strips of fur and cotton fibre yarn together to create unique high fashion garments. The result is a luxurious lightweight fashionable garment that combines all the beauty and warmth of fur and the comfort and flexibility of a knit. Her garments are exported to Japan, Europe and New York. The Koffler Centre's tour will include a visit to the her studio.

Victor Topper, who is leading the tour with Judy Singer Gotfryd, says he and his family are delighted to visit the Lishman home "because when we were there last year with five of our grandchildren, it was one of the most exciting experiences we ever had."

For information or reservations for A Day in the Country call the Koffler Centre of Arts, Diane Uslaner, 416-636-1880, ext. 352.

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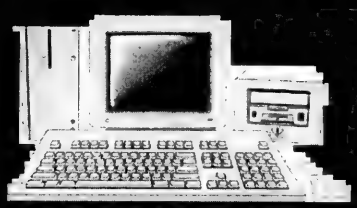
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Hill Street Blue's Belker appearing at Stage West Theatre

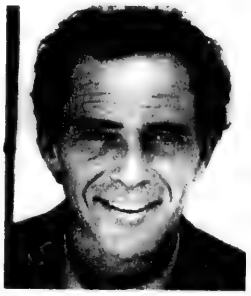
By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

MISSISSAUGA — Actor Bruce Weitz has gone from playing a cop to a acting as a con man. Best known for his role as Mick Belker in *Hill Street Blues*, Weitz is appearing in the comedy, *Bermuda Avenue Triangle*, here until Nov. 15.

Born in Norwalk, Conn., Weitz moved with his family to Miami when he was nine. His foray into entertainment began as a result of a dare from other players on his high school football team. He tried out for the class play, the operetta, *The Mikado*, in which he attempted to sing.

Loving it, Weitz decided to study acting at Carnegie Tech, now called Carnegie-Mellon University, in Pittsburg, where he graduated with a master's degree in fine arts.

His show business break came relatively quickly. "They had what they used to call the TCG (Theatre Communications Group) auditions in Chicago. All the drama schools from around the country would send three or four of their best students. Repertory theatres from all over the States would send representatives there. The first job I got was from those auditions," he said.


Bruce Weitz

"My first professional job was at the Long Wharf Repertory Theatre in New Haven. During the 1966-67 season, we did *Oh, What A Lovely War, The Three Sisters, The Tavern, The Night of the Iguana* and *Mother Courage*."

Weitz continued to grace stages on and off Broadway and work at some of the best repertory theatres in America. In addition to appearing in 13 productions in the New York Shakespeare Festival, he was also in many plays, and acted alongside George C. Scott in a New York production of *Death Of A Salesman*.

"At first I was intimidated, but then I got over it," he said.

Weitz has had great success in television. Seven years on *Hill Street Blues* garnered him six Emmy award nominations; he won once. Since *Hill Street Blues* ended in 1988, Weitz has appeared in a number of series and telefilms. In 1989, he co-starred with Nancy Walker in the shortlived series, *Mama's Boy*. He also appeared as a regular on ABC's *Anything But Love* with Jamie Lee Curtis and Richard Lewis, and in *Byrds Of Paradise* with Timothy Busfield.

He has been seen in several made-for-TV movies and received Emmy nominations for his work in the ABC mini-series *Baby M* and the NBC series *Midnight Caller*.

Weitz has made a remarkable transition from the small screen to the silver screen. "I had a feature film out this summer called *Deep Impact*, and I have six other films opening over the course of the next year and a half. I did *The Landlady* with Talia Shire and *One Helluva Guy* with Michael York and Rob Lowe. Doing seven films last year was a lot for me. In the past I've mostly done television," he said.

"Film gives you more time to prepare. I can't imagine any actor liking television better."

The actor has used his celebrity for good causes. "I was on a committee for three years that Nancy Reagan headed for childhood drug abuse. The president and Mrs. Reagan invited me to the White House to speak. It was intimidating, very exciting and rewarding."

Weitz is married and has a 5-year-old son in Los Angeles. Acting for the first time in the GTA, *Weitz* joins actresses Betsy Palmer from *Knotts Landing* and Nonnie Griffin in *Bermuda Avenue Triangle*, written by Joe Bologna and Renee Taylor.

"The play is about two unhappy widows who bitterly oppose being moved by their daughters to a condominium in Las Vegas. Into their lives, comes a con man, Johnny Paolluci,who I play. He seduces one, then the other, and winds up living with both of them. Neither one knows the other is having an affair with him. I can't tell you the rest, because that would give it away," he said.

The play is currently running at Mississauga's Stage West all Suite Hotel and Theatre Restaurant. For tickets, call Stage West at 905-238-0042 or 1-800-263-0684.

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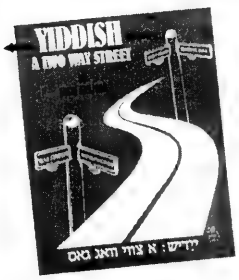

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Travel, Arts & Business

Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

A display of photographic paraphernalia and memorabilia at the George Eastman House.

GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE AND OTHER ROCHESTER SITES

When people in Rochester, N.Y. say they're going to "the city," they usually mean they're heading for Toronto – a metropolis that is about three and a half hours away by car. Citizens of this city along the southern shore of Lake Ontario often speak in glowing terms of the Canadian metropolis on the lake's northern shore.

Having just returned from Rochester and the Finger Lakes, I feel inclined to rave a little about Rochester, the picturesque Erie Canal system and the many sightseeing opportunities that the area provides.

Although more diversified than in previous decades, Rochester is still associated in the public mind with Kodak and George Eastman (1854-1932), the bachelor inventor who was to cameras what Henry Ford was to cars and Bill Gates is to computers. Eastman brought photography to the masses by inventing the dry-plate process, the box camera, the concept of film as a roll of exposures, and a process for color photography.

He chose the name Kodak because he liked the sound of the word; an early motto of the company was "You press the button, we do the rest." The company made him rich and he built a stately mansion between 1902 and 1905 that is now a museum open to public viewing.

A contemporary of Theodore Roosevelt, Eastman loved to hunt big game in Africa, and adorned his residence with impressive and peculiar trophies. There is an elephant's head in the conservatory, a desk in the library that was once covered with hippopotamus hide, and numerous waste-paper baskets, vases and other implements made of hoofs.

An aficionado of pipe organs, Eastman outfitted his 15-bedroom manse with more pipes than St. Patrick's Cathedral. When the pipes sounded, the house reverberated with music.

The dining room, modelled after a room in the White House, was where Eastman held his famous dinner parties, afterwards signing away millions of dollars to worthy charities. In the elegant gardens in 1928, Eastman and the American inventor Thomas Edison demonstrated the first color photographic process to members of the press.

And it was in Eastman's bedroom upstairs that at age 77 he scrawled a note, "To my friends, my work is done, why wait?", smoked a cigarette, then shot himself in the head.

Adjoining the fully restored George Eastman House is the thorough and engaging International Museum of Photography and Film, which displays more than 15,000 pieces of camera equipment and many great photographic masterworks. Frequent guided tours bring the Eastman legend to life.

Admission is $6.50 for adults. 900 East Ave., Rochester. 716-271-3361.

* * *

Strong Museum: Bring your preschool- and school-age children to Rochester's Strong Museum for a unique hands-on learning experience. The frenzied activity level indicates that the youngsters are having immense fun as they step onto a stageset from Sesame Street, pilot a helicopter or run a kid-sized supermarket.

The Strong Museum also features an authentic 1956 diner, an old-fashioned ice-cream shop, an antique carousel, a doll museum and much else. One Manhattan Square, 716-263-2700,

* * *

Other Rochester Sites: Completed in 1825, New York State's famed Erie Canal has long outlived its usefulness as a shipping corridor. In recent years, however, many old canal-related buildings have been restored. The Rochester suburb of Pittsford, for example, boasts numerous revitalized restaurants and shops along the canal, as well as Sir Oliver Loud's Inn, an 1812-era establishment that now serves as a comfortable bed-and-breakfast hotel.

Founded along a branch of the Genessee River some eight miles south of Lake Ontario, Rochester grew up as a mill town with a 96-foot-high waterfall at its heart. The Center at High Falls, an attractive urban development next to the falls, traces the city's history.

Rochester police arrested Susan B. Anthony, the early suffragette, for voting in 1872. Her historic home at 17 Madison St. is open to the public. 716-235-6124.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

YIDDISHLAND CAFE EXPLORES JEWISH AND BLACK MUSIC

The Workmen's Circle presents its 15th Yiddishland Café evening with a program entitled Walk Together Children: Jewish and Black Music from the Roots Up. The program, featuring Denise Williams, Ben Stein and Martin Van de Ven, illustrates different aspects of the Jewish and Black musical traditions and how they affected each other.

Tickets are $12 in advance, $15 at the door. 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Call 635-0720 or 787-2081 for tickets.

* * *

Israeli Comedy: *Make Yourself at Home*, a romantic comedy from Israel by Yitzchak Meshel, plays at the Leah Posluns Theatre for one performance only, Sept. 17, 8 p.m. The play, which has had continuing success in Israel, tells the story of an Israeli soldier who has just finished his military service and gets involved with a woman who has recently immigrated from Russia.

Make Yourself at Home is directed by Howard Rypp of the Nefesh Theatre Company and stars Eliran Caspl and Vicky Bahir. 870-8000.

* * *

Ford Centre: Israeli singer-guitarist Chava Alberstein opens the second season of the KlezmerMania Plus series at this North York venue on Oct. 8 at 8.p.m. Other performers coming to the Ford Centre in the fall include violinist Jacques Israelievitch and harpist Judy Loman on Oct. 21, 8 p.m., and violinist Gil Shaham with pianist Akira Eguchi on Oct. 25 at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets $27-$40. 872-2222.

* * *

Dramatic Arts:

• Stage Centre Productions presents Noel Coward's romantic comedy *Private Lives*, Sept. 24 to Oct. 10 at the Fairview Library Theatre. Adults $16. 299-5557.

• Encore Entertainment kicks off its new season with a production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. City Playhouse, 100 New Westminster Drive, Thornhill. 733-0558.

• *Easy Lenny Lazmon and the Great Western Ascension*, a play by Anton Piatigorsky and directed by Chris Abraham, tells the story of an east-coast Jew who heads west in search of "the only surviving homeland for pure-hearted cowboys and pious exiles." Annex Theatre, 730 Bathurst St. Oct. 10 thru Nov. 1. $15-22. 921-8991.

* * *

Arts Briefs:

• On the Cutting Edge, a show of avant-garde glass by various artists, runs Oct. 1 to 31 at A Show of Hands Gallery, 1947 Avenue Rd. 782-1696.

• Fifty Years of Portraits, an exhibition by Peter Beard, is on view at Gallery One, 121 Scollard St., thru Nov. 24. 929-3103.

* * *

Aaron Skitrit

Passages: Aaron Skitrit, a renowned lute player and a co-founder of Toronto's Riverdale shul, died in Toronto Aug. 27 at the age of 54.

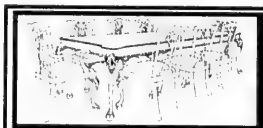
Born in Egypt, Skitrit lived for many years in Paris, where he attained a reputation as an originator of the style of music known in France and elsewhere as musique ancienne. One of the foremost interpreters of renaissance lute and oud music, his reputation was such that in Spain, England, France and other countries he was often referred to as "maestro."

After coming to Canada about 22 years ago, he spent some time teaching music at Queen's University. About ten years ago he developed a strong interest in Jewish mysticism and became an expert in the musical references in the Torah. He could expound exuberantly on the style of music played at the Temple in Jerusalem and other related topics.

Skitrit, who used the name Ben Schitrit when performing, appeared in the documentary *Expulsion and Memory: Descendants of the Hidden Jews* by Toronto filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici. Along with Jacobovici, he was a co-founder of the Riverdale shul in east-end Toronto.

"His passing is going to have a very profound effect on the community," said Jacobovici, "because everywhere he went he touched people."

Skitrit is survived by his wife Reena and their two sons, Leonard and Gabriel.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FOOD IDEAS FOR

ROSH HASHANAH

Kosher wine adds flavor to holiday dishes

BY EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Say the words "kosher wine" and people immediately conjure up visions of a concord or blackberry wine so sweet that it could send anyone into diabetic shock. Thank goodness the super sweet fortified kosher wines of old, while still readily available, are no longer the standard by which kosher wines is measured nor are they what the sophisticated kosher consumer wants.

Today, kosher wines are available in dozens of varieties and flavors from all over the world and modern technology allows production methods to create first class wines that are comparable to non-kosher wines. Winemakers, using state-of-the-art winemaking techniques, are producing wines that are winning awards (and blind tastings) across the United States and Europe. Kosher wines are now being sold on the shelves next to premium labels.

RED WINE BEEF MARINADE

3 cups kosher dry red wine
3 tsp. salt
1 cup olive oil
3 tbsp. Dijon mustard
2 tsp. kosher wine vinegar
2 tbsp. prepared horseradish
2 tsp. onion powder
3 tbsp. lime juice
1 tsp. garlic powder
2 tsp. cayenne pepper

In a glass bowl mix all of the ingredients really well and then pour over whole beef brisket. Let the beef marinate for several hours or overnight if possible. You can also use this marinade as a basting sauce.

TOMATO & BASIL RISOTTO

3 medium or 2 large tomatoes peeled and chopped
2 tbsp. butter
salt and pepper to taste
1/4 cup kosher Parmesan cheese
1 tbsp. fresh basil, chopped
5 cups vegetable broth
1/2 cup white wine
2 tbsp. butter
1 tbsp. oil
1/4 cup onion, finely minced
1 1/2 cups Aborio rice

Heat the 2 tbsp. butter in a skillet over moderate heat and add the tomatoes. Cook for 2 or 3 minutes, until the tomatoes become tender. Add the salt and pepper to taste.

Remove from heat and set aside. In a saucepan, simmer the broth for 5 minutes. Heat the remaining butter and oil in a heavy 4-quart casserole over a medium heat. Add the onions and saute for 1 or 2 minutes, until they begin to soften but not brown.

Add the rice to the onions; using a wooden spoon, stir for 1 minute, to coat. Add the wine and stir the rice until the wine is completely absorbed. Slowly add the simmering broth, 1/2 cup at a time, stirring frequently. Wait until each addition of broth is almost completely absorbed before adding the next 1/2 cup, reserving about 1/4 cup to add at the end. Stir frequently to prevent sticking.

When the liquid is absorbed add the tomatoes and basil and toss. If the rice needs more liquid add it at this point. Toss the rice and tomato mixture with the cheeses and serve with fresh basil as a garnish. Serves 6 to 8.

ANGEL HAIR PASTA WITH SALMON

8 oz smoked salmon thinly sliced
12 oz angel hair pasta
1 clove garlic minced
3 tbsp. olive oil
2 1/4 cup chopped tomatoes divided
1/2 cup kosher dry white wine
3 tbsp. capers drained
2 tbsp. fresh dill weed, minced
2 tsp. basil
2/3 cup Parmesan cheese, grated
1/4 cup fresh parsley, minced
1/3 cup red pepper, minced
3 green onions, sliced

Cut smoked salmon, with the grain, into 1/2-inch wide strips and set it aside. Cook the pasta according to the package directions then drain. While the pasta is cooking, saute the garlic in large skillet in hot oil until garlic is golden. Add 2 cups tomatoes, wine, capers, dill weed and basil; stir and cook until mixture is hot.

When you drain the pasta, place it in large serving bowl. Toss angel hair with tomato mixture. Add smoked salmon and cheese; toss gently. Garnish with remaining tomatoes, green onions, red peppers and parsley.

GRAPEFRUIT WINE SORBET

1 cup of freshly squeezed grapefruit juice
1 cup of a relatively sweet kosher white wine, such as a late harvest-gewurztraminer
1/2 cup of fine granulated sugar (or to taste)

In a saucepan combine all the ingredients and heat slightly to dissolve the sugar, (longer to evaporate alcohol if you desire). Cool the mixture down to room temperature and pour it into an ice cream maker. Follow the manufacture instructions. Serves 6

BRISKET BRAISED IN WINE WITH DRIED FRUIT AND POTATOES

2 tbsp. oil
3 onions, chopped
4 cloves garlic, minced
1 tbsp. paprika
1/4 tsp. ground ginger
1/4 tsp. ground coriander
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
1/4 tsp. turmeric
1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. cayenne
1/4 tsp. salt
1 pinch pepper
3 1/2 cups chicken stock
1 1/2 cups dry red wine
3 tbsp. honey
2 bay leaves
4 lb. brisket

[Cont'd. on page 50]

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LIVING NEAR THE EDGE
This family sukkah hugs the edges of a North Tel Aviv balcony, 1959. [photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

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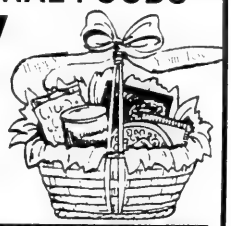

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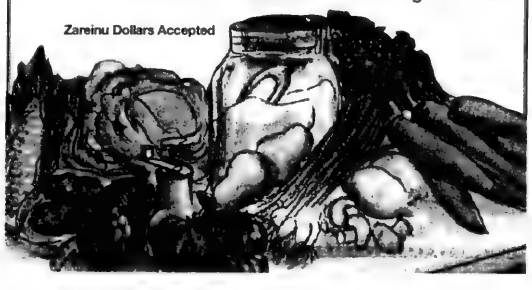

Number of kosher wines available

[Cont'd. from page 49]

1 cup dried apricots
2/3 cup prunes, pitted
3 baking potatoes, peeled, cut into chunks
3 sweet potatoes, peeled, cut into chunks

In large saucepan, heat the oil and cook the onions and garlic, stirring often, for 15 minutes or until they are very soft. Meanwhile, in a bowl, combine the paprika, ginger, coriander, cumin, turmeric, cinnamon, cayenne, salt and pepper; stir half the mixture into onion mixture. Cook, stirring, for 30 seconds. Add stock, wine, honey and bay leaves; bring to boil. Remove from heat and let cool for 5 minutes.

Trim all but thin layer of fat from brisket. Rub remaining spice mixture over non-fat side. Place the brisket in a large roasting pan, fat side up. Scatter apricots and prunes around brisket. Pour the stock mixture over the brisket. Cover the pan with foil and bake in 325F oven for 3 hours basting every 30 minutes.

Place potatoes around meat. Cover and bake, basting every 30 minutes, for 1 to 1½ hours or until very tender. Let cool slightly. Cover and refrigerate for up to 24 hours. Remove solid fat from pan. Remove meat; slice thinly across grain. Return to pan; cover and reheat in 325F oven for 1 hour, basting 3 times. Arrange on platter. Remove bay leaves. Spoon juices and fruit over top; place potatoes alongside.

CARAMELIZED ONION CRANBERRY RELISH

6 tbsp. unsalted margarine
2 cloves garlic, minced
2½ lb. large yellow onions, halved and sliced thinly
¼ cup sugar, divided
2 cup fresh cranberries, picked, rinsed and chopped coarsely
1 cup red wine
¼ cup red wine vinegar
1 tsp. salt

Melt margarine and saute onions over medium-low heat until soft, about 25 minutes. Raise heat to medium high, add ½ cup sugar and continue to cook, stirring frequently until onions are caramelized (golden brown), about 15 minutes.

Add the remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Lower heat and simmer, partially covered, about 25 minutes or until most of the liquid is absorbed and the relish has jam-like consistently. Serve warm or at room temperature. Can keep two to three weeks covered and refrigerated.

Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

JUST ONE MORE DECORATION
Mother and daughter prepare for Sukkot by putting the finishing touches on the family sukkah. [photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

Kashruth Council's recipes

Before major holidays, the Kashruth Council of Toronto issues a set of recipes to enhance the enjoyment of the yom tov. This High Holy Day season is no exception.

The CJN is happy to reprint a selection of those recipes. For the complete recipe folder, or for more information about kashruth or the activities of the Kashruth Council, call 635-9550.

INDIVIDUAL ANTIPASTO

¼ lb. button mushrooms
1 can chick peas, drained
¼ lb. snow peas, halved
6 green olives (or more)
6 black olives (or more)
6 cherry tomatoes (or more) halved
6 colored peppers (red, yellow, orange are nice)
6 green onions, cut in 3- or 4-in. lengths
6 celery sticks, cut in 3-in. sticks, with leaves
6 carrot sticks, cut 3- or 4-in. long
lettuce leaves (opt.)

Marinade
1 cup ketchup
½ cup oil
½ cup vinegar
1 clove garlic, crushed
¼ tsp. cayenne
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. oregano
¼ cup sugar

Mix marinade well and pour over the first 6 ingredients. Refrigerate overnight.

Prepare peppers to hold individual servings by slicing off tops. Scoop out the seeds and membranes. If necessary, cut thin slices off bottoms to make them sit up. Fill with marinated mixture. Arrange green onions, celery and carrot sticks standing up. Place on lettuce leaf on individual plates.

Serve leftover marinated vegetables with crackers. Serves 6.

BROILED CHICKEN BREASTS WITH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Sauce
Mix together:
¼ cup orange juice
¼ cup honey
3 tbsp. fresh snipped basil
¼ tsp. garlic powder

6 chicken breasts
2 small zucchini, halved lengthwise
2 baby eggplant, sliced, skin on
3 baby crookneck squash, halved, OR 2 small yellow zucchini, halved lengthwise
2 colored peppers, seeded and quartered (opt.)
6 slices fresh or canned pineapple
2 navel oranges, cut in ½ in. thick slices, skin on
Garnish: few sprigs of fresh mint or flat parsley

Preheat oven to broil.

Pat chicken dry with paper towels. Brush sauce generously over chicken and vegetables. Place chicken and vegetables on broiler rack. Broil 5 minutes. Brush with sauce, turn and brush again. Add pineapple and orange slices; brush with sauce. Broil 5-8 min. or until chicken is tender and no longer pink, turning pineapple and orange slices once.

Place chicken breasts in centre of serving platter with fruit and vegetables on either side and garnish with a few sprigs of fresh mint or parsley, or serve on individual plates with chicken breast, fruit and vegetables and garnished with sprig of mint or parsley. Serves 6.

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How's this burger bayou?

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

A burger can contain anything from chicken, beef or lamb to vegetables and tofu. According to the American Dictionary of Food and Drink, Americans eat three hamburgers per week per person. This is about 38 billion annually.

BASIC BURGERS

1¼ lb. ground beef
salt and pepper

Shape the ground beef into 4 patties, each ¼ inch thick. Place patties on grill over medium heat; cook 10 to 12 min. for medium or until desired doneness, turning once.

Variations on Basic Burgers

Greek: Before shaping into patties, mix the following into ground beef: ¼cup chopped fresh parsley, 1 tsp. dried mint leaves, 1 tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. ground black pepper. Grill as above.

Teriyaki: Before shaping into patties, mix the following into ground beef: ¼ cup chopped green onions, 2 tbsp. soy sauce, 1 tbsp. brown sugar, and ¼ tsp. ground red pepper (cayenne). Grill as above but during last 2 min. of grilling, brush burgers with a mixture of 2 tbsp. apple jelly, 2 tsp. minced, peeled ginger root, and 1 tsp.soy sauce to glaze both sides.

Tex-Mex: Before shaping into patties, mix the following into ground beef: 2 tbsp. finely chopped onion, 2 tbsp. salsa, 1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. chili powder. Grill as above

STUFFED BURGERS

2 lb. ground beef
2 eggs
1 cup sweet pickle relish
¼ cup onion, coarsely chopped
3 tbsp. soy sauce
1 oz kosher bourbon (opt.)
2 garlic cloves minced
¼ cup green peppers, chopped (opt.)
½ cup kosher beef fry, cooked & crumbled (opt.)
salt & pepper to taste

In a bowl mix together the onion, relish, soy sauce, and any of the optional ingredients you wish to use. Be sure to get the eggs mixed in completely. Make 16 thin patties. Spoon a tbsp. of the onion mixture on the top of half of the patties, and top with remainder of the patties. Press firmly to join them on the sides. Wipe up the mixture that runs out of the patty and spread it over the top of the patty. Either grill until done (10 to 12 min., turning once) or broil. Serve on buns. Make 8 burgers

VEGGIE BURGERS

2 cans chickpeas drained and mashed (10½ oz each.)
1½ cup finely chopped pecans
1½ cup whole wheat bread crumbs
1¼ cup finely chopped spinach
¼cup grated carrot
¼cup chopped green pepper
¼ cup chopped red pepper
6 shallots, chopped
2 tbsp. chopped celery
1 tbsp. chopped fresh parsley
¼ tsp. pepper
¼ cup mayonnaise
2 tbsp. butter or margarine

In a large bowl combine the chickpeas, pecans, breadcrumbs, spinach, carrot, green and red pepper, shallots, celery, parsley and mayonnaise. Mix well. Shape into 6 patties. Saute patties in butter or margarine, cooking until browned on both sides. Serve on buns or with pita

BAYOU TURKEY BURGERS

1 lb. ground turkey
2 scallions (3 in. of green left on) thinly sliced
1 red bell pepper, finely chopped
1 tsp. minced garlic
2 tbsp. chopped cilantro
¼ tsp. dried thyme
½ tsp. ground cumin
½ tsp. paprika
red pepper flakes, to taste
salt, to taste
black pepper, to taste
4 toasted hamburger buns
¼ cup mayonnaise-type dressing, for garnish (optional)
1 small ripe avocado, sliced, for garnish (optional)

Note: It is necessary to highly season turkey because the meat itself tastes rather mild. Yet, once ground turkey is cooked up, it's delicious. To do a taste test on the mixture, make a little patty the size of a silver dollar and pan-fry it in a nonstick skillet. This way you can adjust your seasonings to taste.

Place the ground turkey in a large bowl and mix well with the

[Cont'd. on page 53]

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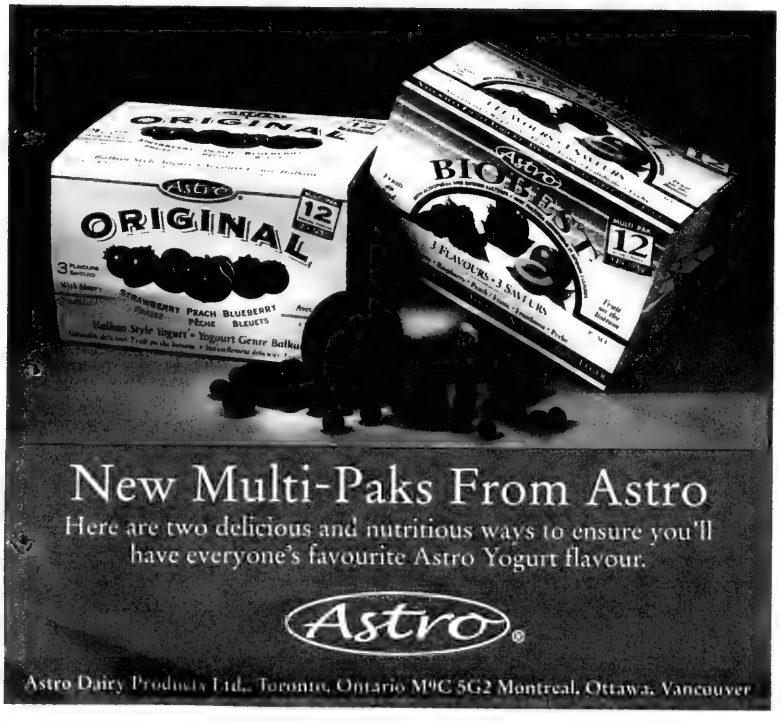

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

A burger comes in many forms today

[Cont'd. from page 52]

scallions, bell pepper, garlic, cilantro and spices. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Gently form into 4 patties. Grill the patties over hot coals, 3 in. from heat, for about 5-6 min. per side. If desired, spread the toasted buns with mayonnaise-type dressing and top the burgers with avocado slices. Serve immediately.

CHILI BURGERS

1 lb. ground beef
1 medium tomato, seeded and cut into 1/4 inches dice
1/2 cup pitted black olives, chopped
1 tsp. minced garlic
1/2 tsp. Dijon-style mustard
1 tbsp. chili powder
1/4 tsp. dried basil
1/4 tsp. dried oregano
zest of 1 lemon, grated
2 tbsp. chopped fresh dill or parsley
salt to taste
ground black pepper, to taste
4 toasted hamburger buns
1/3 cup pareve sour cream, for garnish (optional)
3 green onions, thinly sliced (for garnish, optional)

If you over mix, the burgers will be too dense in texture. Fresh lemon zest and dill add a bright flavor to the robust chili spices. Garnishes are optional, but it's fun to serve burgers with all of your favorite chili toppings.

Place the beef in a bowl and mix well with the tomato, olives, garlic, mustard, chili powder, basil, oregano, lemon zest and dill. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Gently form the mixture into 4 patties. Grill the burgers for 10 min. (5 min. each side). Serve with pareve sour cream and green onions

BAKED BEER BURGERS

2 lb. ground beef
pinch of pepper
1 tsp. tabasco sauce
1 tsp. clove, minced
1/3 cup chili sauce
1/2 package dry onion soup mix
1/2 cup beer

Preheat oven to 400. In a bowl combine meat, pepper, tabasco sauce, garlic, chili sauce, dry onion soup mix, and 1/4 cup beer. Shape into 6 patties. Bake at 400 until brown, about 10 min. Baste with remaining 1/4 cup of the beer. Continue baking for an additional 10-15 min. until well done.

ORIENTAL BURGER

1 1/4 pound ground turkey
1/4 cup bread crumbs
1 egg
1 tbsp. watercress, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tsp. ginger, minced
1 tbsp. soy sauce
2 tbsp. hoisin sauce
1 small onion sliced
cilantro sprigs
bean sprouts

In a bowl combine the turkey, breadcrumbs, egg, watercress, garlic, ginger and soy sauce together. Form into 4 patties. Grill over medium heat for 8 to 10 min. (4 to 5 min. on each side). Top with hoisin sauce, onion slices, cilantro and bean sprouts. Makes 4.

CURRY BURGERS

2 pounds ground turkey
1 large onion, minced
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1 egg white
1/2 tbsp. curry powder
red leaf lettuce
sliced tomato
6 hamburger buns

Mix mayonnaise (you can use the reduced fat kind) with 1 1/2 tsp. of curry powder. Place in airtight container and refrigerate for 1-2 days. Mix turkey with remaining curry powder, onion, and egg white. Shape into patties and grill. Serve on buns with mayonnaise mixture lettuce and tomato.

A SWINGIN' CHICKEN
The symbolic ceremony of kapparat is performed on erev Yom Kippur.
[Fritz Cohen photo, 1979, courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

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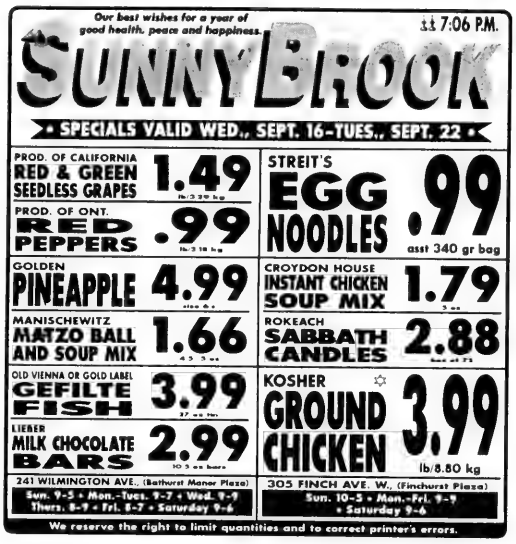
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New 'red book' a real treat

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Several years ago, a small group of women were sitting around chatting. Just for fun, they decided to create a cookbook. And *The Best of Bridge* became a Canadian publishing phenomenon.

Since that first "red book," there have been five more volumes, each with a distinguishing color.

Now, a new volume has come out, *The Best of the Best and More*, a selection of the most popular recipes from the entire series.

It is laid out in the same comfortable, informal way as the earlier volumes – with red title and black print for the ingredients and instructions. The type looks like block printing. At the bottom of many recipes are humorous sayings, such as, "Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do 'practice'?" or "The face of a child can say it all – especially the mouth part of the face."

The *Best of Bridge* series could by no means called gourmet; nevertheless, recipes are tasty, relatively uncomplicated to make, and family-friendly. Color photographs add to the appeal of the book.

SUPER BLUEBERRY LEMON MUFFINS

2 cups flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 tbsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
rind of 1 lemon
1 egg
1 cup milk
1/3 cup butter, melted
1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries

Topping
1/4 cup melted butter
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1/3 cup sugar

Mix flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and lemon rind in large bowl. Beat egg in medium bowl; add milk and butter. Add egg mixture to dry ingredients. Stir just until mixed (batter will be lumpy). Stir in blueberries. Fill muffin pans 2/3 full; bake at 375 for 20 minutes.

For topping, combine melted butter and lemon juice. Measure sugar in separate dish. Dunk tops of slightly cooled muffins into lemon butter and then sugar. Makes 16 medium muffins.

'Humorous sayings'

CURRIED APPLE AND SWEET POTATO PILAF

1 tbsp. olive oil
1/2 cup chopped green onions
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 cup uncooked long-grain rice
2 cups water
1 1/2 cups peeled and diced sweet potato
2 cups peeled and cubed Granny Smith apples
1/2 cup frozen green peas
1/4 cup currants
1/2 tsp. curry powder
1/2 tsp. curry powder
1/2 tsp. cumin
1/4 tsp. salt
pepper to taste

Heat oil in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onions and garlic; saute 1 minute. Stir in rice and saute 1 minute. Add water and sweet potato, bring to a boil.

Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 15 minutes, or until liquid is almost absorbed. Stir in apple, peas, currants and seasonings. Cover and simmer 3 minutes, or until thoroughly heated. Serves 4 to 6.

RHUBARB STRAWBERRY CRUMBLE

Topping
1/4 cup pecan halves, toasted
1 1/2 cups flour
1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1 1/2 tsp. grated orange zest
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
1/2 cup butter, softened

Filling
4 cups 1-in. pieces of rhubarb
2 cups sliced strawberries
3 tbsp. flour
1/2 cup sugar

Preheat oven to 350. Spread pecans on a baking sheet and place in oven for 5 to 7 minutes or until lightly toasted. Remove and let cool.

Coarsely chop nuts and set aside. Stir together flour, brown sugar, orange zest and nutmeg. Add the flour mixture to the softened butter and mix with a fork to form a crumbly mixture; add pecans and stir into mixture until evenly distributed.

Place cut fruit in a 8 x 11 casserole or shallow baking dish. Add flour and sugar and toss until well mixed. Sprinkle with topping and bake at 375 for 35-40 minutes until top is golden. Cool for 10 minutes and serve with vanilla ice cream. Serves 8.

Apple cake recipe returns

In the Sept. 10 issue, an incomplete recipe for apple cake with honey frosting was printed. Here is the complete recipe, with our apologies.

APPLE CAKE WITH HONEY FROSTING

Utilizing apples and honey, this easy-to-make cake is moist and delicious on its own, but the frosting turns it into a lavish holiday dessert. The cake and frosting can be made with non-dairy margarine for meatless meals.

2-1/4 lb. sweet apples, peeled, halved, cored and finely diced
1-1/4 cups sugar
1 cup plus 2 tbsp. (2-1/4 sticks) unsalted, non-dairy margarine or butter, softened
1/4 cup honey
3 large eggs
3 cups all-purpose flour
2-1/2 tsp. baking powder
2 tsp. finely grated orange rind
1 cup walnuts, coarsely chopped

Honey Frosting (optional):

2 large eggs, at room temperature
1/2 cup honey
1 cup unsalted, non-diary margarine or butter, slightly softened but still cool
1/2 cup walnuts, coarsely chopped, for garnish

Lightly grease a 13x9-inch cake pan with two-inch sides. Line base and sides of pan with a sheet of foil and grease foil. Thoroughly mix apples and 1/2 cup sugar. Let s tand while preparing batter. Beat margarine until smooth. Add remaining 3/4 cup sugar and beat until fluffy. Beat in honey, and then add eggs one by one, beating well after each addition. Sift flour with baking powder and stir into egg mixture. Stir in orange rind. Add apple mixture, which will be syrupy, and nuts.

Spread batter in prepared cake pan and smooth top. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 45 minutes, or until cake tests done with toothpick or tester. Cool in pan on a rack about 20 minutes, or until just warm. Turn out onto a rack. Cool to room temperature.

To make frosting, beat eggs in a large bowl until smooth and fluffy. Bring honey to a boil in a small saucepan, then gradually pour honey onto eggs, whisking constantly. Whip at high speed of mixer until completely cool and thick, about five minutes.

Cream margarine in a large bowl until smooth and fluffy. Beat in honey mixture gradually until thoroughly mixed. Spread frosting over top and sides of cake. Sprinkle top with chopped walnuts. Refrigerate about two hours before serving. Serve cool or at room temperature.

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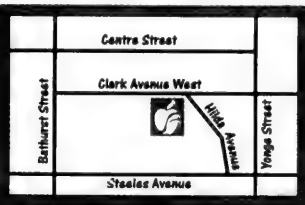

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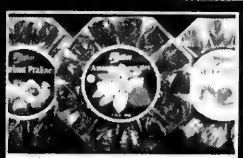

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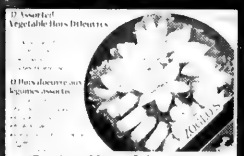

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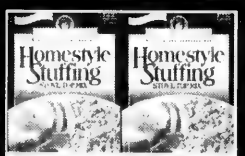

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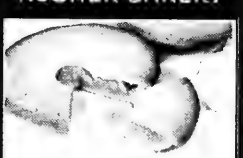

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Israel braces for Hamas terror retaliation

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel is bracing for terror attacks after its troops killed two leading members of Hamas.

Threats to retaliate for the Sept. 10 killings of brothers Imad and Adel Awadallah have been taken seriously by Israeli officials, who beefed up security at public sites across the country.

Israel also imposed an indefinite closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip – its first in more than a year.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his cabinet on Sunday that "there would be a harsh Israeli response" if Hamas carries out any attacks.

"Israel will not tolerate any attack against its citizens and will take swift action against the organizations of murderers," he said.

The killings came as U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross, who arrived in the region last week, continued to prod Israeli and Palestinian leaders to reach an agreement that would advance their deadlocked negotiations.

Palestinian officials said Israel's killing of the Awadallah brothers was aimed at scuttling the peace process.

Netanyahu spokesman David Bar-Ilan countered that Israel pursues suspected terrorists at all times, regardless of the possible repercussions.

The killings sparked several days of confrontations in the West Bank between Israeli troops and Palestinian demonstrators calling for revenge.

The worst clashes were reported in El Bireh, the Awadallahs' home town, where thousands of protesters, marching Saturday from nearby Ramallah, threw stones and bottles at Israeli soldiers, who responded with rubber bullets.

Clashes also took place over the weekend in Hebron, Nablus and Bethlehem. Dozens of Palestinians were reported injured.

A day after the Awadallahs were killed in a shootout with Israeli troops near Hebron, Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin called for retaliation.

"We will not forget the blood of our martyrs," Yassin said.

Mahmoud Zahar, a top Hamas official in the Gaza Strip, also said, "Israel will pay a high price for this crime," adding that Hamas would retaliate with suicide bombings similar to those carried out after its chief bomb-maker, Yehiya Ayash, was assassinated in January 1996.

Known as The Engineer because of his expertise with explosives, Ayash was killed in Gaza by a booby-trapped cellular phone in an operation that Hamas attributed to Israel. Israeli authorities denied any involvement.

In February and March 1996, Israel was left reeling by a series of suicide attacks in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon that claimed 59 innocent lives and wounded some 220 others.

Last week, some 300 Hamas supporters participated in a rally where leaflets were distributed promising similar retaliation.

A day earlier, Israeli soldiers stormed a one-room house near Hebron, killing the Awadallahs, who were senior members of Izz a-Din al-Kassam, Hamas' military wing.

Troops found a weapons cache, including an Uzi submachine gun, grenades, two pistols and three wigs. A large banner reading "Izz a-Din al-Kassam" covered one wall.

Army officials said the brothers apparently had planned to kidnap Israelis or carry out a drive-by shooting.

The deaths of the two, and the subsequent threats of reprisals, have prompted some debate in Israel about the value of the operation, given the cost it may have in terms of Israeli blood.

Israeli officials countered that the operation prevented a terror attack.

Meanwhile, there were no indications that Ross, who is making his first visit to the region since May, is succeeding at breaking the impasse in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

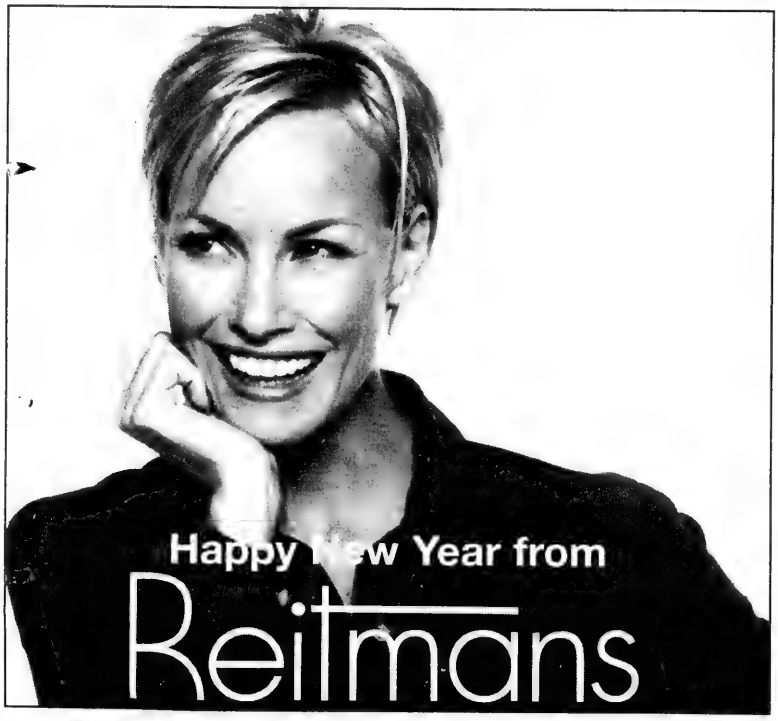
Netanyahu said the talks with Ross are "not centering on the Israeli side of the equation, but on the need of the Palestinians to honor their commitments" regarding security issues.

One of the main sticking points is Israel's demand to renegotiate an understanding on security cooperation worked out in December by Israeli, Palestinian and U.S. officials.

The understanding calls in part for a Palestinian crackdown on Hamas.

Netanyahu has rejected the initial understanding as insufficient.

An Israeli border policeman (right) orders Palestinian men to leave a military roadblock that was part of Israel's closure of the West Bank and Gaza. [RNS/Reuters photo]



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Israel & the Jewish World

Auschwitz crosses symptom of 'war inside the church'

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — The crisis over the crosses at the site of Auschwitz has demonstrated that the fight for the memory of the former death camp is far from over.

But the struggle has also taken on deep political, religious and national overtones that have exposed several fault lines in modern Poland.

Extremists have seized control of the debate, hobbling efforts by both the Roman Catholic Church and the government to defuse the situation, and damaging Poland's image abroad.

Since the end of July, Roman Catholic fundamentalists have erected more than 200 crosses to commemorate the 152 Polish Catholics who were killed at Auschwitz and to "defend" a much larger cross that was used by Polish-born Pope John Paul II during a mass at Birkenau in 1979, and erected outside Auschwitz 10 years ago.

The cross affair has given a prominent public platform to virulent anti-Semites normally on the fringe of political life.

The two leaders of the campaign to put up the crosses, Kazimierz Switon and Mieczyslaw Janosz, "use the affair for self-promotion and to spread ethnic hatred," Stanislaw Krajewski, a board member of the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland, told JTA in a telephone interview from Warsaw.

News reports, he said, quoted Janosz as saying that Jews controlled Poland, the government, the media and the courts, and that the Mossad had infiltrated the country. He was even quoted as calling the Polish church hierarchy, who have condemned the crosses, "Jewish bishops."

Some 3.5 million Jews lived in Poland before World War II. More than three million were murdered in the Holocaust. Only about 10,000 to 15,000 Jews live in Poland today.

The standoff has also pitted Catholic radicals against the mainstream Catholic church in what Krajewski described as a "religious war."

This was exemplified by the fact that a German priest from the Society of St. Pius X – right-wing followers of French-born Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, who was excommunicated in 1988 for refusing to accept the reforms of the Second Vatican Council – blessed the crosses and attacked Polish bishops.

Krajewski says it might take direct intervention by the Pope himself to move a roughly 25-foot-high cross – the so-called papal cross – that is at the centre of mounting Catholic-Jewish tensions.

Jewish and Israeli organizations, as well as some Polish figures, have called for the removal of all crosses and religious symbols at Auschwitz, including the papal cross.

Poland's Roman Catholic hierarchy and the Polish government have condemned the erection of the smaller crosses and have called for their removal, but both have stated that they believe the papal cross should remain in place.

"Short of the pope's direct intervention, I can't foresee the cross being relocated," said Krajewski.

"His intervention would be perhaps a last resort and would be very, very welcome," said Krajewski, who is also the American Jewish Committee consultant in Warsaw.

"The war inside the church is escalating," Krajewski said. "Christians are fighting Christians. But the general feeling is that it is all the fault of the Jews. The atmosphere is very bad."

Krajewski, noted, however, that divisions on how to approach the cross issue have also emerged within Poland's Jewish community.

Members of the board of the Union of Jewish Community distanced themselves from a hard-line pronouncement by Chief Rabbi Menachem Joskowicz last month. Joskowicz, himself an Auschwitz survivor, declared that the presence of any cross prohibits Jews from praying at Auschwitz; one cross, he said, was as bad as 1,000 crosses.

"Joskowicz's statements were perceived as a war against Christianity," Krajewski said.

Krajewski faulted some Jews for failing to recognize that even though 90 percent of the 1.5 million people killed at Auschwitz were Jews, Polish Catholics, too, have a right to consider Auschwitz a symbol of Nazi persecution and to mourn the thousands of Poles who were murdered there.

Poles, he said, have the impression that Jews ignore the fact that Poles also were killed at Auschwitz.

"Poles do have real, justified rights," he said. "If Jewish leaders publicly expressed this, it could help improve the situation."

GERALD ARTHUR BERGER ז"ל

Ruth Berger, Earl Berger and Dorothy and Lou Zeifman, and their families, gratefully acknowledge the many kind expressions of sympathy and support they have received following the death of their beloved husband and brother, and wish all a healthy and happy New Year

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Israel worried by Primakov appointment

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Government sources expressed concern last week about Russian President Boris Yeltsin's appointment of Yevgeny Primakov as candidate for the Russian premiership, pointing to Primakov's ties to Iraq, Syria and Iran.

"His past activities and views about the Middle East gives us concern," said one source, adding, "we definitely hope we are wrong."

A source said that Primakov sees Russia "in an imperial context." He noted when Primakov was in Israel a year ago, "on three different occasions, he began his sentences by saying, 'we in the Soviet Union,' even though communism had collapsed several years earlier." While government sources concede that Primakov will focus his energies on the current economic crisis there, he may use weapons exports as a way to raise funds for Russia's depleted treasury.

Moreover, as prime minister, his influence on foreign policy will not only grow but may prove decisive. Sources in Jerusalem remembered that Primakov wrote in *Pravda* immediately after the Gulf War about how he braved U.S. bombs during the war while in Baghdad trying to broker a cease-fire that would save the Iraqi leader, whom he has known for 20 years. He wrote that he sought to prevent the air war from being turned into a ground war.

Primakov is considered Russia's leading Arabist. As foreign minister, he sought to shape a new equilibrium in Russia's foreign policy, making clear during visits to Israel that Jerusalem would be making a mistake if it ignored Russia due to Moscow's economic problems. Primakov believes the world ignores Russia at its peril. "Russia was and remains a great power. Her foreign policy should correspond to that status," he told his counterparts here.

In the broadest sense, he favors a selective foreign policy unlike the Cold War era when the Soviet Union would challenge the United States around the globe. He does not see himself as an adventurer in seeking to confront the U.S. militarily.

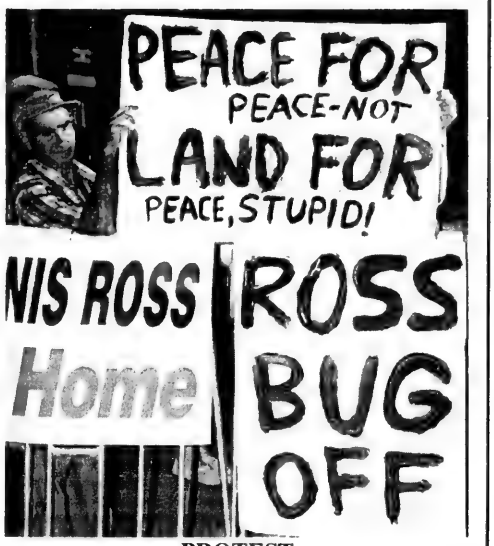
Yet it is unlikely that he will continue the forthright pro-Western policies of his predecessor Andrei Kozyrev, who was replaced by Yeltsin during an election year due to attacks by nationalists and Communists for not standing up for Russian interests.

In Jerusalem, officials noted warily that Primakov's appointment as foreign minister was praised by both groups, neither of which are favorably inclined toward Israel.

On the Middle East, Primakov's views have often put him at odds with Israel and the United States. He favors lifting UN sanctions against Iraq, to enable Saddam Hussein to export unlimited quantities of oil, to bring in hard currency that could then be used to pay Russian companies billions of dollars in Iraqi reconstruction contracts. He is known to have no quibble with Russian companies selling surface to surface missile equipment to Iran.

Close ties with Syria are also a Primakov trademark. He regards Damascus as both another market for Russian arms and a counterweight to the power of such U.S. allies in the Middle East as Turkey and Israel. But Damascus believes that the United States is the only country that could pry the Golan Heights from Israel.

Primakov has been accused at home of being chameleon-like, able to serve different leaders whether they be a Communist conservative like Leonid Brezhnev, a Communist reformer like Mikhail Gorbachev or a post-Communist nationalist like Boris Yeltsin. One commentator called him a "Russian Talleyrand, adept at switching careers and political patrons at exactly the right moment." Yet, when it comes to a Middle East policy, Primakov seems very consistent. He believes the road to influence in this region is having Russia seize opportunities and stick by its mostly Arab friends.



PROTEST
Right-wing Israelis held a demonstration against U.S. peace envoy Dennis Ross in Jerusalem recently. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Terrorism up since Oslo: PMO

By NADAV SHRAGAI
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — In the five years since the signing of the first Oslo agreement, in September 1993, Palestinian terrorists killed more Israelis than in the 15 preceding years, the Prime Minister's Office stated in a communique issued in conjunction with the accord's fifth anniversary.

According to the communique, 279 men, women and children were killed in 92 murderous attacks by Palestinian terrorists since Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization signed the Oslo agreement on September 13, 1993. This does not include victims of attacks launched by Lebanon-based terrorist organizations or people killed in incidents along the borders.

279 killed in 92 murderous attacks

In the 15 years before Oslo, 254 people lost their lives in terrorist actions.

The communique also notes that in the six years of the intifadah – the Palestinian uprising in the territories that began at the end of 1987 – 172 people were killed, as compared, again, with the 279 murdered since September 1993.

The numbers referred to by the Prime Minister's Office include Israeli civilians, members of the security forces and foreigners who were murdered in Palestinian terrorist attacks that were perpetrated in Israel and the territories.

Not included are Palestinians who were killed by other Palestinians on suspicion that they collaborated with Israel.

The Prime Minister's Office also distributed printouts of material downloaded from the site of the Palestinian Authority (PA) on the Internet, which is said to prove that the PA is continuing to disseminate the Palestinian Covenant in its original form, including the clauses that call for Israel's annihilation.

The PA maintains that the document has been amended to eliminate the sections urging Israel's destruction.

However, the Prime Minister's Office states that the decision to amend the covenant by the Palestinian National Council (PNC) changed nothing. "Although the PNC asserted its readiness in principle to amend the document, the only practical step it took was to empower a legal panel to reformulate a new covenant, which will be submitted at some future date.

"Because the covenant is a legally binding document, a declaration of readiness to amend it is not tantamount to its amendment in practice," the communique states.

Dry Bones

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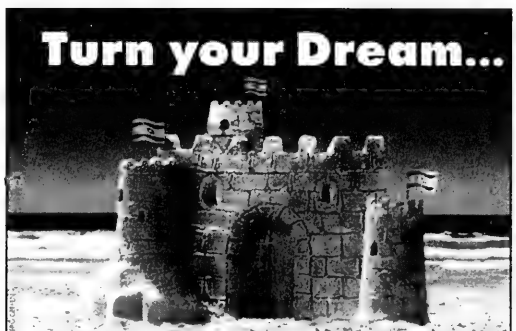

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Israeli-Palestinian peace: A five year chronology

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

The following is a time line of key events since the Israeli-Palestinian peace process was launched five years ago on the White House lawn. The period was marked by at least 15 bombings of Israeli targets by Palestinian terrorists – as well as numerous drive-by shootings and stabbings of Israelis – several of which are included here:

• Sept. 13, 1993 – Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat exchange a historic handshake on the White House lawn as the two sides sign the Declaration of Principles, a timetable for launching Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

• May 4, 1994 – Israel and the PLO sign the Cairo Agreement for establishing self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho. Jericho comes under self-rule on May 13. Israel completes its withdrawal from Gaza on May 18.

• Sept. 28, 1995 – Rabin and Arafat sign the Interim Agreement, which sets the stage for an Israeli withdrawal from six West Bank towns.

• Nov. 4, 1995 – Yitzhak Rabin is assassinated by Yigal Amir, a 25-year-old law student, after a Tel Aviv peace rally. Shimon Peres steps in as prime minister.

Hamas attacks claim 59 lives

• Jan. 20, 1996 – Palestinians in the territories vote for the first time to elect an 88-member legislative body. Arafat is elected leader of the Palestinian Council with 90 percent of the vote.

• Feb. 25 – March 4, 1996 – Israel is left reeling by a series of Hamas suicide attacks in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon that claim 59 innocent lives and wound some 220 others.

• May 29, 1996 – Israelis narrowly elect Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu as prime minister.

• June 22-23, 1996 – Egypt hosts the first Arab League summit in six years to develop a united front against the new Netanyahu government's approach to the peace process.

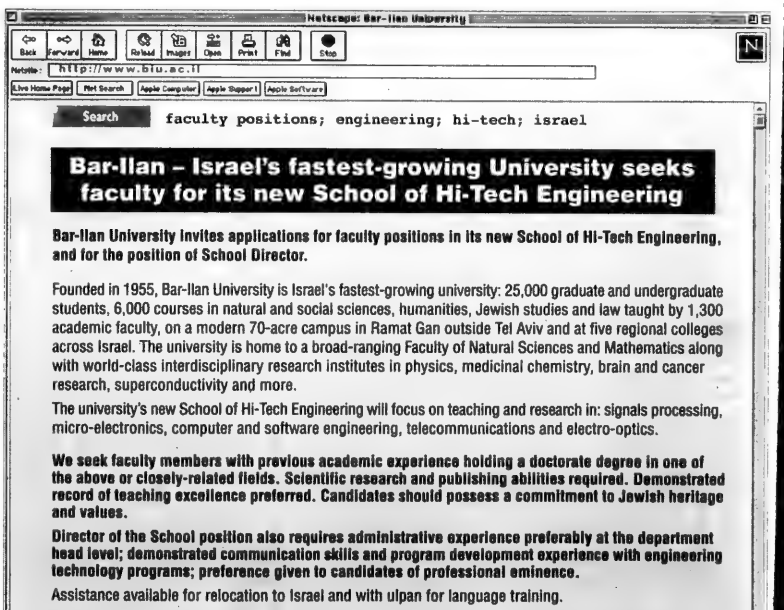
• Sept. 4, 1996 – Netanyahu and Arafat hold their first meeting. Both sides agree to discussions on redeployment from most of Hebron, the last West Bank town to be turned over to the Palestinians.

• Sept. 25, 1996 – Palestinian rioting erupts in response to the opening of a new entrance to an ancient tunnel alongside the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City. In three days of violence, 15 Israelis and 61 Palestinians are killed. Hundreds are wounded.

• Oct. 1-2, 1996 – Netanyahu, Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein attend an emergency summit in Washington after the previous week's violence. The summit ends with an agreement for Israel and the Palestinians to launch intensive discussions aimed at reaching an agreement on Hebron.

• Jan. 14 - 15, 1997 – Netanyahu and Arafat reach the Hebron Agreement during a late-night summit

[Cont'd. on page 61]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Fifth anniversary of 'handshake' between Rabin and Arafat

[Cont'd. from page 60]

held at the Erez Crossing separating Israel from the Gaza Strip.

• Jan. 19, 1997 – Arafat is greeted by thousands of cheering Palestinians when he returns to Hebron for the first time in 30 years.

• Feb. 9, 1997 – Netanyahu and Arafat meet at the Erez Crossing to discuss the next stages of the peace process.

• Feb. 11, 1997 – Israel releases 31 Palestinian female prisoners, among them some who had been convicted of killing Israelis. The move marks the second time, after the Hebron redeployment, that the Netanyahu government acts to fulfill clauses of the Interim Agreement.

• March 18, 1997 – Israeli bulldozers begin construction work for the new Jewish neighborhood of Har Homa in eastern Jerusalem. The Palestinian Authority soon suspends negotiations with Israel.

• March 21, 1997 – Three days after the start of construction at Har Homa, a Hamas suicide bomber detonates an explosion at the Cafe Apropo in central Tel Aviv, killing three Israelis and wounding 47 others.

• July 30, 1997 – Two suicide bombers strike in the Mahane Yehuda open-air market in Jerusalem, claiming 16 victims and wounding 170 others.

• Aug. 20-21 1997 – Arafat holds "National Unity Conference," during which he embraces political leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Israeli officials question Arafat's commitment to cracking down on terrorists.

• Sept. 4, 1997 – Three suicide bombers detonate near-simultaneous explosions at the Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall in downtown Jerusalem, killing five and wounding more than 190.

• Sept. 7, 1997 – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tells a Cabinet meeting that Israel will not "follow the normal course of the Interim Agreement" because of the clear "violations on the part of the Palestinian Authority."

Peace process remains deadlocked

• Sept. 10, 1997– U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright makes her first visit to the Middle East since becoming America's top diplomat in January. After leaving Jerusalem three days later, Albright admits that she made little progress in her meetings with Israeli and Palestinian officials. She states that she will not return to the region just to "tread water."

• Oct. 1, 1997 – Israel frees Hamas spiritual leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin. Five days later, Yassin returns to a hero's welcome in Gaza.

• Oct. 7, 1997 – For the first time since the furor erupted over Har Homa, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators meet to discuss implementing portions of the Interim Agreement – including a safe-passage route, an airport and seaport in Gaza and the return of Palestinian prisoners. None of the issues have yet been resolved.

• Oct. 8, 1997 – Netanyahu and Arafat hold a pre-dawn meeting at the Erez Crossing. The two have not met since.

• Jan. 19, 1998 – Netanyahu begins a three-day visit to Washington. His meeting with President Clinton is overshadowed by a breaking scandal involving former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. Reports in the Arab press allege that the sex scandal was a Zionist plot aimed at deflecting Clinton's attention from the stalemated peace process.

• May 4-5, 1998 – Albright holds separate meetings in London with Netanyahu and Arafat in an effort to move the deadlocked peace process forward. The parties discuss a widely reported U.S. proposal, floated for months, under which Israel would redeploy from a further 13 percent of the West Bank in exchange for specific Palestinian steps against terror. The talks are inconclusive.

• Aug. 27, 1998 – Bomb filled with nails explodes in a trash can in Tel Aviv. Twenty-one people are injured in the attack.

• Sept. 9, 1998 – U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross arrives in the region for another round of shuttle diplomacy aimed at breaking the stalemated peace process. Political observers believe his trip signals that the talks are in the final stretch. The more optimistic among them say that Israel and the Palestinians will sign an agreement on or near the fifth anniversary of the historic Rabin-Arafat handshake.

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For Israel, 5758 was a year of division and disappointment

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

The year now drawing to a close can hardly be described as having been a particularly good one for Israel, even by the most optimistic of observers.

Analysis

On the other hand, 5758 cannot be depicted as an especially bad year – even by the Netanyahu government's most virulent critics.

It was not a year of war, and even the perennial scourge of terrorism was less devastating than in previous years.

Just the same, this was the year in which Israel marked its jubilee. And despite what one might have expected on the 50th anniversary of Israel's birth, there is a sense of disappointment in the national mood.

Even though the government spent some $40 million (U.S.) on the jubilee celebrations, the anniversary events failed to recreate that spirit of dancing in the streets, of transcendent national purpose and unity, that accompanied the creation of the state five decades ago.

Perhaps the strongest indicator that Israeli society was not in a celebratory mood came on Independence Day, on what should have been the high point of the jubilee year. A lavish pageant mounted in late April at a Jerusalem stadium, with U.S. Vice President Al Gore present as the guest of honor, was beset by behind-the-scenes strife that seeped onto the stage, spoiled some of the performances and triggered weeks of nationwide confrontations between secular and Orthodox Israelis.

The confrontations centered on a scheduled performance by the Batsheva Dance Company in which the dancers planned to strip down to their underwear during a song based on the Passover Haggadah. Leaders of the haredi community objected, calling the performance immodest. A compromise was struck under which the dancers were to wear tights – but the troupe finally canceled its performance, saying it had been subjected to undue political pressure.

Perhaps laughable in other countries, the dispute seemed to dredge up all the unresolved tension and anger that still gnaw at the solidarity of Israeli society – and that stand in such stark contrast to the country's material achievements in its relatively short existence.

Indeed, religious-secular tensions seemed more bitter and prevalent in Israel at its 50th anniversary than at any previous period.

Things were said and written this past year – on both sides of the divide – that would have been unthinkable, or at any rate unprintable, only a few short years ago.

Certainly they would have been unutterable in the early period of the state, when, despite all the rancor and deep ideological differences that also existed then, there was an overarching awareness that Israel itself seemed to exist only by the grace of God.

One aspect of the worsening conflict is Israel's continued failure, indeed refusal, to accept the pluralistic stance that American Jews consider a natural expression of democracy and of Judaism.

An interdenominational commission headed by the minister of finance, Ya'acov Ne'eman, produced a blueprint for compromise – at least on the issue of non-Orthodox conversions performed in Israel.

But even this compromise was effectively blocked and shelved during the year by what each side in the divide said was the other's obstinacy.

Families carry the scars of failed absorption for decades

Sociologists and political scientists at least partly attribute the intensification of the religious-secular conflict to the fact that all of the Orthodox parties to the dispute are partners in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government, while much of the secularist forces side with the parties of the left and center, which are in the opposition.

Along with the resurgence of Orthodox-secular tensions, the jubilee year was marred by a sharp and unexpected wave of Sephardi-Ashkenazi resentments – that other acid that eats at Israel's social foundations and that many Israelis had hoped was disappearing.

The backdrop was a worsening economic situation, with more than 200,000 people on the unemployment rolls by year's end.

Hardest hit, as always, were the development towns and the down-and-out urban suburbs – the homes of Sephardi families, who carry the scars of failed absorption for decades and generations.

Comments made during the summer by a leading Labor Party figure, Ori Orr, brought the controversy back into the headlines.

Orr claimed that Moroccan Israelis were less "Israeli" than others and are less inclined to logical reasoning. This, he explained, was the cause of that community's refusal to embrace the Labor Party, despite party leader Ehud Barak's attempt last October to apologize on behalf of Labor's past generations for the wrongs that Sephardi immigrants may have suffered during their absorption into Israeli society during the early years of the state.

The turmoil caused by Orr's impolitic statements has yet to subside – and despite some observers' hopes, it is still years from healing.

Not surprisingly, evaluations of the past year differ depending on one's political ideology.

For political doves, 5758 was a year of inactivity, a wasted year in which the peace process proceeded nowhere, in which negotiations with the Palestinians were suspended most of the time, in which negotiations with other Arab partners were non-existent – and in which, as a result, Israel's relations with the United States and much of the world declined.

Now, the doves add, with the end of the five-year interim period prescribed by the Oslo accords just months away, peace with the Palestinians seems hopelessly off track and bereft of even a modicum of mutual trust and good will.

The doves warn of an explosion of frustration and violence in the Palestinian territories that could destroy the last vestiges of the accords.

Government critics also cite the slowdown in Israel's economy as evidence of Netanyahu's misguided domestic priorities and of the international community's negative reaction to the withering peace process.

The government's supporters, on the other hand, have a far more positive end-of-year assessment.

In their view, Netanyahu has succeeded in delivering on his electoral pledges: He remains committed to Oslo – but is determined to negotiate more slowly and more cautiously than the previous, Labor led government.

The reduction in terrorist activity, they say, is tangible evidence Netanyahu's tough line is paying off.

They hold similar views about the economy. The slowdown is hard on certain sectors, they admit, but it is under control.

The government's underlying policies are healthy and will lead to real growth, government supporters contend. Above all, they add, inflation has been curbed to just 4 percent annually – giving investors at home and abroad a sense of confidence and security.

And so, it seems, 5758 was either a bad year or a not-that-bad year for Israelis, depending on their individual political, religious and ethnic perspectives.

The Week in Israel

Sept. 7

• Some 300,000 workers ended their five-day strike after getting a 1.5 percent wage increase. The agreement did not affect schoolteachers, who have been on strike for more than a week. *(The teachers' strike ended two days later.)*

Sept. 8

• Israel announced it is planning a joint naval exercise with Turkey and will invite Egypt and Jordan to participate. *(The following day, Israel announced it was also planning a joint air force exercise with Turkey.)*

Sept. 9

• Intelligence officials reportedly believe that Iran is developing a spy satellite as part of its ballistic missile program.

• Jews in the West Bank and Gaza Strip number nearly 170,000, an increase of 3.3 percent during the first half of the year. The increase is the result of a combination of both natural increase and immigration.

Sept. 10

• The Palestinian Authority is furtively strengthening its presence in eastern Jerusalem according to a ministerial committee report.

• A Palestinian woman died after being shot by security forces when she walked into a clash with Palestinian demonstrators.

Sept. 11

• Some 50,000 Israelis gathered in the Tel Aviv square where Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated. The gathering demanded that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu resign.

50 Years Ago

JERUSALEM, ***Sept. 12*** **—** The nine-week UN-brokered ceasefire has had little meaning in Jerusalem, where artillery and automatic fire are heard almost every day and where a large-scale duel yesterday between Arab and Jewish mortars and cannon resulted in a number of casualties.

For the Jerusalem inhabitants, the truce has been almost as costly in lives, disruption of everyday living and economic losses as a full-fledged war.

Files from the JTA

New party discussed

By YOSSI VERTER
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The possible formation of a new centrist party that will run former Finance Minister and Likud stalwart MK Dan Meridor for prime minister has been discussed recently in meetings involving Meridor and two MKs from the Third Way, Alex Lubotzky and Yehuda Harel.

Also present at some of the meetings was Matan Vilna'i, the disgruntled would-be chief of staff, passed over for the position in favor of Shaul Mofaz. Vilna'i is considered almost certain to join the new list.

The former major-general, who has been in close contact with Lubotzky since leaving the army (the two head a recently formed social action body called the Yeruham Group), recently met with Harel about establishing a new party.

In an interview last week with Army Radio, Vilna'i said if he does enter politics he would prefer the centre. Talks have revolved around two main scenarios: either the formation of a list headed by Meridor, backed by Harel and Lubotzky, or the establishment of a broad centrist bloc, to be led by Meridor and incorporating the Third Way.

Harel and Lubotzky informed Third Way leader Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani about the talks only last week. Kahalani was, reportedly, not overjoyed, but said he would not object if Harel holds talks on the Third Way's behalf.

Most involved in the discussions reject the possibility of cooperation with Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo, who has announced he will run for prime minister in the next elections as head of a centrist party.

Lubotzky said last week the Third Way should organize with other individuals and groups "such as Meridor and his supporters, Vilna'i and the [liberal-religious] Meimad movement, and together offer the Israeli voter a centrist option so he will not have to choose only between Bibi [Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu] and Barak."

Harel has said explicitly that "I will not be in the vicinity of Roni Milo or [Gesher leader] David Levy."

Harel added he would like to work with "members of the kibbutz movements, residents of development towns, religious people who object to religious coercion and religious legislation, and people who have despaired of the big parties."

Meanwhile, Meridor has not made a final decision to leave Likud. He's waiting to see if it will be possible to depose Netanyahu as party leader, and will only leave the party if convinced that it's impossible.

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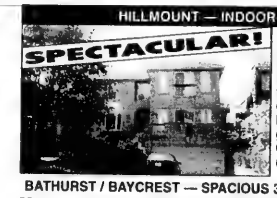

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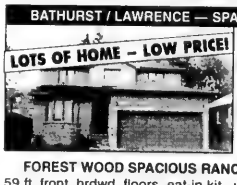

4 + 3 bdrms., 6 baths, family room, gas fireplace, gleaming hardwood & parquet floors, huge finished bsmt., w/o to deck from modern kitchen, priced for immediate sale at only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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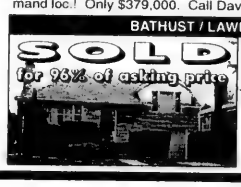

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and Prosperous
New Year

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Bathurst Manor, 4 bedroom, 2 storey

Sheppard-Allen Rd, 6 room bungalow

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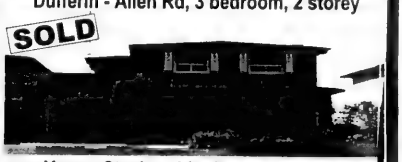
Dufferin - Allen Rd, 3 bedroom, 2 storey



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3+1 side split, prime st. - ravine lot, updated, move-in condition, gleaming hardwood, fam. rm. w/o, California shutters, +++ $419,900.
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SUTTON GROUP - ADMIRAL REALTY INC.
416-739-7200

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bathurst/Glencairn - top location, lovely 4 bed., fam. rm. & self-contnd. bach. suite on st. lev. both with sep. w/o. Beautiful 64'x136' lot - $3,300/mo.
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RYBAK REALTY LTD.
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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

TOWNSGATE
2 bd. lg. apt., spotless, excellent expos., move-in cond..
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G. BARON, Rltr.

80 ANTIBES DRIVE 3 bdrms., 2 baths, all appliances, high floor, immediately! Call **Saul Goldkind,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **416-739-7200.**

Bath./Steeles - 11 Townsgate, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., sol., balc., private, $240K. No agents. Sam, 905-763-0898 or 905-886-5522.

Yonge/Steeles - 205 Hilda, 3 bdrm. condo w/upgrades, CA, pkg., $165K. 416-635-5031.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Finch, 133 Torresdale, corner ste., 3 bdrm., 2 bth., carpet, CAC, fitness fac., pkg., bus stop front. 416-665-4020.

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

Mature senior couple will house sit your pet/home. Great refs. Pref. near Forest Hill. Bondable, no charge. 204-284-2921.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

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- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

Bath./Clark - Bsmt. apt. w/sep. entr. avail Oct. 1. 905-886-5491

Bath/Sheppard, 2 bdrm, 1 bth., bright, clean, pkg. $896/mo. Avail Nov. 1. 416-635-5031.

Finch/Dufferin - 1 bdrm. apt., spotless, undergrnd pkg, n/pets, n/smkr. Nov. - Apr. 630-0579.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Bath./Steeles - furn. condo, 2 bdr., 2 bth., pkg. Aavail. Nov. 1 - April 1. Call 416-665-8303.

Yonge/Finch - 2 bdrm. lux. condo, 2 bth., fully furn., all amen. Avail. Nov. 98 - Apr. 99. Call 416-733-1557.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
Luxury Condos
Available from $50,000 and up
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- High Rise Condos
- Townhomes

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125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

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Delray Beach, Florida
Furnished Condos starting at $82,500
Bobby Jones 2 Bed., 2 Bath Furn including Golf $155,000. Great Buy
2 Bed. 2 Bath Furn with Golf $99,989
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DOODY CAPLAN 1-561-495-2279

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aquarius - Hallandale, lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., newly furn. condo on ocean, exc. view. Avail. Jan. 4 for 12 weeks. $2000/mo US. 416-223-1606, weekdays only.

Arlen House East, 1 bdrm. conv., min. 4 mos. 636-6470.

Ft. Laud., 1+1 condo, w/encl. Fla. rm,newly renov'd, fully furn, 2nd flr, elev, pool, clubhouse. 3 mo. min. 905-737-9937 (local).

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on the ocean, 1 bdrm conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. 416-488-9819.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. Avail. 1998/99 season. 905-731-0609.

Longboat Key, beautiful beach front, 2 bdrm., 2 bth. condo, Dec. 1 - Jan. 15. 905-731-0880

North Miami Beach, on the intercostal, 1 bdrm., min. 3 mos. rental. $1200/mo US. 638-2120.

On the beach, Lauderdale Nov. 28 to Dec. 19 Hollywood, Jan. 17 to Feb. 16, suits 4, 739-6401

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Palm Aire, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furnished, main flr., 3 months min., avail Oct 1-Apr 30. Call 416-496-2900.

Singer Island, 2 bdrm. apt., appl., avail. Jan, Feb, March. Joe at 249-0762, 905-833-1974

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135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend
Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Family of 5 with teens looking to share sailing trip in Caribbean at Christmas. Reply to steve@liteline.com

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RETIRING?
Want to Sell Your Business?
Looking to buy a business in the $200-$400K price range
Toronto area only
Send name, phone No. & info:
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1500 Don Mills Rd., Ste. 205
North York, Ont. M3B 3K4

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Danforth Jewish Circle, a progressive, egalitarian, downtown community, needs experienced teachers for an arts-based Jewish/Hebrew education program, Thursdays, 4-6pm. Fax résumé: Lisa 463-4221 or call 463-1286.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Administrative Assistant
For small private non profit organization. Nine month contract position. Seeking a bright, professional individual with strong administrative and secretarial skills. Excellent communication and organizational abilities. Familiar with Office 97 and Windows 95. Knowledge of Internet and shorthand an asset. Please fax résumé to 416-932-1214 attention Janice Freedman

THE FIRST NARAYEVER CONGREGATION
An egalitarian, traditional minyan, located in downtown Toronto is looking for a dynamic, creative person to lead our Junior Congregation on Shabbat mornings. Davening skills, good knowledge of Hebrew, and teaching background are assets. Salary is commensurate with experience. Fax resume to 416-944-2888.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care in safe, warm, home exper. ECE teacher + assistant F/T, kosher nutritional meals Bath/Centre area.905-771-0506

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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English speaking lady avail for housekeeping/babysit 239-3500

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 *Ext.#* 65**

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

TO SHARE LIFE WITH
Attractive Jewish mother of 2, brown hair, green eyes, well educated, kind heart, gentle, humorous, non-smoker, enjoy dining, long walks, art, music, jogging. Seeking a male, late 40's-mid 50's, professional with similar interests AD#1516

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single mother of 1, from Island, 5'5", attractive, brown complexion, enjoy dining out. Seeking a male with similar interests AD#1624

COMPASSIONATE
Single female, 5'6", 165lbs, blond hair, Business professionate, compassionate, honest, with integrity Seeking a professional male, 48-58, affectionate, romantic. AD#1517

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, 33, enjoy long romantic walks, tennis, theater, dining & dancing. Seeking a Jewish male, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, & fun to be with AD#1522

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 5'6", 128lbs, blond hair, attractive, non-smoker outgoing, likes to travel, movies Seeking a male, kind, educated, good sense of humour, for possible long term relationship AD#1509

LOVE IS IN THE AIR
Single white female, 39, outgoing, self-employed Seeking a male, 35-45, Polish or European descent, confident & secure AD#1511

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Attractive, vibrant widow, mid 60's, financially secure, enjoy life to the fullest Seeking a male with similar qualities & interests for possible future relationship AD#1535

SPUNKY LADY
Single Jewish female, 49, aerobic instructor, spunky, fit, people person, terrific smile, enjoy gardening, reading, skiing, roller-blading, dining & dancing Seeking a male, tall, Jewish, 45-55, honest, kind, adventurous, generous at heart. AD#1622

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single female, intelligent, attractive, traditional, kind, easy going, strong sense of humour Seeking a male, 40-50, with same qualities AD#1360

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, fun to be with, enjoys movies, travelling, swimming. Seeking a male, 36+, with strong sense of humour, kind, sincere, intelligent AD# 1602

MEDICAL DOCTOR
Single Jewish female, 36, 5'8", medical doctor, lives in Toronto, enjoys tennis, golfing, sailing, cottage life, dining out. Seek a Jewish male, 34-52, either in the medical, law field or business man AD#1494

WELL ESTABLISHED
Attractive female, widow, professional, educated, well established, non-smoker/drinker, enjoy long walks, reading, travelling, theatre Seek a male 58-65, with similar interests who wants to establish a long term relationship AD#1500

NIFTY 50'S
Divorced female, 55, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking a male with strong sense of humour, caring, sincere. AD#1507

SEEKING SOULMATE
Professional Jewish female, 37, warm, sincere, creative, enjoy reading, walking. Seeking a Jewish male, honest, sense of humour, family oriented, with a real sense of adventure. AD#1508

Questions ???
416-236-6644

CALL ME
Single Jewish mom, 35, fit, attractive. Seeking a single Jewish dad, who is sports oriented & fun loving AD#1491

STRAIGHT FORWARD
Divorced, mother of 1, 35, 5'3", long brown hair, blue eyes, honest, affectionate, straight forward, enjoy movies, music, travelling, long walks, outdoor activities Seeking a male with similar interests for long term relationship. AD#1499

SEARCHING FOR YOU
Very attractive, intelligent, Jewish female. Seeking an unattached, established, honest, kind, affectionate gentleman, non smoker, 55-65 AD#1490

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 30 something, petite, cute, athletic, creative, loves kids Seeks a Jewish male, 35-45, with similar interests and values AD#1476

CALL ME
Single Jewish female, professional, attractive, enjoys movies, theater, long walks, dining, exercise, quiet evenings, family oriented. Seeks a male, who is easy going, for friendship possible long term AD#1477

VIVACIOUS LADY
Lady, late 40's, pretty, good figure, 5'4", hazel eyes, blondish hair, enjoys cooking, quiet evenings, romantic walks, dining and dancing Seeks male, 48, 58, handsome, established, caring. AD#1478

LIFE LONG PARTNER
Single female, Jewish, professional, pretty smile and eyes, enjoys conversation, laughter Seeks gentleman, 38-45, with good sense of humour and zest for life. AD#1482

FRIENDSHIP
Single female, 44, 5'5", 155lbs, attractive, short brown hair and green eyes, tanned complexion, good natured. Seeks gentleman with same qualities. AD#1483

Men seeking Women

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Professional gentleman, Jewish, 52, traditional values, handsome, healthy, successful, enjoy good food, dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking marriage minded lady, looks are not important, for a long term relationship AD#1513

ROMANTIC & LOYAL
Gentleman, early 50's, tall, athletic, Canadian, non-smoker, easy to look at & talk to, enjoy life's pleasures. Seeking an attractive, fit, single Jewish female, 39-45, for lasting love, no pretenders pls AD#1514

GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER
Single attractive male, 58, 5'11", slim, brown hair & blue eyes, great sense of humour, caring, enjoy going away for the winter to Florida, Australia, or California Seeking a fegale, attractive, well kept, good personality, great sense of humour AD#1519

JEWISH DOCTOR
Jewish male, 47, 5'7", doctor, honest, slim, fit, European background, has shared custody of his 2 children, keep commitments & promises Seeking a female under 40, slim, nice & intelligent AD#1501

SHY AT FIRST
Single Jewish male, 41, no dependents, brown hair & eyes, handsome, sincere, caring, enjoy dining & dancing, travelling, music, not a pet lover. Seeking a single lady, non-smoker, 32-40, up to 5'3", sincere, no head games pls. AD#1525

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, early 60's, 5'9", 160lbs, fit, enjoy arts, sports, good conversation, good sense of humour. Seeking an elegant, slim, non-smoker, proud of her heritage lady. AD#1504

To renew your ad call
416-236-6644

COMPANION NEEDED
Single male, handsome, slim Seeking a companion to share expenses for winter trip to Florida for 3 months. Pls call AD#1506

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile AD#1485

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single male, 50, 5'10", 184lbs, handsome, well built, responsible, financially secure, honest, sincere, non-smoker, non-drinker, well established Seeking a Jewish female, 40-50, with similar interests AD#1465

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music, movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth. Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship. AD#1469

NIFTY 50'S
Single white male, 56, self-employed, caring and sincere, enjoys travelling, movies, quiet romantic evenings Seeks a compassionate, loving, sensitive lady AD# 1480

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, 45, with a business degree, conservative looking, enjoys dancing, has good sense of humour Seeking a female, doesn't have to be slim, children are OK AD#1405

SHARE LIFE'S BEAUTIES
Single male, 55, tall, attractive, European, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, affectionate, enjoys dancing, singing. Seeking a petite attractive female with similar interests to share life's beauties. AD#1458

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest, not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere. Ad# 1364

ATHLETIC ROMANTIC
Tall single male, 54, attractive, non-smoker, easy going, athletic, self-employed Enjoys quiet evenings, sports, movies, music Seeking a single Jewish female, 38+, non-smoker, attractive with similar values AD#1453

LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP
Gentleman, 39, 5'7", enjoys movies, sports, good sense of humour seeks that special lady for romantic times, loves to cuddle AD#1462

INCURABLE ROMANTIC
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'7", enjoy movies, dining, dancing, seeking cuddly lady to enjoy the finer things in life. AD# 1433

WELL BUILT
Single male, 59, 5'10", 182lbs, well built, handsome, good sense of humour, non-smoker,nondrinker, enjoy dancing, travelling, cooking, music, seeking a female 45-52 with similar interests Ad# 1398

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Single Jewish male, 30, brown hair, blue eyes, variety of interests, sports, movies, concerts, always willing to try something new, seeking a lady with similar interests Ad# 1414

OUTGOING & CARING
Single male, outgoing, caring, enjoy life, theatre, seeking a female for a relationship, someone who is honest, trustworthy, loyal, good listener & communicator Ad# 1379

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Gentleman, sincere, sentimental, affectionate, love to cuddle, enjoy movies, music, romantic times & winters in Florida seeking a slim, attractive lady, 55+ with similar interests. Ad# 1383

WHAT A CATCH
Single Jewish male, 33, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, handsome, sports-a-holic, enjoy dining, dancing, movies, outdoor activities, travelling, seeking a single Jewish female 28-34, attractive, slim, easy going, brunette Ad# 1387

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
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Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
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Nannies
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Since 1988
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Exper. and reliable European cleaning team can clean your home. Refs. avail. 214-0230.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Lady avail. to live-in Mon-Fri, for elderly. Refs. 416-265-3599.

Mature, exper. babysitter avail. Bath/Steeles area. Hebrew & English speaking. F/T only. Call Dina at 905-886-6529.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907**
NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.

Nannies/caregivers for elderly & disabled seek live-in or out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

Reliable, exp. cleaning lady avail. any day of the wk/wkend. Call after 8pm. 614-7334, Basia

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Babysitter req'd for wkdays, p/t, exp.,Thornhill 905-764-1353

Exp. & patient lady req'd. to take care of 2 kids (2 & 4), P/T. Refs. Call Orly 905-770-5955.

Warm family seeks loving babysitter/nanny for one infant. Refs. req'd. 416-630-2276.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

BPT INC. recognizes your busy lifestyle & can help find the right person for you. 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1650 registered. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY to **Pauline & Leo Altberg** on **Sept. 16, 1998.** With love Mom, Dad, Jeremy, Elliot & Elysha.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

A tall, slim, good looking woman, 32 would like to meet an intelligent man. Reply to 1057 Steeles Ave. W., PO Box 81601, North York, M2R 3X1.

Bathurst/Eglinton. Hard of hearing senior lady seeks 3 hard of hearing ladies for bridge games. CJN Box # 7093.

Desired..Required..Needed A traditional gentleman 60 +, well educated, honest, caring, loving, family and community oriented. Pref. tall, physically fit & sports minded, n/smkr. CJN Box # 7096.

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-48, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7091.

Gay (male) - If you want love, intimacy, friendship and fun, write and tell me about yourself and let's get together for coffee. Reply to CJN Box # 7088.

Prof. male, 50's, with many interests, including sports, theatre, travel & just socializing, would like to meet similar female. CJN Box # 7094.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

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·CUSTOMER SERVICE·

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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

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1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

330 OBITUARIES

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EXPERIENCE QUALITY - SERVICE
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(just north of Lawrence)
(416) **787-0319**

COHEN, Stuart - on Aug. 28, 1998, late of 70 Rosehill Ave., #808.

SHORE, Manning - on Aug. 28, 1998, late of 1201 Steeles Ave.W., #1001.

CHARLOFF, Anna - on Aug. 29, 1998, late of 55 Ameer Ave.

PULVER, Carole - on Aug. 29, 1998, late of 507 Melrose Ave.

DRUTZ, Daniel - on Aug. 30, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

SKY, Morris - on Aug. 30, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

WEINSTEIN, Sonny - on Aug. 31, 1998, late of 33 Sandale Gdns.

KRAISMAN, Lily - on Sept. 1, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

SIEGEL, Sylvia - on Sept. 1, 1998, late of 675 Roselawn Ave., #602.

ANCHEVSKY, Al - on Sept. 2, 1998, late of 16 Eleanor Ave.

FEIN, Aranka - on Sept. 2, 1998, late of 3015 Lawrence Ave. E.

BOWER, Esther - on Sept. 3, 1998, late of 180 Heward Ave.

HORENFELDT, Norman - on Sept. 3, 1998, late of 48 Hucknall Rd.

WAGMAN, Norman - on Sept. 3, 1998, late of 7601 Bathurst St., #301.

LUTSKY, Irvin - on Aug. 27, 1998, late of 69 Grangemill Cres.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
WILLIAM *(Bill)* GREENSPOON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 20th, 10:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MEYER TREFLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 20th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PHILIP SHUMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 20th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ostrovtzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

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CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

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Hamilton sluggers prevail in Winnipeg slo-pitch tourney

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A team from Hamilton won the 20th annual Labor Day weekend B'nai Brith Jewish Men's International Slo-Pitch Tournament while Toronto's entry finished out of the playoffs with a 1-5 record.

This was the first time that the tournament was held in Winnipeg and it promised to be the largest to date. The Air Canada strike, however, almost spelled disaster. Howie Gilmore, one of the co-ordinators, says he had to play "travel agent" to make sure it came off.

The tournament attracted teams from Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Detroit, Edmonton and first time entrants from Vancouver and Minneapolis. Five local teams also competed.

Gilmore reports that the tournament generally attracts 12 to 16 teams. In the first few years, it was strictly an eastern Canadian competition (with the exception of Detroit). Toronto alone has over 200 teams.

Teams from Winnipeg and Edmonton first competed in the 1986 tournament in Burlington, Ont. The Toronto entry this year was put together for the tournament from players from different teams.

It was Gilmore and his long time Winnipeg Goldeyes teammate Howie Shapiro who took the initiative in bringing the annual international tournament to Winnipeg this year for the first time. Each year, during the competition, team captains meet and one city volunteers to host the tournament for the next year. Last year's games were held in Ottawa and Toronto volunteerd to host next year's tournament.

On the field itself, the games were blessed with a beautiful, sunny weekend. The team from Montreal won the A Division with a 5-1 record. The Winnipeg Commishes finished second behind with a 4-2 record. Gilmore and Shapiro's Goldeyes finished fourth at 3-3 just behind 4-2 Detroit and 1-5 Toronto. The Winnipeg Diamonds finished in last place in Division A with six losses and no wins.

The Minneapolis team won the B Division with five wins and a tie just ahead of Hamilton with four wins, a loss and a tie. The Vancouver team, half of whose members are former Winnipeggers, finished third at 4-2 while the two other Winnipeg entries, the Sweepers and the Whips both finished at 2 and 4 with Edmonton trailing the field.

The Commishes were the only Winnipeg team to make the semi-finals losing to Minneapolis while Hamilton beat Montreal in the other semi-final. Hamilton beat Minneapolis in the final by a score of 9-5 to win its first championship.

MACCABI MISSES

These four young women recently returned from the JCC/Maccabi Youth Games in Detroit. For results from the games, please see our story next week. [Irv Nadel photo]

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2	Broadview & Gerrard (Kentucky Fried Chicken)				10:15AM	6:00PM
3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)		10:15AM		Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)	10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles N. W. Corner (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq. Ctr. (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
	AFTERNOON					
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)				2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)				2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)		2:15PM		Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15AM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45AM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
	MIDNIGHT					
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)				7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)				10:30PM	5:00AM

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The Inside Back

Memo to HaShem

Memo to; HaShem
From; Gabriel Malach (the angel)
Re: Annual Report – 5758 (29 Elul)

On behalf of the Senior Management Group (SMG) and all the angels in head office, I am pleased to be reporting once again on our Rosh Hashanah preparations, as well as to provide you with our annual world report as per the SMG's performance contract.

Last Laugh

Firstly, let me assure you that all preparations have been completed as per your directions. The tshuvah committee in the Chosen People division has been working quite hard to make this our best Rosh Hashanah ever. Numerous improvements have been made since last year.

Firstly, all individual appointments with you have been scheduled, including both your human and heavenly subjects. Please do your best to keep to the schedule. To better assist you, all personal files have been opened, and 5759 forecasts have been drafted for all of your human subjects, although they may be revised at your discretion, should penitents achieve the appropriate tshuvah thresholds (see tshuvah manual, policy 0202-04).

Two tanker trucks full of Din and Rachmonis are ready for your use as you see fit. The Book of Judgement's software has been upgraded and Avraham Avinu (#114) has been able to install considerably more RAM. We are ready to assist as you require, subject to the work breaks stipulated in our Collective Agreement.

We have again hired Leviathan Caterers for your annual sponsored kiddush. Naturally, they are under your kashrut supervision.

Turning to the state of the world: as you know (of course), things were extremely challenging and busy for us this past year. I wish to stress that as a bureaucracy, we were in no way, shape or form, responsible for the following items this past year: the collapse of the Russian ruble and banking system; worldwide stock market meltdowns; delays in the Middle East peace process; the Lewinsky/Clinton/Starr episode; the movie *Spiceworld*; the return of bell-bottoms and the Volkswagen Beetle; the entire Swiss Bank scandal; the Quebec secession debate; the falling Canadian dollar; the Asian economic failure; America OnLine; the Y2K Bug; Cuba; Iraq; North Korea; Bosnia; or Libya. These are, of course, the sole jurisdiction of Chaos Incorporated, our offshore competitor.

As for the functioning of your faithful bureaucracy, I am pleased to report that all divisions are functioning at full capacity. Briefly, your Chosen People division reports a record number of simchot and conversions, but regrets that intermarriage is also way up. A special task force has been struck to investigate.

The mitzvah department reports substantial growth in activity, while unfortunately, the Aveiros department also reports substantial growth. The Moshiach preparations department is extremely pleased to report that after considerable effort, Oreos went kosher this year. As in every other year, Operation Moshiach is ready, awaiting your approval and fiscal resourcing.

Malach Resources division reports that a strike of the Angels' union was narrowly averted due to successful re-negotiation of the collective agreement. As a result, angels (levels 1-3) will receive shorter work weeks and 10 more minutes in Olam Habah, plus three weeks vacation, not to be taken during yamim tovim. Of particular note is the early retirement of the Tooth Fairy.

You will recall she filed for long term disability benefits due to wear and tear, which she attributes to the inflationary pressure of payments and the conversion of many currencies from paper to coins. We will be recruiting for her replacement shortly. The business and accounting division reports a balanced budget, yet again, through the introduction of initiation and building fund fees for our newest members. This was necessary to offset the Tooth Fairy claim and increased payments for children's teeth.

In closing, overall, it was a very busy and challenging year. We seek your forgiveness for our errors not due to lack of training or proper supervision, and look forward to the coming year in serving you with professionalism and ceaseless devotion. Amen. Selah.

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BANANA AND CHALLAH PUDDING

4 very ripe bananas
1 lemon, juice and grated rind
2 slices challah or white bread
1 tblsp. margarine or butter
2 eggs
1 cup milk
pinch cinnamon
pinch ground nutmeg

Preheat oven to 325°F. Peel bananas and cut into slices. Add lemon juice and grated rind. Spread challah slices with margarine or butter, and cut into cubes. Grease baking pan and alternately layer with challah cubes and bananas. Beat eggs with milk, sugar, and seasonings and pour over layers of challah and bananas. Bake for 35 minutes until golden. Serve with ice cream. Yield: 8" pan.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

MARTIN & FRAN CAPLAN EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR

About Teens

Dear Karilani,

My first few weeks of high school have been a blast! I am making new friends, enjoying my classes and having a great time. I was even invited to go to a party on Saturday night and everyone in my grade was there. A lot of them were smoking cigarettes and I was offered one. I gave in and tried it and it was so disgusting! I couldn't stop coughing and I felt like I was going to throw up! It was gross and I never ever want to try it again. How can I say no to people who ask if I want a cigarette without sounding like a complete loser?

IR

Dear IR,

While you are a teenager a lot of kids will experiment with various substances that are bad for their health, ranging from smoking to drugs. It is important to remember that these things are bad for you as well as illegal to have and use. No one will think of you differently if you don't smoke. You have to find the courage within yourself to say no to the offers of a cigarette.

Although this may seem like a cliché, it really is true that people who think differently of you solely because you do not smoke are people who are not worthy of your friendship. You will see that once many of your friends realize that smoking is very bad for their health and wellbeing, they will quit. You are going to find that there are many people in your group of friends who also do not smoke and you will be able to stick with these people when everyone else is smoking.

It now seems like you will be branded a loser for not smoking with your friends, but your friends will eventually look at you with respect for sticking to your beliefs and not succumbing to the peer pressure. What is most important is that you stay true to yourself and not do anything that you don't feel right about doing.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto

The Canadian Jewish news
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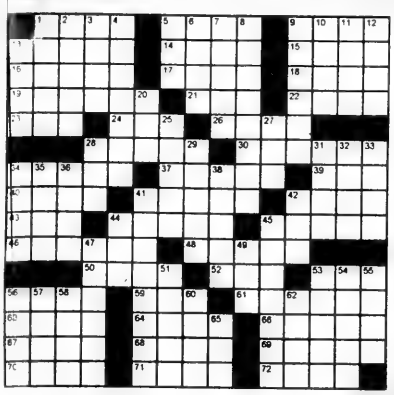
CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. __ shekel, temple dues
5. Eleventh king of Judah
9. Cleo killers
13. Seder bitters
14. Actor Paul
15. Schmooz (Eng.)
16. Cohanim?
17. Diarist
18. "House" to Marranos?
19. Like Tashlich crumbs
21. Job for Getz or Sedaka
22. Refuseniks' home
23. Ashdod to Be'ersheba (dir.)
24. Baseball Berg
26. Fays (Eng.)
28. Lazarus creation, "Miss __"
30. Brothers to Joseph
34. Passover sign
37. American shalom
39. E. Lazarus specialty
40. Pierced as sign of bondsman
41. Fourth letter of Alephbet
42. Solomon's secret
43. Shema ender
44. Kosher wine
45. Prophesizing elder
46. Concentration Camp
48. Agnon and Sachs prize
50. Issachar city
52. Not: comb. form
53. Hebrew letter
56. Negev plenty
59. Goal
61. Israel's progeny
63. Israeli silver medallist
64. Spoken
66. Commandment word
67. 1,003
68. "The New Colossus", poetess
69. Edomite
70. Dr. Jonas
71. Expires
72. Mishmash (Eng.)

Down

1. Gabriel and Uriel headgear
2. Make Aliyah
3. "Purim", or cast __
4. Slaves in Jubilee year
5. Sabin's Org.?
6. Haman's end
7. "__ Hall" Allen film
8. "Follies" producer
9. Bear false witness
10. Political party
11. "Mitla __", Uris novel
12. "__ Trek", Nimoy's show
13. Shamsky's team
20. Reason for shiva?
25. Shema ender
27. Nickname of 8 Down
28. Soupy's ammo
29. Singer Reddy
31. Vacuum
32. Writer Ferber
33. Tzedakah purpose
34. Schlump (Eng.)
35. Chazzan's concern
36. Adam's son
38. Etrog cousin
41. Remembered at Yahrzeit
42. Brooks
44. Oakland A's Holtzman
45. President Begin
47. Very religious man
49. Marsh
51. Where Bubbe went?
53. Kedem need
54. Research for Niels Bohr
55. Much
56. Goldwyn and Davis
57. Richard Tucker specialty
58. Sisrah's temple piercer
60. Marceau
62. Finished
65. "__ Kapital" Marx work

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut.
(Last week's answers are on page 30.)

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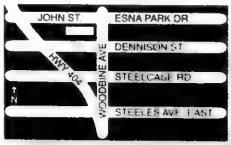

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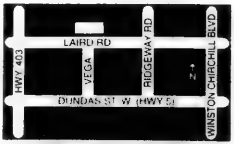
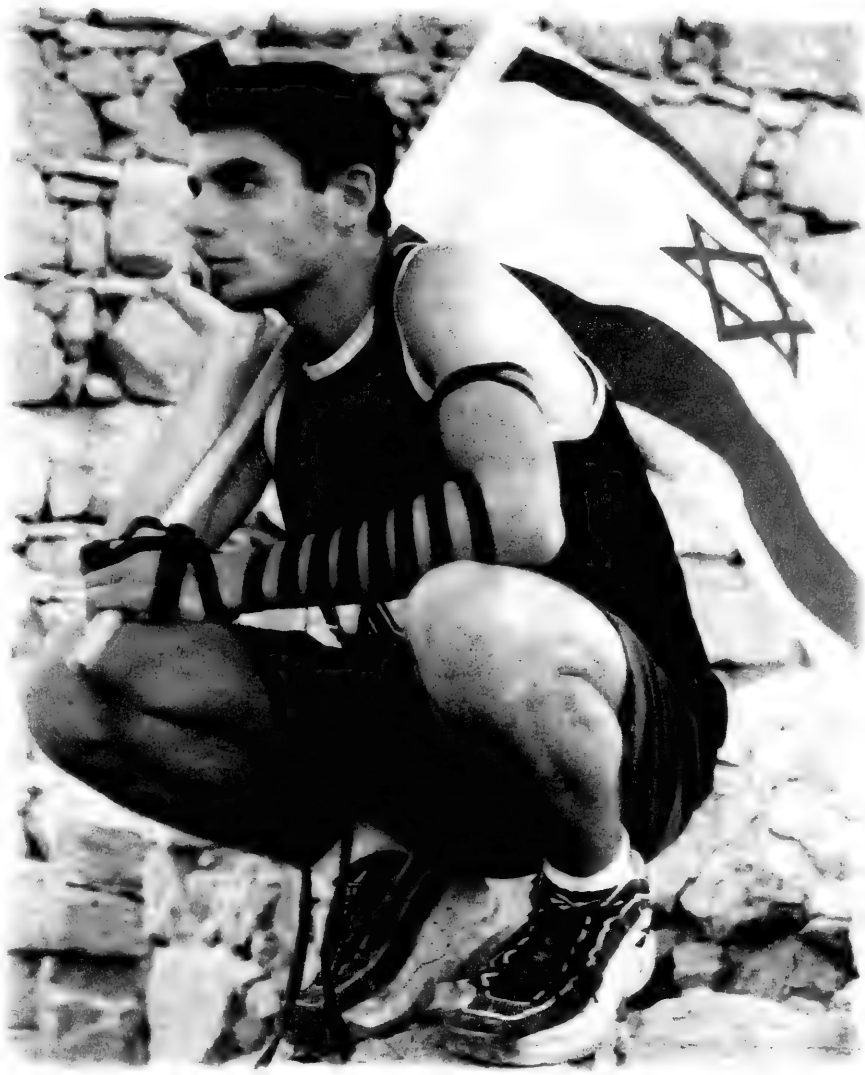


Sunrise at Masada



'AS THE SUN ROSE ON MASADA, ISAAC HAD JUST FINISHED PRAYING.'
These are the words by which Jen Arron described the subject of her photograph, the winning entry in the Israel Experience 50th Anniversary Photo Contest. The contest was sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre, The CJN and El Al Israel Airlines. The top 10 photos appear in this supplement. Congratulations to all the winners and to all the young travellers who submitted photo entries.

The Canadian Jewish news

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

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May it be a year of peace,
prosperity and health for the
Canadian Jewish Community and People of Israel

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Patricia Joy Alpert
National President

Lily Frank
National Executive Vice-President

L'Shana Tova

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our greetings for
a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.
May the coming year bring peace to Israel.

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Canadian Technion Society

Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University

Canadian Society for the
Weizmann Institute of Science

[Jen Arron photo]

Old reminiscences and new experiences

One of the three special prelude prayers to the sounding of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah deals with *Zichronot*, remembrances.

The liturgist who wrote the prayer uses the device of God's memory as a spiritual and even a physical tie binding all humanity, indeed all manner of life, through time and place into a metaphysical unity that affirms the goodness and the importance of this world.

The passages of *Zichronot* are a testament to a God who acts in history. There is a purpose and a plan to life. The destinies of individuals, of His people and of all humanity are the underlying essence of creation.

"You remember what has been achieved in the universe and what has been created since the earliest of times...

The memory of all creatures passes before you...their deeds, their thoughts and aspirations..."

In this year's Rosh Hashanah supplement, we too have focussed on *zichronot*. We have published the personal reminiscences of 18 individuals relating to their own Rosh Hashanah celebrations 50 years ago, the first Rosh Hashanah of the modern State of Israel era.

We are proud to present these private *zichronot* to our readers. From Yehuda Amichai's succinct, ironic recollections as a young soldier on brief leave from the fighting in the Negev Desert to save the life of the nascent state of Israel to Larry Zolf's colorful memories of his family's life in Winnipeg, the 18 reminiscences describe people, events and emotions from vastly different parts of the Jewish world 50 years ago.

"And God said: I remember too the splendor of your youth..."

We are also featuring in this supplement a visual depiction of more recent memories. We have published the 10 "winners" in the 50th Anniversary Photo Contest sponsored by UIA Federations Canada, the Canada Israel Experience Centre and El Al.

The photos, such as the one above by Jen Arron, are both a representation of and an inspiration for the *zichronot* of a new generation, most of them stepping upon Israel's soil for the first time, many of them reaching out toward Israel as a new marker and possibly a turning point in their young, evolving lives. The connection with the land, the sense of discovery and the sheer exhilaration of fun leap from the photographs of these travelling 15-to 24-year-olds.

The special prayer of the Zichronot ends with the following passage, (excerpted and precised from the machzor):

"O Lord, God of our fathers, remember us well, with good memories...

For you remember all the things that have been forgotten since ancient times;

You do not let memory slip..."

Though imperfect, indeed even flawed, our memories are our personal weavers' tools helping us to thread our lives to those who have preceded us and to leave a strand for those that are still to follow.

The liturgist who wrote the *Zichronot* prayer in the machzor understood this well. He movingly describes that thread and the pattern of its celestial stitch intertwining God to His people and one generation to another.

We hope you enjoy this Rosh Hashanah supplement.

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

There was no hiding war from my mother

By YEHUDA AMICHAI

Our Palmach battalion (the 7th) was taken out of the Negev where we had been for many months, cut off from the rest of the new country – together with a few heroic kibbutzim like Negba – holding the Negev against a vastly superior Egyptian army.

The enemy had tanks, artillery and war planes; we had only light weapons. The remnants of our batallion were flown out to the north by World War II Dakota planes. We were put in a camp not far from Tel Aviv and received fresh reinforcements, whom we trained for the next large operation – the biggest of the War of Independence – the liberation of the south and the defeat of the Egyptian army.

This was to start two days after Yom Kippur. Thus, we were ordered to move to the south into battle position for the offensive. But first, we got a few hours leave.

I went to see my parents, who were staying with my sister in Tel Aviv. I parked the jeep a few streets away from their synagogue, and I went straight into the women's section. My father was under the belief from what I had told him that it would take quite a few weeks until our batallion would be ready for action. My mother went home with me and said: "I know for sure that the big offensive will start very soon. Don't lie to me."

My mother was very Orthodox like my father. She even wore a sheitl. When we arrived home, she suddenly took out food and put it on the table. I was shocked. Although I had left Orthodoxy in my mid-teens, it was still Yom Kippur.

She said, "Eat, eat. If God cannot prevent wars, he has no right to make us fast."

I ate and went back to my batallion. Two days later, the big offensive started.

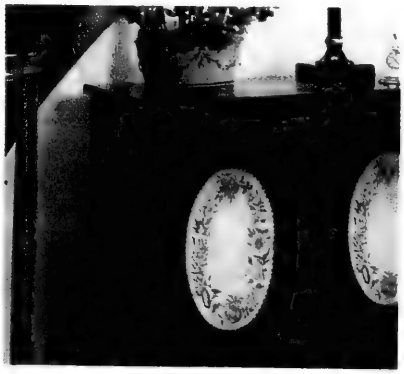
Yehuda Amichai is considered by many to be Israel's poet laureate.

In his reminiscence, Yehuda Amichai describes the period of time and the precarious physical situation of the young state that are depcited in this photo. We see a convoy of home-made armored vehicles running the Arab gauntlet on the way to re-supply a besieged Jerusalem in 1948.

[IGPO photo from Israel: Images & Ideas, Viewfinder Publications, 1988]

Best Wishes for Peace, Happiness and Prosperity in the New Year

BERNHARDT



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and throughout
the year

Tropicana
PURE PREMIUM

A dramatic and theatrical experience

By MANNY BATSHAW

Although my parents led mostly secular lives after they immigrated to Montreal, they were religious in their practices on holidays, especially Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. For me, as a child, those holidays were a dramatic and a theatrical experience.

In our neighborhood, there was only one very small synagogue, which had no rabbi or cantor. Therefore, for the High Holy Days my parents would purchase tickets to services, which were conducted each year in the Théâtre Monument Nationale building on Ste. Catherine Street East near St. Lawrence Boulevard. At the time, we lived on Parthenais Street near Notre Dame — where my mother operated a small grocery store or what would be called a depanneur today in our renovated living room. So Rosh Hashanah, in my memory, will always be associated with the very long three-mile walk to the Monument Nationale and, of course, with the long trek home after services, a practice to be repeated on the following days of the Yamim Noraim or the High Holy Days.

The Théâtre Monument Nationale is an immense and ornate building, particularly for a small child. I vividly recall climbing 40 stairs of a wide, stately staircase to enter the parterre of the theatre and then there was still another long flight of stairs to get to our seats in the balcony. The bimah for the services was the stage of the theatre, which was surrounded by the highly sculptured proscenium arch. The stage also contained an impressive Aron Kodesh ark.

The congregation for the High Holy Days numbered about 1,000 people. The shul theatre was standing room only. It was always packed and while children were free to roam around, my lasting impression is that the services were rather decorous. This could be attributed to the famous *berimter* cantor. But it wasn't just the respect and adulation that made most of the people there listen with rapt attention, it was the desire to absorb the meaning of the prayers these talented cantors were chanting.

My father, Tuvieh, received a religious education in Russia and was capable of reciting Shacharit service from memory. Yet he was also a conscientious socialist. I was told that when he was courting my mother, Golda, he would visit her before going to synagogue on Shabbat, carrying his tallit bag. But instead of going to shul as he was expected to do, he went to a Socialist meeting in the woods. When my father left Russia and arrived in Montreal in 1903, he continued his Socialist activities at the Workmen's Circle, Branch 203, where he eventually became president.

But even though my father did not consider himself a religious man, he was always keenly interested in cantoral music, which is why every year he would walk many miles, with his young family, to hear *berimter chazonim* like Yossele Rosenblatt, Zavel Kwartin, Ephraim Shlepak and others.

I've inherited this love of music from him and while I enjoy opera, it's always been true for me that any opportunity I have to listen to a famous cantor motivates me still to walk (or drive now) many miles to hear him.

For me, the High Holy Days, Rosh Hashanah in particular, are still a communal and religious experience. As I think back to my parents, to the observance in our home of *shlogging kapores*, kashrut, doing good deeds and going to shul, I realize that my father, despite his socialism, really exemplified the *pintelle yid*. Rosh Hashanah was more than just operatic singing for him, just as it has always been for me. It was, indeed, a religious experience.

This recollection will be contained in a biography of Manny Batshaw tentatively titled, Love Affair: People and Community, The Story of Manny Batshaw, *which is being written by Montreal author Joel Yanofsky and which is due to be published in the spring of 1999.*

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Samuelsohn
The way to say fine tailoring

Israel long part of my 'mental environment'

By MAURICE BENZACAR

Even though it was not until 1971 that I first set foot on Israel soil, Israel had been part of my "mental environment" since the 1940s.

When I was a child in Morocco, my mother often said to me: "If I don't see Jerusalem with my own eyes, I hope you will see it for me."

Every year, at the end of the Pesach seder, when we sang, "L'Shanah Haba'ah b'Yerushalayim," my heart flew over to Jerusalem, a city that was so dear and so familiar, yet so distant.

I was a Zionist, as was everyone else in the community. Our Zionism came from our heart, our mind and our prayers. It was a mystic, spiritual, religious feeling that had always been kept alive in Sephardi communities all over the world. It was quite different from the intellectual, political, left-wing Labor-Zionism of our brothers and sisters of eastern Europe, but no less real or powerful.

I remember May 14, 1948, the day of the creation of the State of Israel. It is one of my dearest memories: all of us sitting around the radio, counting the votes of the UN Assembly. The relief, the pride and the general sense of euphoria that we felt remain beyond description.

Soon afterwards, the Jewish Agency began sending representatives to Morocco to recruit young men and women to make aliyah to Israel. I remember, every motza'ei Shabbat, we would sit around the radio and listen to the program *Kol Tzion la gola*, during which people who had settled in Israel greeted us, chatted with us and encouraged us to make aliyah.

I was only a child when, on Oct. 4, 1948 (29 Elul 5708), we celebrated the first Rosh Hashanah as free people, a people with a land, the land promised to us by God Almighty. Walking to the synagogue in the streets of Marrakesh, we had to contain our joy. When we met other Jews, we made no mention of this unbelievable event, we just said: *Shanah Tovah, Tizkou l'shanim rabot*, hugged and kissed, but in our synagogue, our happiness, our pride and our gratitude to God and to all these brave young soldiers who gave their life so we could live these moments of unspeakable happiness knew no bounds.

I remember our rabbi, Rebbe Haim Shoushana, looking resplendent in his white caftan and white kippah; the synagogue was overflowing with enormous bunches of fragrant flowers and home-made flags of Israel. People in their best attire were overjoyed, and everyone that day, rich and poor, young and old, was wearing their most precious pieces of jewelry and expressing their pride with radiant smiles.

The rabbi gave us time to greet each other, to express our feelings, to hug and kiss again. Finally, we calmed down and the service started. Never before had we prayed with such fervor, nor sang with such joy in our voice and gratitude in our heart! The atmosphere was so electric, people were ecstatic!

Then the rabbi delivered his sermon. It was hard for him to speak, because every time he said the words: Eretz Yisrael or *Chaialei Tzahal* (the soldiers of the Israeli army), the women above sitting in the balcony would start their ululating, and the children would join in this beautiful chorus of drunken happiness. These joyous interruptions reminded me of our angry interruptions on Purim, when we used to boo every time the name Haman was pronounced.

I still remember that sermon. After greeting us all, the rabbi thanked God for allowing us to celebrate the first Rosh Hashanah in 2,000 years as free, proud Jews, with a land of our own, a beloved land that had been taken away from us, but that God had given us back.

He quoted Isaiah 11:11: "And it shall come to pass on that day that the Lord will set his hand again to recover the remnant of his people that shall remain from Assyria and from Egypt…and from Cush…and he will assemble the dispersed of Israel and gather together the scattered of Judah from the four corners of the earth;" and Jeremiah 31:8 "Behold, I will bring them from the north countries and gather them from the uttermost parts of the earth …;" and Ezekiel 36:24: "For I will take you from among the nations and gather you out of all the countries and will bring you into your own land…"

He reserved the most eloquent, most moving part of his sermon for the young soldiers who had fallen in the battlefield. There was not a dry eye in the synagogue. A few people had lost a son or a relative, a friend or a neighbor in the War of Independence. The rabbi's voice cracked more than once.

My mind wandered and I imagined myself as one of those soldiers, fighting valiantly, knowing no fear in the first line. I clung to my father constantly and held his hand very tightly. I wanted to make sure I was not going to wake up from this wonderful dream. But no, it was not a dream, it was a gift, a wonderful

[Cont'd. on page B6]

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Old new home a refuge for child survivors

By DR. JOSEPH BURG

Mordechai Ben-Dat, the editor of *The Canadian Jewish News*, asked me to write a personal reminiscence of Rosh Hashanah 1948.

The truth is that on May 14 in 1948 Medinat Yisrael was proclaimed, and so Rosh Hashanah 1948 was the first Rosh Hashanah in the existing and exciting new State of Israel.

The Mizrachi World Organization, and its unforgettable leader Rav Meir Berlin Bar Ilan, decided in 1946 to open up a European Centre on behalf of World Mizrachi for rescue, help and education work with the remnants of the concentration camps, displaced persons and those coming from Asian and European Russia, Poland and the Underground.

I was elected in 1946 to be the central shaliach for Europe because in 1939-40, the first year of World War II, I was working with the Haganah in the Aliyah Bet immigration to then-Palestine. Leaving Switzerland in August 1940, I went home to Eretz Yisrael via Lisbon. In Mozambique, I was waiting for seven weeks but was not allowed to enter South Africa. Via Entebbe, I arrived in Eretz Yisrael in December 1940.

After the war, the Mizrachi movement was active in Shearit Hapletah in Europe for the purpose of the rehabilitation and the reconstruction of the remnants. We founded Talmud Torah schools in the camps. We brought Jewish children out of monasteries, helped build mikvahs, and organized chapters of the movement in many cities in Germany, Austria and Italy. My throat is still overworked from the first Bnei Akiva convention that we held in Germany in 1947. We sent young people to the Alps of Switzerland to be healed of tuberculosis.

It was only natural that I and my wife Rivka went for Rosh Hashanah 1948 to one of our children's homes where we did a lot of educational work to give moral support and Jewish knowledge to those young-

[Cont'd. on page B7]

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Marrakesh celebration

[Cont'd. from page B5]

gift that the good Lord had finally sent us, in keeping with his promise.

Back home for dinner, the house was beautiful, the table bountiful, and the atmosphere was the atmosphere of a bar mitzvah or a henna or a wedding: rejoicing, singing, eating, drinking until the wee hours of the morning. Finally, the children were sent to bed, because we had to catch a few hours of sleep before heading back to the synagogue for the morning service.

I will always remember that marvellous day, I often think of it, especially on Rosh Hashanah. Every Rosh Hashanah takes me back to the Rosh Hashanah of Elul 29, 5708, in Marrakesh. I pray that soon, very soon, we will celebrate a Rosh Hashanah of peace and harmony with our Arab neighbors and cousins. Amen.

Maurice Benzacar is past president of the Canadian Sephardi Federation, founding president of Magen David Sephardic Congregation, and one of the founders of the Sephardic Kehila Centre.

Holocaust and Hope

[Cont'd. from page B6]

sters (14 to 17 years) that survived.

I don't remember if we were the first Medina Rosh Hashanah in our Children's Home in Switzerland or in Belgium. Anyway, for this Rosh Hashanah I brought some of our shlichim from the different countries, so we had a minyan. I myself functioned as a part-time substitute chazzan. At the table, in as festive a way as possible, my wife Rivka helped with Israeli songs.

Our feeling there was: *Eretz Yisrael* and *Medinat Yisrael*. The old new home was a refuge for displaced persons, for the survivors of the Shoah. We took care of the children. Almost none of these children had a father or mother who survived. The longing and belonging to Medinat Yisrael was a remedy for many of the ills.

At this Rosh Hashanah service I had to give the "sermon." Quite understandably, the leitmotif was: Holocaust and Hope. Looking back on the Holocaust years, I spoke about life and death from the individual point of view and from the national point of view. I referred to the words of Isaiah (43:2), "When you pass through water I will be with you, through streams; they shall not overwhelm you. When you walk through fire, you shall not be scorched; through flame, it shall not burn you." Our medieval commentators interpreted this verse as speaking about the dangers of the auto-da-fe, the burning of Jews in the time of the Spanish Inquisition. That was our thinking when we said the sublime words of Unetaneh Tokef.

The Shoah atrocities gave new interpretations to those words. So I mentioned the furnaces of Auschwitz, the gas chambers and the manifold ways of destruction and annihilation.

Looking back on this first Medina Rosh Hashanah, surely I was interpreting the words of the sublime prayer with the historical experience of our people in the medieval time and in the Shoah epoch. But I did not know that those words of Rabbi Amnon of Mainz have also an existential meaning for today in Medinat Yisrael.

We pray for the life of the State, which is surrounded by enemies. We pray for the lives of our soldiers — those sitting in airplanes, those sitting in tanks, those sitting in warships and submarines and those defending our borders, *mi b'esh, mi b'mayim, mi b'kitzo, umi loh b'kitzi.*

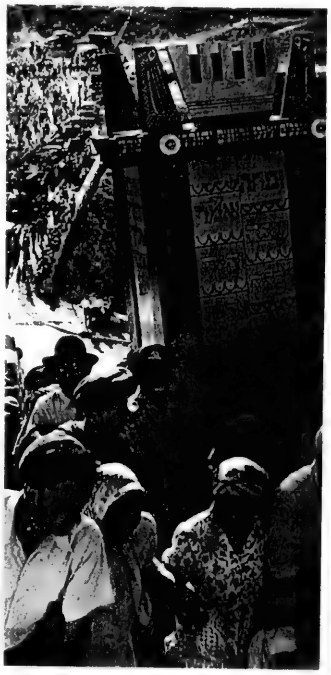
We are fighting for survival, but we are not allowed to forget that we are also here struggling for the revival of Jewish culture, tradition and values.

Many times we don't see the boundaries between cold peace, cold war and the climbing political temperature. Every one of our beloved soldiers and settlers are included in our prayer.

There are heavy clouds in our political sky. The dissension within the nation concerning basic political and cultural issues is most detrimental to us, not the least because these disagreements are exploited by our enemies.

This Rosh Hashanah, 50 years after the founding of the State of Israel, demands intensive soul searching, perhaps more than ever. I would suggest we always remember the precepts from the Sayings of the Fathers (3:1) and act accordingly. They are: The Sense of History, the Sense of Direction and the Sense of Responsibility.

Dr. Josef Burg is one of Israel's acknowledged elder statesmen. He served in every government until 1986.



GOING UP TO JERUSALEM ON A PILGRIM HOLY DAY

These celebrants of Sukkot climb through the valley in their ascent upward to Mount Zion in 1952. [photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod -UIA]

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

A time for new beginnings in Toronto

By DONALD CARR

The chartered Trans-Canada Airlines North Star touched down at Malton Airport. It was Sept. 8, 1948.

The plane had left London, stopping at Prestwick, Reykjavik and Goose Bay to refuel. There had been a fire in the hydraulic system in the middle of the night before reaching Goose Bay, but the crew had extinguished it with little trouble and no alarm. The floorboards were torn up to get at the source of the fire. I think I was the only passenger awake. The experience – on my first flight ever – is probably the cause of the "white-knuckle" flying that still remains with me.

At Malton, the four-engine converted DC-6 disembarked its passengers – all of us Ontario-government-sponsored immigrants from the United Kingdom, part of then-premier George Drew's effort to increase the Anglo-Saxon population of his province.

I had just been demobilized from the British army. During my service, I had been stationed in London, as part of a small unit that looked after the pay and rations of all the British army officers seconded to the Control Commission for Germany after the war. Not living in barracks, but with friends in North London, I had spent almost two years co-editing *Young Israel*, the monthly magazine of the Federation of Zionist Youth.

When three British sergeants had been hanged in Palestine by Lehi, in retaliation for the execution of Dov Gruner, one of their members, I had been maligned by my sergeant major, a strapping 6-footer in the Welsh Guards. He excoriated me in traditional army metaphor for what "your people" had done. As we were alone in the orderly room at the time, I gave him as good as he gave me – knowing that there were no witnesses to what surely would have been a court-martial offence.

My big decision – once I knew that I would leave England, where I saw no future for a then budding newspaper reporter – had been whether I should go to the new State of Israel, for which I had campaigned and worked both before and after my army call-up, or whether I should go to Toronto, where all my father's brothers, sisters and their families lived. I opted for Canada. Had I decided otherwise, I would probably have found myself living at Cherev Le'Et, a moshav *shitufi* near Netanya, sponsored by the Federation of Zionist Youth.

I was welcomed by family at the Salvation Army headquarters on Sherbourne Street in Toronto, where we new immigrants had been taken by bus from the airport. In addition to the natural concerns about an unknown future, two things were bothering me.

The first was the constant roar in my ears, the after effects of the four Rolls Royce Merlin engines on the plane to which I had been exposed for some 15 hours. The second was where I would daven on Rosh Hashanah, just a few days away. Time cured the roar, but not for almost a week! My aunt quickly assured me that she and my uncle had a seat for me for Rosh Hashanah at their shul. Great was my relief.

Acclimatizing myself to the Toronto heat, the different and offensive odor of the exhaust of the cars and trucks and stepping off a sidewalk and looking the "wrong" way, I looked forward eagerly to the holiday. At home, in Cheltenham, my father and I were the only kohanim in a congregation which was Orthodox – as was the shul which we had attended in

[Cont'd. on page B9]

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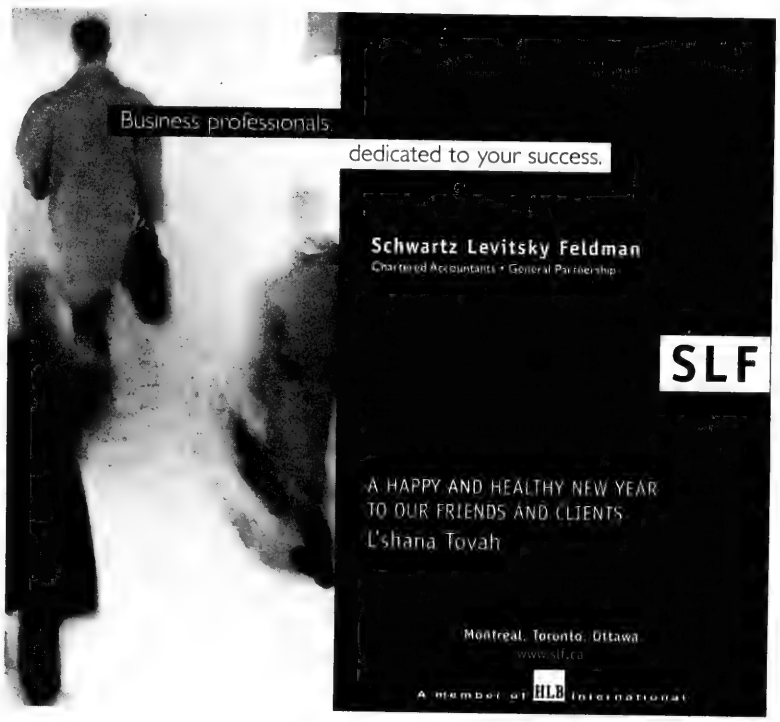

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A new beginning

[Cont'd. from page B8]

Leeds, my place of birth and where we lived until I was seven.

Rosh Hashanah came. To my surprise we were driving to shul. When we arrived, my uncle parked the car in the lot adjacent to an austere, grey building with Ivy climbing its walls. With my yarmulke and tallit in hand, I climbed the steps to the front doors and entered.

Strains of organ music struck my ears. I looked around. The sanctuary was filling quickly. Men and women were sitting together. There was not a yarmulke or tallit to be seen! I remarked on this to my aunt.

"Oh, our shul is a Reform temple," she said, "and not many men wear them."

Naive me! I had never before been inside a synagogue that was not Orthodox. I felt uncomfortable and decided not to put on my yarmulke or tallit.

With Rabbi Abraham Feinberg officiating, the service – unlike present-day Reform practice – had hardly a word of Hebrew, except for the hymns. They were led by a chazzan who faced the congregation, with his back to the Ark and by a mixed choir in the balcony, accompanied by the organ.

What an awakening! While in the Army Cadet Force I had been to a Protestant Church of England service. The proceedings at Holy Blossom Temple seemed to me to be closer to that than to the synagogue I had attended all my young life. I was lost for words and I could not bring myself to read the prayers aloud. I had no sense of praying, although I soon realized how meaningful the service was for those, like this branch of my Toronto family, who were members of the Reform movement. Of course, in later years the form of service changed. Much more Hebrew is used now and most men wear yarmulkes and tallitot.

That first morning, I remembered that another uncle had told me that for the second day I would worship with him and his family at his shul. I was filled with curiosity as to what this other new experience would bring.

Theirs turned out to be the Shaw Street Shul, replete with a mechitzah separating men from women, the hubbub of Orthodox prayer, devoid of organ or choir and – except for different tunes for some of the prayers – an atmosphere to which I was accustomed.

Almost the only similarity between the two services was the sermon, for both rabbis spoke about the nascent, besieged Jewish state and the need for support.

Rosh Hashanah 1948 – the first year of Israel's existence – was thus for me quite unforgettable. It was, in effect, an introduction to a new and fulfilling life in a country whose bounty I have been privileged to share. At the same time, I have had the *zchut* to contribute in my own way to the building of its Jewish community, and indirectly to some extent, to the well-being of the State of Israel where I could have been living today, if I had not made another decision 50 years ago.

Donald Carr is the president of The Canadian Jewish News.

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

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With their men away, these housewives from the upscale Jerusalem neighborhood of Rehavia carry their family's daily ration of water into the house. With the pipeline to Jeruaelm cut, the city had to rely on existing water wells for its supply. Water was distributed from tank-laden trucks.

[Marlin Levin photo courtesy of Spertus Museum]

Shanah Tovah to all
from the directors and staff of

The Canadian Jewish news

Hospital celebrations in Austria

By MENDEL GOOD

I celebrated Rosh Hashanah 1948 in Ebensee, a town in Austria where I was liberated by the Americans.

I was in the hospital suffering from tuberculosis and typhoid fever and participated in organizing services in the hospital.

We had Jewish doctors and I remember their names: Dr. Goldenberg, Dr. Wald, Dr. Gross, Dr. Laks. There were also two Jewish nurses. Bronka Dzia Lowska is the only one I recall.

We had people who were able to conduct the service.

The hospital authorities gave us a room for the High Holy Days so that we could conduct the services with dignity.

The atmosphere was filled with emotion.

As I recall, there was a great deal of crying and asking of questions that had no answers.

In my hospital pyjamas, I went to the displaced persons camp to get a shofar, after they had finished using it.

The machzorim, Torah and shofar, were provided by the Joint Distribution Committee.

Mendel Good is a survivor living in Ottawa.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

IDF pioneers lived history

By AURA HERZOG

The first Rosh Hashanah in the State of Israel was indeed a new beginning – not just of a new year, but of a new chapter in the life of our people. As we ushered in the year 5709, we marked so many firsts – for the state, for its government, for its army and for its people.

For my husband, Chaim Herzog, and me, that first year was interwoven with the ups and downs of our new state's military fortunes. I worked in the scientific warfare unit of the fledgling IDF, where my boss, the renowned scientist Aharon Katzir, concentrated on developing fighting tools from primitive supplies. Pharmacies across Jerusalem were called upon to provide the raw materials for what would become Molotov cocktails, a staple in our arsenal during the war.

Chaim would soon be appointed the first head of military intelligence. His challenge would be the development of a professional intelligence capacity to aid the army in its battle efforts. The War of Independence raged, with two truces – between June 11 and July 9, and between July 18 and Oct. 15. Our personal lives as newlyweds were subsumed in the historical drama unfolding before our eyes, in which we participated. To quote from the title of Chaim's biography, we were, indeed, "living history."

Several recollections stand out for me as I think back to those tumultuous days.

On May 14, 1948 itself, as the state was declared by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, I was at the office of the scientific warfare unit. Having just recovered from injuries and shock suffered in the bombing of the Jewish Agency a few months earlier, I was worried about my husband in the front line. We turned on the radio and listened with bated breath. Nobody knew what the name of the state would be, and we were thrilled that its name was Israel. There we were in embattled Jerusalem, with the Arab armies' siege closing in around us. Nevertheless, we were elated. Our excitement and joy were indescribable.

During the first truce, Chaim came to take me out of Jerusalem. At the time, the city was besieged, with hardly any food or water. In his uniform, Chaim hid a precious supply of cigarettes for his father, Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog. Later, my father-in-law would make them last by cutting them into little butts, which he smoked.

We left Jerusalem via the new Burma Road, which Chaim had helped create in the hills leading to Jerusalem, as an alternative, safe route. Along the way, we encountered men unloading stacks of supplies, and literally carrying them into Jerusalem on their backs because the road had not yet been linked.

We returned to Jerusalem during the second truce, and celebrated Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot there. Jerusalem and Tel Aviv were worlds apart. The first, most striking difference was the freedom with which water was consumed in Tel Aviv. In Jerusalem, the besieged city, water, the most precious commodity, was rationed accordingly. Our daily ration was one meager cup of water per individual. Food was in short supply, and during the siege, people literally cooked weeds for meals. But there was no panic. Jerusalemites were stoic and determined.

They took London during the blitz of a few years earlier as their example and inspiration. The agenda in Jerusalem was simply survival. In contrast, Tel Aviv throbbed with the pulse of the national effort. The government and army were headquartered there throughout the first year, and for the sake of national morale, Tel Aviv tried to function normally.

When I first came to Tel Aviv from besieged Jerusalem, the culture shock disturbed me. Sitting at a dinner party as if life was normal was jarring for someone who had just left the bleak, harsh reality of Jerusalem.

Another vivid recollection is the luncheon I held for my brother-in-law Abba Eban, then our newly appointed ambassador to the UN and Washington. Eban, who was on a brief visit to Israel, wanted to meet Yigal Allon, the army's brilliant senior commander in the Negev region, so as to get a first-hand briefing on the military situation. There was no food to be had. Chaim was at the central military base in Hulda, and it was there that I was able to obtain a live chicken for the meal. I had never even held one, and I wondered how I could arrange for it to be kosher-slaughtered, plucked and prepared for cooking. In all my many ensuing decades of entertaining, including 10 years in the presidency, this was the most difficult assignment.

An unforgettable memory is of my first encounter with a battlefield, just a few hours after the fighting stopped. In late October, Operation Hiram for the liberation of the Galilee, led by (Canadian) Ben Dunkelman and the Seventh Brigade, had just ended. Chaim was called back from his leave, and I spontaneously joined him. Not much of a romantic trip, with both of us in uniform…There, for the first time, I saw the horrors of battle, as we surveyed the charred remains of people and animals in the fields around Sasa.

Israel in that first year was at its best. This epic struggle was "to be or not to be." The dream of 2,000 years was at stake. To fulfil the promise, people were prepared to sacrifice everything and do anything.

Looking back, I realize how many of our worries and crises over the last 50 years pale in comparison to the challenge before us then. There was enormous spirit. Our wish to win and to prevail was extraordinary. We weren't going to be beaten.

Aura Herzog is the wife of Chaim Herzog, Israel's sixth president. She served as a lieutenant in the IDF during the War of Independence.

Norman Gardner
City Councillor
extends best wishes to constituents & friends for a Happy and Healthy New Year

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Fax: (416) 952-3995
E-mail: bennec@parl.gc.ca

Roberta Jamieson, Ontario Ombudsman, extends best wishes to the Jewish community during the New Year.

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Art Eggleton
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Happy and Healthy New Year

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Rob Davis
Councillor,
York-Eglinton
City of Toronto

I would like to extend to you and your family my best wishes for Peace, Happiness and Good Health in the New Year.

(416) 397-9261

Councillor Rob Davis

Réflexions de Naïm Kattan

NAÏM KATTAN

C'était ma première année à Paris. En août 1947, j'avais quitté Bagdad grâce à une bourse du gouvernement français. Quelques mois plus tard, ce fut la naissance de l'État d'Israël. Les juifs de Bagdad constituaient près du quart de la population de la ville. Au cours des années précédentes, ils étaient sujets aux ennuis et aux vexations des autorités. Après la naissance d'Israël le harcèlement de la police s'était appesanti. S'ils voulaient partir, il fallait qu'ils laissent de fortes sommes qui garantiraient leur retour. Notre communauté, fondée par les prisonniers de Nabucatnetsar à Babylone, vieille de vingt-cinq siècles, était bien intégrée à la vie du pays. Elle comptait non seulement des commerçants et des artisans mais un nombre considérable de fonctionnaires, de médecins, d'ingénieurs et de journalistes.

À Paris, me sachant seul, un des copains que j'ai connu à l'Association des étudiants juifs, m'invita dans sa famille pour célébrer *Roch Hachanah* et *Yom Kippour*. La veille de *Roch Hachanah*, avant de me rendre chez lui, je suis allé à la synagogue de la Victoire. Immense temple qui me semblait plus proche des églises qui parsemaient la ville qu'aux synagogues de Bagdad. J'avais vécu un judaïsme intime, familial. À peine s'il avait conscience de lui-même. Nous étions juifs comme les autres étaient chrétiens ou musulmans. Nous mangions cacher sans nous poser de questions et nous allions naturellement à la synagogue le chabbat et les jours des fêtes. Nous étions, certes, différents mais les autres aussi l'étaient et nous ne cherchions pas à nous distinguer.

À Paris, je découvrais, petit à petit, une communauté qui ne s'affichait pas. La guerre et surtout l'occupation étaient trop proches pour qu'on n'ait pas peur d'être découvert et dénoncé. D'où le désir, peut-être inconscient, de se cacher, de passer inaperçu. Je ne pouvais pas encore reconnaître les noms ashkénazes et, de par leurs patronymes, les juifs étaient aussi étrangers pour moi que les autres Français.

À la Sorbonne, où je faisais mes études, il m'était souvent arrivé de dire que j'étais juif, car, Irakien, on me prenait pour un musulman, et deux ou trois fois, des étudiants me répondaient: moi aussi! Puis, quand la conversation se prolongeait, prenant un caractère personnel, j'écoutais le récit, toujours douloureux, des pertes et des disparitions encore récentes. D'une manière ou d'une autre, tous mes interlocuteurs juifs étaient des miraculés.

Ce soir-là, dans la synagogue, des sièges étaient encore disponibles à l'arrière. Je cherchais, dans le *siddour*, la page que mon père avait l'habitude de m'indiquer. Notre hébreu était rocailleux, proche de l'origine, à proximité de l'arabe. Ici, la prononciation des consonnes mais aussi des voyelles me semblait différente, déformée. Ainsi, on pouvait être juif autrement.

Je ne reconnaissais personne dans la salle. À la synagogue de Bagdad, j'avais l'habitude de retrouver camarades de classe, cousins, oncles et tantes. Là j'étais seul, inconnu. Dès que je tardais à tourner la page, perdu dans la recherche d'un texte introuvable, mon voisin, sans prononcer un mot, me l'indiquait. Me prenait-il, à l'instar de mon père, pour un enfant ou, peut-être plus simplement, pour un étranger, cherchant la parole dans une nouvelle contrée? Malgré son apparente étrangeté, il était assurément un juif. Ce voisin inconnu était donc un proche. Sentiment nouveau et exaltant. Par les récits que j'écoutais, je ressentais l'abîme

[Suite à la page B13]

My Best Wishes to the Jewish Community for a year filled with Peace, Good Health and Happiness

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Councillor
HOWARD MOSCOE
GLORIA MOSCOE
and their family
wish everyone health and peace in the New Year

Heather and I wish you a Happy & Healthy New Year

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May your New Year be filled with health, happiness and peace.

Members of the Ontario Liberal Caucus wish the readers of The Canadian Jewish News a Happy and Healthy New Year

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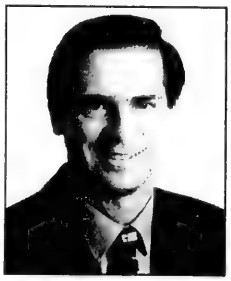

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Souvenirs d'un Sépharade né à Bagdad

[Suite de la page B12]

tragique qui avait englouti dans son tourbillon tant de juifs. En contrepartie, il y avait heureusement, des juifs bien vivants, qui sortaient de l'anonymat. Sans connaître mon nom, mon voisin m'indiquait l'inscription de notre commune parole, de notre commune lecture. Il appartenait à une communauté que je découvrais, que je voulais faire mienne, à laquelle je souhaitais appartenir.

Mon copain habitait rue de Flandre, à l'époque quartier pauvre ou, du moins, populaire. Je cherchais dans ma mémoire d'enfant, les équivalents des mets de la célébration de l'année nouvelle. Seul dans l'immense ville, j'étais cependant chaleureusement accueilli. Je déchiffrais, peu à peu, les codes de l'intimité familiale, la manière de rendre grâce, de dire la joie. Autour de moi, des rescapés qui quelques années auparavant se cachaient, taisaient scrupuleusement leur identité, vivaient quotidiennement dans la terreur d'une dénonciation.

Cette année était cependant différente de toutes les autres. Le père de mon ami inventa une bénédiction, récita le *chehehiyanou* pour la naissance de notre État, l'État d'Israël. "Allons-nous nous y rendre?" demanda la jeune soeur de mon copain. "Nous y réfléchissons" répondit sa mère. Tout au long de la soirée, on commentait les dernières nouvelles d'Israël, la joie prenant le pas sur la tristesse de compter encore les morts, de subir encore des sacrifices. Je cherchais vainement à chasser de mon esprit les ombres, les pages sombres qui me submergeaient. J'imaginais comment ma famille vivait cette nuit de renouveau, de grande attente et d'immense espoir, la joie qui, assombrie par la peur et la menace, ne pouvait s'exprimer que dans la clandestinité et le silence. La mémoire du *Farhoud*, le pogrom qui s'abattit sur la communauté juive de Bagdad en 1941, était encore vivace. En esprit, je m'appliquais à évoquer les années qui ont suivi, l'espoir en dépit des vexations, l'attente d'une délivrance qui allait certainement venir mais qui tardait, qui tardait. Mais ce soir, nous étions tous unis dans la joie. Nous célébrions librement, dans l'exaltation, le grand événement. Enfin un pays qui allait ouvrir pour nous ses portes.

Mon ami Yéhouda m'envoyait les journaux de Bagdad. Chaque paquet portait son poids de misère. On arrêtait des juifs, les traduisait devant les tribunaux sous l'accusation de sionisme-communisme et on les expédiait rapidement derrière les barreaux. Je scrutais les listes, craignant égoïstement de tomber sur le nom de mon frère, de mes cousins, de mes amis. Chaque envoi contenait son lot de drames, de mauvaises nouvelles et de cauchemars.

Quand les paquets tardèrent à venir, une lettre de Yéhouda me parvint de Téhéran où il s'était rendu clandestinement. Juste après *Soukkoth*, passant devant le café *La Source*, au boulevard Saint-Michel, où se retrouvaient les étudiants irakiens musulmans, l'un d'eux m'interpella et, sur un ton de sympathie et de commisération, me dit: "Je regrette pour ton frère". Livide, je demandai ce qui lui était arrivé. "Tu ne le sais pas? Il vient d'être condamné pour sionisme-communisme". Effondré, inerte, je n'arrivais plus à bouger. Et voici qu'un autre étudiant lui rétorqua, sans doute pour me calmer: "Je n'ai pas vu son nom moi. Tu dois te tromper". "Mais si, insistait l'autre, je dois encore avoir le journal". Ce n'est que plus tard que Yéhouda m'apprit qu'il avait soustrait du lot le journal portant l'horrible nouvelle.

Jusqu'au départ massif des juifs d'Irak pour Israël en 1951, y compris ma famille, ce jour de *Roch Hachanah* demeurera pour moi un jour de partage, de déchirement. D'une part, la naissance d'une année, d'une ère, d'un pays et d'autre part le commencement de la fin d'une communauté, la menace qui pesait sur son existence puis le départ forcé des descendants des exilés de Babylone, ceux-là mêmes qui avaient réussi à transformer leur exil en nouvelle naissance puisqu'ils ne s'étaient pas contentés de survivre mais avaient construit une communauté, rédigeant le *Talmud*, bâtissant une civilisation, le temps. Désormais, ils allaient poursuivre dans la terre d'où ils avaient été emmenés prisonniers, leur aventure séculaire et écrire, en Israël, une nouvelle page de leur histoire. Pour moi, *Roch Hachanah* annonçait et annonce toujours, comme pour tous les juifs, en même temps que la fin, la naissance du temps.

Romancier, essayiste et critique littéraire au journal Le Devoir, *M. Naïm Kattan jouit d'une grande notoriété dans les milieux littéraires et culturels francophones du Québec et du Canada.*

Naïm Kattan recalls Rosh Hashanah in Paris, where he had gone from Baghdad as a student in 1947. He speaks of his welcome in the Ashkenazi community and his fears for his family, who were facing anti-Jewish government policies in Iraq.

Happy New Year

May 5759 be a time of prosperity, peace and good health for you and your family.

Councillor Joanne Flint
and Ward 9 Assistants
May Doyle
&
Mary Moldaver

Premier Mike Harris, his Ministers and Caucus
extend sincere best wishes for a happy and healthy new year and a future of peace and prosperity for the State of Israel.

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

CHENSTOCHOVER AID SOCIETY
Best wishes to our sisters and brothers and families for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. Peace in Israel.
Ephraim Fiksel - President — Abe Neufeld - Vice-President
Hyman Fishman - Recording Secretary

The Ostrovtzer Independent Mutual Benefit Society
extends best wishes to our members and friends for a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year

The Officers of the
Shedlover Young Men's Society
would like to wish all their members and their families a Healthy and Happy New Year
L'Shanah Tovah
President: Martin Fruchtman
Secretary: Harry Wolfson

A not-so temporary stop in Sweden

By RABBI DOW MARMUR

By Rosh Hashanah 1948, I was supposed to be in the newly established State of Israel. For, as soon as we returned to our native Poland in 1946 from the Soviet Union, where we spent the years of World War II, my parents sent me to a hachsharah (training) kibbutz to prepare for life in Eretz Yisrael. But a couple of months before Israel was born, an opportunity arose to go to Sweden.

So, only weeks after my bar mitzvah, my parents and I left for the country then considered to be next-door to paradise. We insisted that it was to be a temporary sojourn, for we were staunch Zionists, weary of living as part of a hounded minority and determined to settle in the land of our ancestors. Our aim was, in the words of the song I was taught in the kibbutz, *"livnot ulehibanot bah"*, (to build the land and be built-up by it).

It didn't work out that way. We opted for being built up in Sweden instead – as a transition only, of course. Half a century later, my mother still lives there.

Among our first Swedish acquisitions was a short-wave radio. As we didn't know the language of the country, we had to catch the news in other tongues. The BBC World Service was our window to the world. It brought the latest information about the establishment of the Jewish state and the attack by its enemies. Those who understood what was going on listened with long faces.

Jews in Gothenburg, the Swedish town where we settled, organized a meeting to mark the proclamation of Israel. As I knew Hebrew, I was asked to recite suitable poetry. I recall declaiming *El Hatzippor (To the Bird)*, the youthful poem by Chaim Nachman Bialik. As intended, his words evoked yearning and hope in the audience: "Do you bring greetings from my brothers in Zion, my brothers both distant and near?" I could only feel the distance.

Those attending were mostly new immigrants like ourselves. Many were concentration camp survivors, rescued by the Swedish Red Cross in the closing days of the war. The established members of the Jewish community tolerated us.

[Cont'd. on page B15]

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CELEBRATING THE TORAH
A crowd dances with the Torah on Simchat Torah at Kikar Malchei Yisrael, now Kikar Rabin, in Tel Aviv in 1975. **[photo provided by Keren Hayesod - UIA]**

The Board of Directors and Staff of
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Wish their clients, volunteers and Friends of JF & CS a Healthy, Happy & Peaceful New Year
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שנת שלום, בריאות ושגשוג
א גוט און גענצונט יאר

Sweden stands in for Zion

[Cont'd. from page B14]

some even patronized us, but we felt no warmth coming from them. We thought we identified with the poet who yearned for Zion, but, in reality, we wanted to feel at home in Sweden.

The confused feelings were reinforced by the experience of our first High Holy Days in the new country. All the seats in the main, very beautiful, synagogue in Gothenburg were reserved for old-timers. Only the last row and a few extra chairs at the back were available to us.

The German-style liberal service was strange and the language of the sermon incomprehensible. We felt the seemingly unbridgeable distance both from Zion and from our fellow Jews.

So, on the second day, we sought out the alternative, Polish-style service. As it was held in a small room, most of us had to stand outside. The grown-ups talked; I listened.

The major topic of conversation was the assassination, a few days earlier, of the UN mediator in the Middle East, Count Folke Bernadotte. He had been in charge of the Swedish Red Cross at the time of the rescue operation which, in April 1945, brought a few thousand women out of Nazi concentration camps to Sweden. Now the hero had been murdered – by a Jew! His UN mission may have been muddled and misguided, but did he really deserve this?

The matter concerned me personally, because at school I was made to feel responsible for what had happened. I had neither the knowledge nor the language to defend myself. But I understood enough to realize that, in the minds of many of my peers and some of my teachers, the crucifixion 1900 years earlier and the assassination of Bernadotte were of the same ilk. And the Jews were being blamed for both.

I had, therefore, reason to listen carefully to what the grown-ups were saying that Rosh Hashanah. Their arguments went along the line of, "If our people did it, they must have known what they were doing."

And then the rationalizations: Didn't the Swedish king, Gustav V himself – to whose family Count Folke belonged – show pro-German sympathies during the war? And wasn't the king's grandson, married to a German princess, in favor of Nazism? Perhaps the Red Cross action was a hypocritical cover-up for anti-Semitism? Sober analysis did not come naturally.

Of course, I couldn't repeat any of it at school. My task there was to conform and get on, for I realized that the only way out of my marginality was to learn the language and nod in agreement. Defending my people was not on my agenda.

The yearning for Zion receded. I had neither the background nor the maturity to cope with the tension between commitment to my people and the desire to become part of the new world opening up before me.

It took years before I found my way back, first to Jewish practice and then to Zionist commitment. Only when I had gained sufficient distance from the world that turned Sweden into a haven could I return to the path that led to the Land of Israel.

Fifty years later, I get "the best seat in the house" on Rosh Hashanah. One of my aims is to help Jews to strengthen their commitment to their Jewish heritage, the Land of Israel and the country in which they are rooted. Another is to make our congregation hospitable to newcomers.

But the experience of that first Rosh Hashanah in Sweden has never faded from my memory. It may also have colored much of what I have been saying and doing ever since.

Rabbi Dow Marmur is the spiritual leader of the Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto.

FARBAND OF LITHUANIAN JEWS
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wish their members, friends and families
a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year,
and Shalom for Israel.
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wish all their members, friends and families
a Happy New Year.
Harold Feldman, Past-President Howard Chandler, President
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The Chmielniker Society and the Sisterhood
extend best wishes to our members and friends
for a happy, healthy and peaceful
New Year

The Pultusker Landsmanshaft of Toronto
wish all our members
and Jews everywhere
Le Shonah Tovah Tikatevu.
May the New Year bring peace and prosperity to the State of Israel
Pinchus Rywiec, President and The Executive

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We hope and pray that the New Year
השנה החדשה
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Best wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year are extended to all members and their families, and to the Jewish community by the
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L'SHANA TOVA TIKATEVU

The joyous moment was spent in jail

By SASSON MAYER

***

My last Rosh Hashanah in Iraq is still unforgettable in my memory. I spent it in jail in Basra.

For more than 2,000 years, Jews kept dreaming, praying and hoping for the day when Jews would no longer be *avadim* (slaves) in foreign lands: "Next year in Jerusalem."

That day finally came in May 1948 after a long wait, and when I remember that precious and historical day and recount the cataclysmic chain of events that followed, I begin wondering if it was the fulfilment of a dream or the result of long hard work and planning.

That day in Baghdad, while some Jews were glued to the radio, turned to its lowest volume, listening to David Ben-Gurion proclaiming the establishment of the State of Israel, the rest were carrying out their daily routine with great anxiety and fear.

The night before, rumors had circulated about a possible mob attack on the Jews. The Jewish underground movement that had been formed in Baghdad in 1941 now took precautionary measures. The well-trained *shoora* boys were stationed in defensive positions, supplied with hand grenades, molotov cocktails and handguns. Few as their supplies were, they were determined that "never again" would Jews give in without a fight.

The underground told the chief rabbi, as head of the community, about their precautionary measures. They explained that any attack would end in bloodshed. The rabbi, in turn, passed the message on to the minister of the interior and the chief of police.

The government of Iraq, concerned that things might get out of hand while its army was marching on Palestine, declared martial law and forbade all gatherings. The immediate danger passed, but the catastrophe was yet to come.

The Iraqi army was quickly defeated by the army of the young Jewish state. This ultimately brought to the surface the devious intentions of the Iraqi government with regard to the Jews. Jewish government employees were fired, import and export licenses were

denied to Jews and prominent people and some community leaders were brought in front of military courts all over the country and charged with all kinds of ridiculous and fabricated crimes.

Heavy fines and jail terms were levied, and other actions were taken to devitalize the Iraqi Jewish community, the oldest outside Israel, dating back more than 2,500 years to the destruction of the Temple and the Jews' exile by Nebuchadnezzar.

After the destruction of the Temple, Jews sat in Babylon weeping for their loss, but after a while, they followed the advice of their prophet to settle. They worked and flourished. They learned and studied. They built synagogues and became the centre of Jewish learning and knowledge, with several famous academies. One of their most magnificent contributions to Judaism was the Talmud.

But they never forgot Jerusalem and Eretz Yisrael. They kept communicating, travelling and sending all kinds of help, donations and shlichim to synagogues and yeshivot. Eretz hakodesh tzedakah boxes were found in all synagogues as well as many Jewish business places.

For many years, the connection to Eretz Yisrael was strictly religious and historical, but that changed after the first Zionist Congress in Basel in 1897, when a more nationalistic Zionism began to take root among Iraqi Jews. The first "Zionist organization" in Iraq was established in 1920 by six organizers, of whom my father was one. The organization received the official approval of the British viceroy in Baghdad.

Jews continued emigrating to Palestine, despite British restrictions. After the bloody pogroms of 1941, Zionism began influencing the thinking of the entire Jewish community, the young in particular.

Self-defence training began, modern Hebrew lessons were introduced, weapons were accumulated, messengers came and went from Israel, and wireless communication was established with Eretz Yisrael.

The underground's activities were governed by strict secrecy and its existence was never revealed, even though many members had been arrested, tortured and imprisoned. Despite the secrecy, the prime minister in Baghdad once said in Parliament he was sure Israel had spies in Iraq.

In 1949, a young boy who was a former member of the undergound was arrested. Under pressure, or perhaps enticement, he became an informer and led police to colleagues and friends involved in the Zionist cause. This caused a serious crisis in the Jewish community: many members of the underground went into hiding, and orders were given to suspend all activity.

However, 200 boys and 70 girls

[Cont'd. on page B17]

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Most Iraqi Jews relocated to Israel

[Cont'd. from page B16]

were arrested in the late hours one night shortly thereafter. Parents heard nothing about the whereabouts of their sons and daughters. They turned to the chief rabbi, as head of the community, for answers, but he showed no sympathy and offered no help. After demonstrations and heated debate, the rabbi was forced to resign.

The new leader, who was not a rabbi, was a prominent personality with extensive connections in the government. He walked a tightrope, as his actions were scrutinized by both the community and the government. He secretly cooperated with, and recognized the de facto influence of, the underground movement headed by Israeli shaliach Mordechai Ben Porat. Some calm followed, and the arrests and raids stopped for awhile.

Although sympathetic to the Arab Palestinian cause, the majority of the Iraqi population was apathetic regarding the government's actions against the Jews. Jews and non-Jews had continued working together – it was business as usual – and no violence or incidents were reported.

But as the situation with the government became more desperate, the majority of the community, and especially the young, lost hope and began fleeing to neighboring Iran. Hundreds left every week. Many were caught and thrown in prison. Entire families began selling their houses to pay smugglers for their freedom.

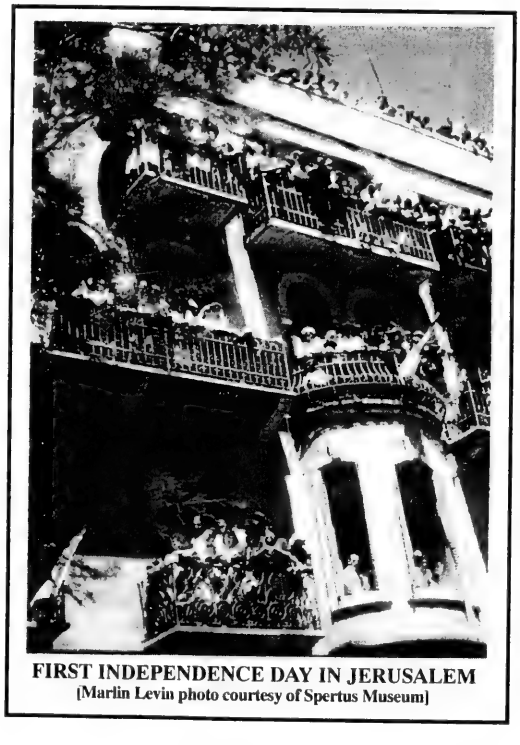
While the contumelious treatment of the Jews continued, conflicting rumors abounded. Finally, the government issued a law allowing Jews to renounce their Iraqi citizenship and go to Israel. However, this was followed a year later by a decree freezing and confiscating the assets of Jews who applied to leave Iraq as well as those living abroad. Suddenly, everything Jews owned was plundered, and they became desperate.

A few days before my last Rosh Hashanah in Iraq, six of us – including Ben Porat – were captured. We spent two weeks in prison, hiding our true names and identities, and then we were released on bail and returned to Baghdad. A few months later, 10 days after I left for Israel, the few remaining underground members, including Ben Porat, were arrested.

After cruel and lengthy torture, Ben Porat was released on bail and fled to Israel. Two of the other arrested underground members were not so fortunate. They were tried and sentenced to death by hanging. One of them was Joseph Basri, my best friend and superior. When he went to be hanged, he shouted: "Long live the State of Israel."

So the end came to a once influential and prosperous community of 200,000 Jews. Most went to Israel, with the rest scattering all over the world, including 1,500 families who today live in Canada. Only about 350 Jews remain in Baghdad.

Sasson Mayer, who is retired, was a member of the Zionist underground in Iraq and now lives in Toronto.



FIRST INDEPENDENCE DAY IN JERUSALEM
[Marlin Levin photo courtesy of Spertus Museum]

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Rebirth and renewal in a new St. Paul pulpit

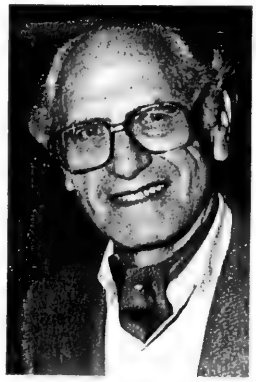
By RABBI GUNTHER PLAUT

The fall of 1948 was the time when I moved to St. Paul, Minn. My previous pulpit had been in Chicago, and now my family and I made the trek to what appeared to us as a far away state, located somewhere in the northwestern region of the country. I had been in Minneapolis very briefly some years before, on a Zionist mission, but never came to know St. Paul until we settled there.

I still remember the problems I had with my Rosh Hashanah sermon. It was my first appearance before the whole congregation – the oldest in Minnesota, tracing its roots to the middle of the previous century.

There was no question in my mind that my first sermon had to deal with the rebirth of the Jewish state, after the long hiatus when our people had wandered from land to land and half of them had finally perished in the Holocaust. I briefly wondered whether it was wise to start my ministry with a message on history and politics rather than a purely spiritual subject, especially since my new congregation – so I was told – had not been known as Zionist.

I had faced the same dilemma once before, in my first pulpit in Chicago. I was still a student and had made application to the Washington Boulevard Temple. While working on my sermon, I received the telephone call from the vice-president of the congregation. In essence he said that whatever I was planning to talk about, I should avoid mentioning the subject of Palestine (this was in 1939). Even though I had no experience in American congregational life, I felt that I had to resist this unwarranted advice and plunged ahead, preparing a lecture on the future of Jewish settlement in the Promised Land. Somewhat to my surprise, I did get the job.



Now, nine years later, I decided on the same solution. St. Paulites might be cool to the new Jewish State, but the members might as well learn right from the start that they had a Zionist as their new spiritual leader.

The state had a small population and its harsh climate during the winter kept it isolated from many of the nation's concerns. Until Hubert Humphrey became the mayor of Minneapolis, that city had been described by an American sociologist as "the capital of American anti-Semitism." But this was changing. Humphrey had made a difference and had become a senator, destined to have a huge influence on the Democratic party — along with his associates Eugene McCarthy and Walter Mondale. For some 15 years, that small and remote state became the hub of American Democratic politics – it was an exciting time, and it was my good fortune to have the major players as good friends.

But the existence of Israel had not yet penetrated the consciousness of Jew or gentile. In the fall of 1948, the Berlin Airlift and possible war with Russia were the big news, not little Israel. During the early '50s, I was probably one of the very few who had ever been to Jerusalem, and even the Holocaust had not as yet become a memorable presence. In time, the Zionist impulse came not from St. Paul, but

[Cont'd. on page B19]

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Rebirth and renewal in St. Paul pulpit

[Cont'd. from page B18]

from Minneapolis, with its splendid Talmud Torah and a cadre of old-time Zionists.

For the last few years it had been the custom of my new congregation to hold its High Holy Days services at the downtown Civic Auditorium – the synagogue being too small to hold the growing membership. But when we arrived at the spacious edifice downtown, we noted that people had assembled outside rather than inside. A serious hitch had developed. The night before, the redoubtable Roy Rogers had given a performance on the stage of the auditorium and of course, had done it on the back of his famous horse, Trigger. Whether it was the heat wave Minnesota was experiencing or the unfamiliar surroundings of the auditorium, or perhaps it was an intestinal upset – in any case, the horse had relieved himself at the very end of the performance and the damage was not discovered until the next morning when the crew came in to prepare the place for our Rosh Hashanah service. Unfortunately, while the Torah speaks on various occasions of a *re'ach ha-nicho'ach*, the "sweet smell" of a sacrifice, what Trigger had left behind could not be so described.

Eventually, the hall was deemed fit for our occupation, but the memory, preserved by our olfactory senses, lingered. It was an inauspicious start for my rabbinate. But all went well that night, despite everything.

I reminded the congregation that once upon a time an Egyptian inscription preserved the judgment of a Pharaoh concerning the fate of the Jewish people. "They are no more," was its sense, "the Jews have been erased from history."

But we have come back, I said. Though we have suffered grievously, we are still alive, and now the establishment of a Jewish state proclaims it to the world. That was the essence of my message and I still remember how I concluded it with a quotation from William Henly:

"It matters not how strait the gate,/ How fraught with punishment scroll,/ I am the master of my fate,/ I am the captain of my soul."

All that happened 50 years ago, and not many are left to remember the night when Roy Rogers had preceded our Rosh Hashanah service. For me, Jews had indeed become masters of their fate once again, and I was happy that my new congregation embraced the message. Perhaps they had been waiting for it.

Rabbi Plaut is rabbi emeritus at Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto.

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Shoppers stop by the table in Tel Aviv in 1955 to peruse the inventory of Rosh Hashanah greeting cards. The exchange of cards was an important and a popular way of keeping in touch with family and friends throughout the world.

[Moshe Friden photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

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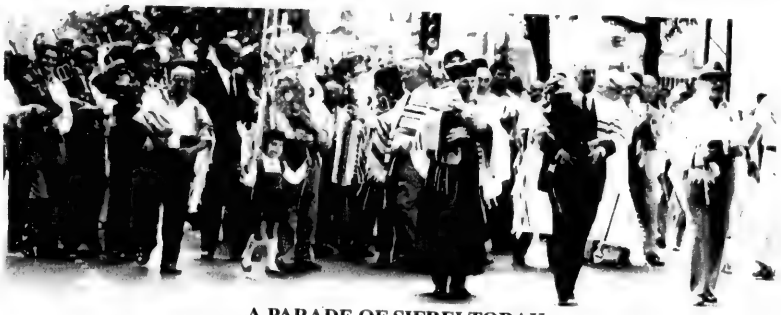

A PARADE OF SIFREI TORAH
Simchat Torah *Hakafot* outside the Great Synagogue in Tel Aviv in 1975. [Keren Hayesod - UIA]

New year a blur of activity

By RABBI ERWIN SCHILD

Why can I not recall Rosh Hashanah 5709 with any degree of precision? What could have been more momentous and memorable than the day that would usher in the first complete year of a sovereign Jewish state since Rome reduced Judea to a vassal state in 64 BCE?

I can recall the feverish emotions of the preceding months: the ecstasy, the fear, the doubts, the despair, the elation, the glory and the sorrow. But the details are blurry, like a newsreel run at triple speed.

There are reasons. I had just completed my first year as rabbi of the Roumanishe Shul Adath Israel. Twenty-eight years old, I was weighed down by the burdens of a congregation, awed by the anticipation of preaching to a packed synagogue, and overwhelmed by what I considered to be my heavenly ordained mission to call back my flock to Jewish responsibility. I was still teaching 15 hours a week at the Yeshiva Torah Chaim. I was working on my MA at the University of Toronto, in the Near Eastern department, where the rise of a Jewish State, its viability and its right to exist were hotly disputed topics. I had responsibilities as a husband and as the father of two little children.

The euphoria I had experienced on Pesach did not last. As we sat down to the seder, we knew a Jewish state was about to be proclaimed. Its name was still a secret or had not yet been decided. The United Nations had voted for the partition of Palestine. The Yishuv had accepted reluctantly the offer of sovereignty over a truncated homeland. At the seder, it was exhilarating to feel that we were truly reliving the original exodus, waiting for the signal of liberation. The hour struck. Contrary to the well-meant advice of friendly governments who advocated deferral and patience, the provisional government declared the independence of Israel.

The ensuing months had been hectic. Fear rose in our throats. The Arab world had embarked on the destruction of the fledgling state. The outlook was dim.

The Talmud reports a journey to Rome undertaken by Rabbi Eliezer, Joshua and Gamliel to plead the

[Cont'd. on page B21]

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Defying the odds, Israel would live

[Cont'd. from page B20]

Jewish cause at the Imperial Court, then at the height of its power. A sneering official told them not to bother: "In 30 days, there will be no Jew left in the world!" A similar boast by Arab leaders hung over Israel. The spectre of the Shoah rose again.

Our community reacted. Jews in Toronto, and hopefully the world over, would not let the young state down. We raised money. Volunteers left to fight with the newly created defence force of Israel. Weapons of war, arms and ammunition, artillery, tanks and airplanes were desperately needed. I remember a congregant of ours who worked for Levy Auto Parts telling us how the firm, headed by prominent community leaders, tried to help the Jewish defence forces. Day and night, arms for Israel were secretly assembled at the plant and shipped.

Each day we scanned the newspapers and listened to the radio to keep abreast of the rapidly unfolding events. There were victories and defeats, and heavy sacrifices. Our friend, Joseph Levin, who had come to Canada via the same route as I, namely as an interned enemy alien, had gone to Israel to join the struggle for the creation and the defence of the Jewish state. We heard sad news: he fell in battle — a hero's death.

Only a desperate people would absorb such casualties which eventually amounted to one percent of the Jewish population. But Israel had stood firm. Contrary to the predictions of doom, contrary to the odds projected by an anticipated imbalance of power and numbers, the Jewish forces seemed to prevail. Each day brought new hope. By the time Rosh Hashanah was upon us, we knew that while the struggle was not yet over, while many more exertions and sacrifices were required, the challenge would be met. Israel would live. It was a new era, not a new year, that we were about to greet.

However, we were not doing so well on the home front. It was more than a problem: it was a scandal. The Jewish community seemed to be turning its back on the Holocaust survivors. For several years, we had pleaded with the government to relax immigration restriction so as to make the immigration of the so-called displaced persons possible. At long last, the authorities had yielded. Holocaust survivors were being admitted in greater numbers. At Rosh Hashanah time, hundreds were expected in Toronto.

Housing was exceedingly scarce. The move to the suburbs, which would change the Jewish demography, was only just beginning. Canadian Jewish Congress appealed to the members of the community to open their homes and to make accommodations available. Immigrants were basically on their own, really dependent on the willingness of the Jewish community to help them find affordable rental housing or at least temporary hospitality in spare rooms of Jewish homes. To our embarrassment, it appeared the community did not rise to the challenge. Incidents of discrimination were reported: some Jewish landlords refused to rent to DPs. Families with children had an especially hard time finding accommodations.

In my sermon on Kol Nidre night, I appealed to my congregants to open hearts and homes to newcomers. I appealed to their Jewish solidarity and to their sense of shame: these "displaced" Jews survived death camps, hid in the forest and endured cold and starvation; what will they think of us, Jews living in a land of plenty in spacious homes but unwilling to share with those who bore our affliction and suffered the Jewish fate for us? I held out Israel as an example: the embattled state had opened its doors to a flood of new immigrants.

Too bad one has to be old to remember Rosh Hashanah 5709! What a privilege, though, to have lived when Israel was born! And to talk about it, 50 years later.

Rabbi Erwin Schild is rabbi emeritus at Adath Israel Synagogue in Toronto.

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And there was nothing more delicious than my mother's chicken soup or my Aunt Clara's desserts.

After all these years, all the familiarity, I still look forward to Yom Tov with great excitement. Now I celebrate these times with my family and I know these traditions will carry on.

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It was a special personal time

By BERNARD J. SHAPIRO

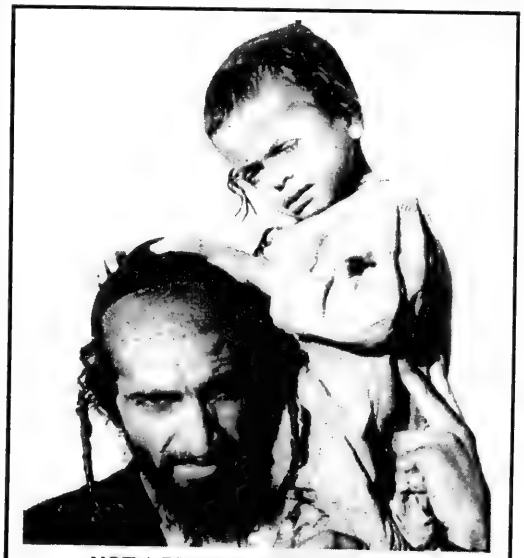
I cannot even pretend to remember the details of my or my family's celebration of Rosh Hashanah after Israel came into existence. I can only assume that, in my mother's home, the somehow magical aromas of honey cake and raisin-filled challahs mingled with the more usual sounds and smells of preparations for a regular shabbos to signal that something special was at hand.

It was, of course, not only the food. New clothes were bought, our tallaisim were washed and pressed; my brother and I speculated, yet again, on how long the synagogue sexton would be able to sustain the grand final blast of the shofar; and we all promised ourselves that we would be "better" in the coming year than we had been in the one just ending.

Although I am sure that Israel was very much on our minds as well as in both our hearts and our conversations, Rosh Hashanah 1948-49 remains in my memory not connected with Israel so much as with an occasion in my own life – my bar-mitzvah. This special event in my life, and in that of my twin brother Harold, had taken place some months earlier on Shavuot. Rosh Hashanah 1948-49 was for me, therefore, not so much Israel's first Rosh Hashanah as an independent state as it was my first Rosh Hashanah as an independent adult – at least religiously speaking.

This "growing up" was supposed to be a great opportunity, a time when I would in some unspecified and certainly unarticulated way "step out" of my parents' shadow into a spotlight of my own. This was not my experience, for at home nothing had, in fact, changed. I continued to be "sent" to school, "sent" to Hebrew school, "sent" to piano lessons, "sent" on messages, "sent" to visit relatives, and "sent" to collect for the Combined Jewish Appeal and the Jewish National Fund. I do not want to suggest that all of this was some kind of burden

[Cont'd. on page B23]



NOT A BURDEN, JUST PRECIOUS
A father carries his son en route to Jerusalem on a holiday pilgrimage in 1951. [photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

Bar mitzvah associated with Israel's birth

[Cont'd. from page B22]

– some of it was, and some of it was not. In all cases, however, there was no consideration of personal choice.

Of what avail, therefore, was it to be bar mitzvah? In what way could I break out – however slightly – from the established routines? I certainly could not decide to abandon the synagogue, to drop out of Hebrew school, or to give up the piano. There were unwritten but not for that reason less strenuously enforced rules and standards about all of that in our family. Was the imagined freedom of post-bar mitzvah to be entirely illusory?

No – at least not during Rosh Hashanah 1948-49. I decided that what I could do, was raise my own standards beyond that of the family circle. I would walk the several miles to shul and back - forcing not only a grudging admiration but, perhaps more importantly, a delay in the midday meal. I would arrive at shul before services actually started thus accentuating or, at least, drawing attention to (in my own mind) the arrival of my parents some time later. I would "daven" harder if not more sincerely.

Fatuously, I admired myself! No one else seemed wildly impressed. After all, they knew better – they knew just how long I would be able to sustain the new "me". I, however, was delighted – not to say smug. I had shown to myself that there were opportunities for choice, and where there are opportunities for choice there are chances for renewal – the real promise of Rosh Hashanah.

In retrospect, I recognize how self-absorbed I was and must have seemed to those around me. My parents, however, "understood," and they nodded knowingly to each other, confident that I would eventually understand that developments in what had finally become Israel were more important – both to me and to all Jews – than developments in my own life. I am sure that they were right, and although only Winston Churchill had the nerve to identify – at least rhetorically – events in his own life with movements in world history, I continue to associate my bar-mitzvah with the founding of the State of Israel. In some sense, the State and I share a birth year. The State will always be the number of years old that I am post-bar mitzvah!

Bernard Shapiro is the principal of McGill University.

COMRADES IN ARMS
A present and a former soldier dance together on Simchat Torah.
[Ziv Koren photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

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A family legacy continues its journey

By ZIPPORAH DUNSKY SHNAY

A letter to my grandson, Jacob, born 11 Adar 5758-March 9, 1998:

I would like to share with you some memories of my early experiences celebrating Rosh Hashanah. You are the fifth generation of my family in Canada, yet your roots are deeply embedded in centuries of Jewish tradition.

My zayde, Chatzkell Stillman, came to Montreal in the early 1920s, a few years later than my mother Esther. Their stories of "stealing the borders" are full of courage and determination and horror, but that must be left for another time.

My mother and my father, Shimshon Dunsky, were idealists, Zionists and secular Jews. We spoke Hebrew at home in anticipation of making aliyah to Israel where my parents owned land. The use of Hebrew also reflected their firm conviction that language, history, literature and cultural traditions expressed the essence of Judaism rather than ritual observances and adherence to strict interpretations of Halachah.

And this legacy was what I came to regard in adult life as one of the many contradictions or paradoxes which nevertheless had a positive influence on me.

In Folks Shule this secular orientation was both broadened and deepened. We studied Tanach, which was our history and our culture, ours to know and explore, for that is what shaped us and gave us form, substance and a philosophy of life.

We learned about the Jewish life cycle and the importance and beauty of the holidays. To this day, I have an abiding love for the holidays and their traditions.

We celebrated Rosh Hashanah with pomp and respect. A holiday mood prevailed. Guests shared our table, festively set with flowers, wine, crystal and china, and traditional foods, specially prepared, were served. We exchanged visits with other members of the extended family – aunts, uncles, cousins. My great-aunt Bassie's home figures largely in this tableau, as does the exchange of yom tov greetings as we walked up and down Park Avenue, the major artery of our predominantly Jewish neighborhood.

Rosh Hashanah was one of the few holidays on which we attended shul. My father, my brother and I went, but my mother rarely joined us. I suspect that the reason my father went to shul on Yom Kippur, was to honor his father-in-law, my Zayde Chatzkell.

Chatzkell was the gabbai of the shul which stood at the corner of Colonial and Duluth. It had in a previous incarnation been a stable for horses, and still had an earthen floor in the entry. Once inside the entrance, the first door on the left led to the men's section, the second door to the women's. My zayde sat by the *mizrach vant* (eastern wall) and a seat was reserved beside him for my father. I don't recall where my brother sat. He probably didn't sit at all but ran around with cousins, as I did after visiting with my great aunt, other aunts and their friends in the *vaiberishe shul* (women's section). Their warmth, the delight with which they greeted me, and the ambiance of the shul remain with me to this day.

As do the arguments that raged every year during the United Jewish Appeal drive in the shul. I could not now describe the specifics.The arguments and quarrels were only peripherally related to the appeal itself. They more accurately reflected old feuds and grudges that were generational and seasonal.

It was pure theatre. This annual spectacle was played out against a backdrop of old animosities and shifting alliances, feuds that must have originated in the shtetl. Many

[Cont'd. on page B25]

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PEACE

Shtetl spirit in Montreal

[Cont'd. from page B24]

of the shul members were *landsleit*, people who came from the same or neighboring shtetlach. Some were communists, and saw no contradiction in this anti-religious, revolutionary ideology and attending shul on Rosh Hashanah (or any other holiday). Zionists, Communists, and people of every stripe of Orthodoxy argued, yelled and prayed together.

Did they bring this culture – this argumentative spirit – from the shtetl and transplant it to Montreal? The tensions and the energies which were so abundant in my zayde's shul – are they not the same as those that characterize and define Israeli politics today? The volatile mix of politics and religion, secular life and Orthodoxy, have long been characteristics of Jewish life, and have largely contributed to a creative and dynamic society. Jewish life is full of hope and diversity, a tapestry, rich in texture, color and content.

Much to rejoice

As Israel celebrates its 50th anniversary, there is much to rejoice in, and much to worry about. Will the peace process provide permanent solutions to what seem to be intractable problems? When I reflect on internal divisions that increase in intensity as the quality of public debate diminishes, my zayde's shul comes to mind, with all its politics, internal divisions and majestic angers. And I know that this debate is an integral part of the fabric of who we are as a people and how our history has played out, and will no doubt continue to exist in the future.

I bequeath this richness to you Jacob, a Judaism that is dynamic, full of hope and realism, diversity and constancy. I pass it on to you as it was passed on to me, this chain of continuity. There will be many milestones along your road as you find your own path. Acquire the knowledge, the tools and vocabulary to fulfil yourself within this Jewish framework.

May you enjoy your memories of all the Rosh Hashanahs to come in your life, as I did (and do) in mine.

Zipporah Dunsky Shnay is the executive director of the Jewish Public Library in Montreal.

CASTING AWAY ALL SINS INTO THE WATERS

These observant women perform the traditional tashlich ceremony by the seaside in Tel Aviv, in 1955.

[photo by Fritz Cohen courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

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A final goodbye to my lost world

By SIMCHA SIMCHOVITCH

It was in the beginning of September 1948 when I received my renewed foreign passport and entry visa to France.

After spending close to two years in the half-ruined city of Wroclaw, in Lower Silesia – it was acquired by Poland after the war – I decided to leave Poland. The hopes of rebuilding the destroyed Jewish community – even in a miniscule form – by establishing a number of compact and productive Jewish settlements in the former German territories, had dimmed and faded.

The ruling Polish Workers' Party – the name the communists gave themselves – was relentless in its drive to liquidate or swallow all its rivals and allies alike. Just like in the Soviet Union, the remaining Bundists would soon be forced to join the ranks of the "United" Workers' Party, the Zionists would be outlawed and the religious barely tolerated.

Many of my friends and colleagues began to leave Poland illegally, heading for the DP camps in the American or English zones of Germany. As I was with my wife and our 3-year-old daughter, I was not eager to participate in the adventure of stealing across the border of Czechoslovakia into Germany. Luckily, our passports were renewed and we were provided with refugee visas for France. By the end of October we would be leaving Poland, the land of our childhood and youth, and of our great calamity.

It was a week before Rosh Hashanah, and suddenly I was overcome by an urge to see for one last time my hometown, Otwock, 28 km south of Warsaw. I had visited the town several times before, right after our repatriation from the Soviet Union. I thought then that I had seen enough of the abandonment and destruction of my home and people. But now, before leaving the country forever, I could not help my reaction. I had to say goodbye to the ruins of my lost world.

There was no time to lose. I boarded an overnight train to Warsaw and there, in the morning, I took the fast electric train to Otwock. I arrived at midday at the familiar Otwock train station. Before the war, a long row of droshky, their drivers mostly Jewish, waited on the square in front of the station, ready to take travellers to the different hotels (called pensionaty) of the resort city.

Now the square was nearly empty, with only two or three droshky and a single taxicab waiting in rain for passengers. I passed them silently and turned to the road leading to the former Jewish area below the railway tracks and the central bazaar.

Here behind the railway ramp, 8,000 Otwock Jews were gathered on Aug. 19, 1942, and dispatched in cattle cars to the death camp of Treblinka. Right there, at the corner of Yoselewicza Street, still stood the apartment building where I spent my childhood and youth.

I had left my home at the age of 18, in the first week of September 1939, never again to see my parents, my little brother and three younger sisters who had remained behind. By mid-September I arrived with two friends in the city of Lutzk, in eastern Poland, which

[Cont'd. on page B27]

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Jewish district in ruins

[Cont'd. from page B26]

was soon occupied by the Red Army. After a few months I registered for work in central Russia, and later on, after the Germans attacked the Soviet Union, I moved to Uzbekistan and Kirgizia, in the southern regions of the country, where I lived until my repatriation to Poland in 1946.

In Otwock, I approached the house where I had lived – a long, two-storey brick building formerly occupied by close to 20 Jewish families. In the front were the stores or shops; behind and on the upper floor, the living quarters. A vaulted gate led into the spacious courtyard that teemed with lively, noisy children in the summertime. I entered the yard and was stricken by the surrounding emptiness and silence. A few of the dwellings were somehow renovated and occupied, the rest were empty, with broken or nailed boards on the windows and doors.

I continued further on Yoselewicza Street and was again amazed at the unbelievable destruction. Most of the Jewish houses, among them some two- and three-storey structures, had been taken apart and cleared to the ground, leaving several open spaces, with grass already sprouting. I wondered why so many good houses levelled to the ground. People could at least have moved in and made use of them.

On a nearby side lane I approached the ruins of the Otwock mikvah, the ritual bath-house. Beside it stood a remnant of a small synagogue — Reindorf's Shul, it was called. The four walls of the shul were still intact, with recognizable outlines of the folk paintings on the walls — various biblical animals and a huge mythical leviathan in centre.

During the German occupation the building was used as a stable for horses. The other much larger synagogue of this Jewish quarter, on nearby Kupietzka Street, was used for worship until the ghetto was liquidated. It was then burned or taken apart together with all the houses on the street. I found the same silence and abandonment in the former courtyard of the Otwock chassidic rabbi, further on Yoselewicza Street, where I used to attend the High Holy Days services with my father

By nightfall, I was exhausted from inspecting on foot the ruins of the Jewish district. Here and there I encountered some Poles willing to talk. They were all from other parts of the city and had moved in recently. They could not provide any information on the people I had known and had cherished. Hurriedly I returned by train to my lodging in Warsaw, leaving the visit of the other part of the city for the next day.

[Cont'd. on page B28]

The remnant of the Jewish cemetery in Otwock, 1997.

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Street marked by two beautiful shuls

[Cont'd. from page B27]

The upper part of the city, above the railway tracks, was always considered rich and more prominent. The whole area here was covered with pine trees, divided into villas, *pensionaty* and several sanatoria for tuberculosis sufferers. On the prominent Warszawska and Reymonta streets were two large and beautiful synagogues built by Jewish philanthropists. Both synagogues were burned down by the Germans soon after their entry into town.

There, in separate villas, lived the renowned chassidic rabbis: the Rabbi of Modzic and the Kozhenitzer Rebbe. Not far from them was the Centos, a Jewish orphanage that was bombed on the first day of the war, and the Zofiowka hospital for the mentally ill. And there, in a wooded area behind Reymonta Street, was the large memorial stone on the mass graves of over 4,000 Jews murdered just after the main body of the Otwock community was sent to Treblinka.

These Jews were driven out of their basements and attics, where they had been hiding for some time. They were assembled in an open enclosure at the police station of the *Judenrat* until a detachment of German gendarmes arrived – usually twice a week – to execute them, men, women and children. They were led, 10 to a row, to the open pits and shot, layer upon layer, during the month of Elul, in the Jewish year of 5702 (1942).

I had seen enough, and my personal knowledge of what happened was supplemented by the gruesome stories of several survivors I had met. I returned to Warsaw the same day and was back in Wroclaw next morning.

Rosh Hashanah had come and I put on my holiday suit and walked towards the nearby Jewish centre, where several hundred Jews – survivors and returnees from the Soviet Union– had assembled for the New Year's service.

Our own fault

Many thoughts crowded my mind as I stood hesitantly at the threshold of the Wroclaw synagogue. Should I go in and pray and ask forgiveness from a God that allowed the wanton murder of millions of my people, most of them pure and blameless, pious and observant in all the precepts of the Torah? What kind of merciful Father and King is He that decreed such a fate to His servants? On the other hand, maybe we should blame ourselves for the lot that befell us? It was our own fault that we did not foresee or prevent the Holocaust.

Here I was, together with several hundred thousand other Jews, who fled at the outbreak of the war to the Soviet Union, and most of us survived and returned to Poland. Where were our leaders, religious and secular alike, who did not pay attention to Hitler's open threats of annihilation of the Jewish people? How could they be so blind not to see the writing on the wall after the Nuremberg laws, Kristallnacht, the Anschluss of Austria and parts of Czechoslovakia? An organized mass exodus to Russia, or Romania in the first months of the war, or even later, when the borders were still not entirely sealed, could have saved the main body of Polish Jewry. And myself, why did I abandon my parents and my siblings to save my own skin? Blame them, I thought, our leaders and ourselves and not God...

Through the open doors I heard the solemn, familiar tunes of the High Holy Day prayers and I recalled the days of my childhood when I stood in the Otwock synagogue beside my father, wrapped in his large tallit, reciting aloud the prayers and confessions from his machzor. And I saw the fully packed shul of the Otwock Rebbe lit by tall, dripping candles set in sand boxes. And I heard the cries and well wishes of the women, my mother and her neighbors, in our courtyard on Yoselewicza Street, on the eve of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Slowly I entered the Wroclaw Synagogue, to be together with my people, the remnant, to join them in their anguished memorial prayers and calls to Heaven.

Simcha Simchovitch is a poet and writer who survived Hitler.

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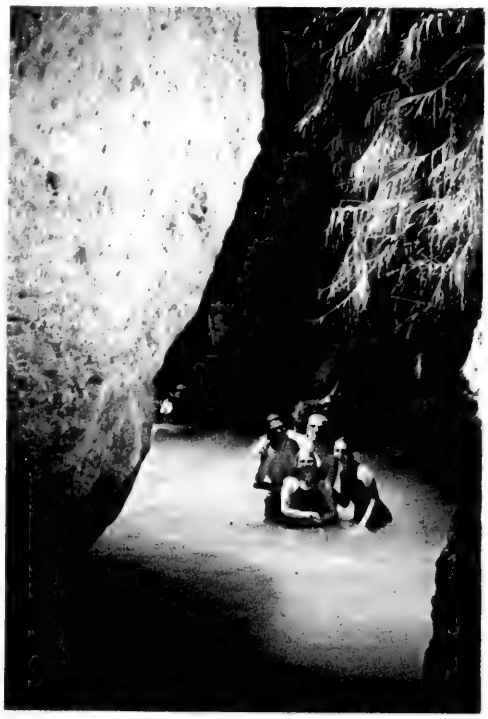

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KAPPAROT AND TASHLICH

These two different scenes depict two traditional High Holy Day customs. On the left, the symbolic Kapparot ceremony is performed on the eve of Yom Kippur, 1979. On the right, a handful of men have gathered around a well in Tel Aviv for the ceremony of Tashlich.
[Fritz Cohen photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

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Bombs, not the shofar, sounded in Jerusalem

By RABBI ABRAHAM SOFFER

We celebrated Rosh Hashanah 50 years ago on the same days, Monday and Tuesday, as we will this coming year. As a resident of besieged Jerusalem in 1948, I recall that there was not much of a celebration.

I remember my mother's anxiety about whether my father, who was an army officer, would join us for the "apple dipped in honey" on the eve of the holiday. Would he be able to take my younger sister, my brother and me to the synagogue the next day to listen to the sound of the shofar? Would we have enough food to fulfil the obligation necessary for the holiday? Would the elderly water carrier bring the two buckets of water allotted to each family before candlelighting?

Five months prior to that Rosh Hashanah, on the eve of Shabbat, the 5th of Iyar, David Ben-Gurion proclaimed and established the State of Israel. But the people of Jerusalem didn't hear the sound of the shofar on that Rosh Hashanah 50 years ago. They did hear the sound of bombs, shelling and gunfire. People died from the shellings by merely walking in the streets. In fact, an elderly friend of our family, who helped my mother by bringing in the allotted amount of water, was killed by a shell some weeks later on his way to our home, carrying these buckets.

The basic necessities of life did not exist. The bank notes, which we now call money, also did not exist. If you were fortunate and did not smoke, you would use the five cigarettes per week allotted to male adults for your "purchasing power." Half a cigarette bought one slice of bread.

monuments of the brave drivers, their defenders and the shelled trucks are visible on the road to Jerusalem to this very day.

I recall that my father, who was in charge of the army food supply to the Jerusalem units, took me for a visit to the front line.

At the Mandelbaum Gate, the Jewish positions were on one side of the street and the Jordanian legions on the other. There were approximately seven guns along a two-block position. The guns were fired through small "lookouts" in the wall by soldiers running from position to position in order to give the impression to the enemy that a large number of guns were present. Behind these gunners sat 50 to 60 soldiers banging heavy logs of wood onto empty barrels to create an unbearable sound. All of this was done to camouflage a terrible lack of ammunition. The Jordanians could have walked across the street, had they known what was taking place. Yet the Almighty had different plans for Jerusalem.

Rabbi Abraham Soffer is the educational director of Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto.

'Purchasing power' lost

At the beginning of the siege, as a 10-year-old boy, I had a chicken coop in our backyard. The eggs the chickens produced were used by my mother to purchase the necessities of life, and on the eve of Yom Kippur that year, a shell struck the chicken coop and our "purchasing power" disappeared. We were left only with the five weekly cigarettes.

This was a time when we were not sure if we would survive. Tears rolled down people's faces when a few fortified trucks broke the siege from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. For every truck that entered the city, four others were destroyed. The

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Vancouver Jews were a Zionistic bunch

By GERTRUDE ZACK

It is 9:30 a.m., Oct. 4, 1948 – 5709 on the Jewish calendar – and we have just left our home for Rosh Hashanah services at the synagogue.

On that day 50 years ago, my husband Sidney and I had been married for just over seven years. We had a daughter, Rosalind, who was 4 years old, and a son Richard (now Rafi), who had just celebrated his first birthday.

Vancouver in those days was still a very small city, the entire population being somewhere around 320,000, with the Jewish population having grown from 2,740 in 1941 to 3,500 in 1948. That year, the first of 48 refugee children had arrived from Europe.

Most of those newcomers, now grown with children of their own, still live here as active and involved citizens. I recall teaching one pretty, but frightened young girl to read and speak English. She had survived the Holocaust and was a willing student.

The refugees in 1948 were principally from Europe, mainly from Poland and Czechoslovakia. They had travelled across Russia, fleeing in sealed cars and then by ship across the Pacific, seeking refuge in Canada.

Also around that time, under the auspices of Canadian Jewish Congress, there was a rescue scheme called Operation Flying Dragon, which was composed of more than 200 Jews who had left Shanghai and Kobe for Vancouver, after fleeing from the Nazis.

At that time, Vancouver boasted one large synagogue, the Scharah Tzedeck, which was Orthodox. Those who preferred a Conservative service met at the Jewish Community Centre for a number of years, until the soon-to-be-called Beth Israel Synagogue was dedicated in 1948 and built in 1949. There were also two very small ultra-Orthodox synagogues and an

evening Talmud Torah school, which I had attended for many years, going across the city by street car, four days a week after school and on Sunday morning.

My class had five boys and three girls, I think. The community had only recently, in the spring of 1948, built a new facility as a day school on Oak Street across from where the Beth Israel would be.

Our community was composed of Zionistic people with a vibrant Zionist organization, who together with the women of Hadassah (now Hadassah-WIZO), worked diligently to help the new state achieve its mandate and secure its borders.

In October, just five months after we had been glued to the radio when the State of Israel was proclaimed and endorsed by the United Nations, I could still recall the nervous excitement, the thrill, as each country was polled, and our disbelief as some voted yes where a no had been expected.

I was reminded of a very secret evening meeting that took place in the playroom of our home just months before, dealing with how we could raise money to purchase what was needed for the future Jewish state to survive. Extra funds were desperately needed for antibiotics and the other medications necessary for the injured.

While the debate was raging as to Who is a Jew? when the Law of Return was being discussed, the doctors in Vancouver were mobilizing as many resources as possible to collect and ship essential medications that were so desperately needed. They were also examining boys who wished to go to Israel to join the armed forces, some with and others without military experience.

As our Jewish leaders were dealing with the issue of "double citizenship," in Vancouver the Wingate Club met weekly to discuss and determine what measures could be taken to assist in any way possible. The UJA intensified its campaign and increased its requests for funds, as all were aware of the probable increase in immigration to Israel.

[Cont'd. on page B33]

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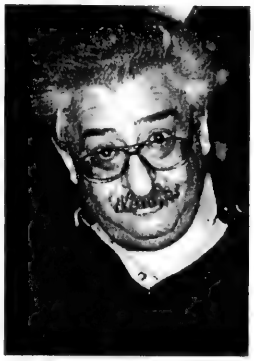
Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Socialism and the shul

By LARRY ZOLF

Rosh Hashanah 50 years ago was my most memorable. It was my first Rosh Hashanah in a synagogue in Winnipeg. I was age 13 and well on my way to being a milestone in my father's life. The war had drastically changed my father. Zastavia, the Jewish village that my father had memorialized in his book, *The Last of a Generation*, had been wiped completely clean of Jews by the Nazis and the Polish bandits who assisted them.

The Holocaust was a tremendous shock to my father. He had expected heavy Jewish losses but not of this magnitude. He brooded about it constantly; he felt he had to make a response to it.



Before the war, my father was a conventional socialist Zionist, a fully paid up member in good standing of Mapam, the left labor Zionist party. My father's links to Mapam were ideological and personal. Mapam was the only Jewish party who made room for Yiddish in their scheme of things. My father was western Canada's most prominent Yiddish writer and this Mapam policy counted very heavily with him. The legendary Zarubel, the founder of Mapam, was from my father's village and was a close, close friend.

[Cont'd. on page B34]

Rosh Hashanah in Vancouver

[Cont'd. from page B32]

As I prepared to go to shul that October morning, I kept wondering in what way the service that day would be different: what would be said, how the sermon would relate to this momentous event, as today would be the first Rosh Hashanah service since the declaration of statehood. Would the sermon deal with the trials and tribulations of this new miracle? Would the general atmosphere feel different for those attending the service? After all, after so many thousands of years, there again would be a Jewish state. Would the rabbi talk about the Arab rejection of the United Nations proclamation, as the Arab countries continued their attacks on this new land? Would any of these issues be discussed? Surely this event would not or could not be ignored.

I was not to be disappointed. The members of the congregation gathered in groups. The atmosphere was electric with a sense of urgency, of purpose, of history being made. A Jewish state had been born and it had to survive and prosper.

Hatikvah

The rabbi began by making reference with fervor and reverence to the fact that a Jewish state, Israel, had finally come into being. He talked about what it would mean to the world, but more importantly, he posed the question of what it would mean to the Jews of the world. I cannot recall his exact words, but that day was like no other day.

I can still visualize the rabbi's presence on the bimah, as he called on all of his congregation to stand behind the needs of this new Israel, whatever they might be, financial or even physical.

But my most vivid recollection that morning was that as the service concluded, we, men, women and children, stood as one to recite "L'Shanah Haba'ah b'Yerushalayim," concluding with the singing of the Hatikvah loud and clear with tears flowing unashamedly. We hugged and kissed anyone and everyone as we filed out to return to our families.

The wonder of the fact that I have lived to see this come about was with me for a really long time. And now in 1998, although there is still no complete or total peace, Israel is already 50 years old, and it continues to flourish and grow.

Gertrude Zack is an artist who lives in Vancouver.

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Saving souls from the delusions of socialism

[Cont'd. from page B33]

Before the war, my father's approach to life was purely socialist secular. My older brother Meyer did not get a bar mitzvah because bar mitzvahs, according to my father, were acts of superstition. Birthdays were not celebrated in the Zolf household because they were pagan contrivances. The laying on of phylacteries was considered barbarism and voodooism rolled into one. One attended synagogue only to bury relatives and friends.

These attitudes were officially endorsed by my father's Jewish socialist school, the Isaac Loeb Peretz Folk School. The school's Mothers' Union was always busy ferreting out religious superstitions that were being taught on the sly in the school.

My father, the socialist, of course could point to a life of Orthodoxy he had lived in Zastavia and which had been found very much wanting in the wake of the Nazi invasion and the slaughter of the innocents. Instead, my father had found his socialism comforting enough for most of World War II.

Things changed rapidly for my father when the British Labor party came to power in 1945. Until then my father could not believe a socialist could possibly hate Jews. Ernest Bevin, the all-powerful member of the British Labor cabinet, was both a socialist and a virulent anti-Semite.

The betrayal of the Jews by British socialists made my father begin to move ideologically and rapidly. Skull caps and prayer shawls were soon introduced to accompany the religious services held in the Zolf household every Friday night. My father disappeared on long walks with the Chassidim. My father secretly prayed at home, secretly prayed on the street, secretly prayed in the washroom of the Isaac Loeb Peretz Folk School.

My father had an agenda. My father was determined to save the Jewish boys and girls at his socialist school from the snare and delusion of socialism. In his classes, my father passed out lampoons and satires of socialism and asked the children to study them hard.

My father secretly introduced bar mitzvah training to the Peretz School. Now my father spent every spare second of every day with the Chassidim at the Beth Yakov Synagogue on Derby and Dufferin Streets, easily the worst slum area in Canada. Often my father and the Chassidim had to fight their way through gangs of Polish and Ukrainian toughs just to get into the Beth Yakov.

Of course, everything my father was doing on behalf of Orthodoxy was a firing offense at the school where he taught. The Peretz School, after all, was a socialist school and surely my father owed them some loyalty. But my father, on the other hand, saw only the socialist hordes depriving Jewish children of the sense of their Jewishness.

Not only did my father wish to save the souls of his pupils, he wished to save my soul too. My father enrolled me in the summer of 1945 in the rabbinical court of Rabbi Meyer Schwartzman, the Orthodox rabbi who made the salamis kosher for the Winnipeg branch of Chicago kosher salamis.

From then on, I would go to public school from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., have 4 to 5 off, attend my father's class in Yiddish literature from 5 to 7, then I was off to Orthodox immersion at the salami rabbi's place from 8 till midnight every day of the week. It was a gruelling, almost impossible schedule and I yearned to get free of it.

The high holy days approached. My father proudly presented me to the elders on the podium and they began to chant the prayers. I could not chant the prayers. I could not understand why they flipped the pages so often.

The elders, in turn, quite wrongly assumed I was a Jewish wunderkind, a wonder child. I don't know where they got that idea but maybe my father told them that. My father certainly told the elders I had memorized and delivered 100 pages of Bialik's *The Slaughter City* at only 6 years of age. I could therefore know the Rosh Hashanah service backwards and forwards, even after only one attempt.

But actually my father was having such a good time he forgot all about me. My father didn't see that I was suffering culture shock, that the bearded ones were scaring me half to death.

Then I was called up to read from the Torah all by myself. I could read Hebrew and understand a good deal of it, so my reading of the Torah portion was okay. But there were follow-up questions from the elders beside me on the podium. I tried to bluff my way through. I failed.

I fled the podium in tears. It was the worst afternoon of my young life. All I wanted to do was return to the bosom of socialism.

I told my father I did not want to be a rabbi and would like to be a socialist. My father humored me. I humored him back. I said I'd keep trying to be a rabbi. After all, it was Rosh Hashanah, a new year, a new challenge, a new blessing. My father was pleasant. My father was happy. Why shouldn't I be, was his philosophy.

I never did return to the Beth Yakov Synagogue. I finally fled the salami rabbi's emporium as well. My father's un-socialist activities at the school caught up to him and he was let go by the Peretz School.

Soon, very soon, I became a star scholar at the university and even the Peretz School socialists paid me tribute. My father felt avenged and was at last happy with me. But every Rosh Hashanah my father invited me to the Beth Yakov and cluck-clucked when I told him I had to study for exams.

I guess I never did get the taste of failure from my first Rosh Hashanah out of my mouth. The Beth Yakov had been built in Winnipeg in the 1880s and its characters seemed to date from that time. They were funny, pleasant men but to a 13-year-old their verbal shtick, their whispered aloud secrets, their relentless dialectics were scary, to say the least.

I'm not sure I could handle Rosh Hashanah services at the Beth Yakov today. All I'm sure is that I don't want to. One Rosh Hashanah at the Beth Yakov was enough for me.

Larry Zolf is host-writer of Inside Zolf *for CBC Newsworld Online.*

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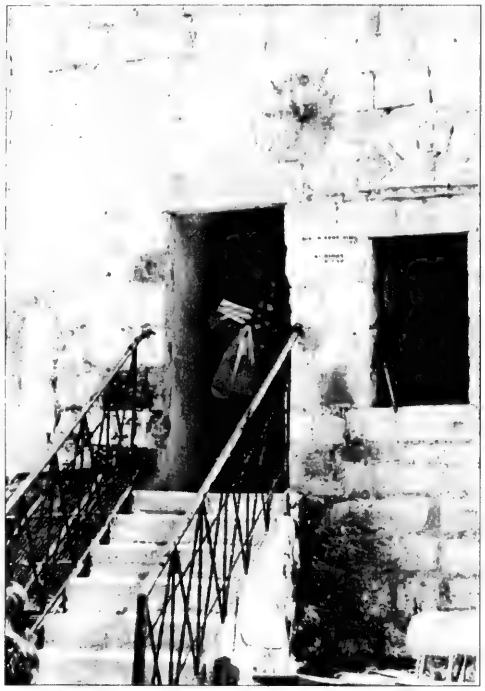

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The Year 5758 in Review

Church issues statement of repentance

Tishrei (Oct.)

EVENTS

• After Canada temporarily recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv, Israeli foreign minister David Levy promised to inquire into how Mossad agents had obtained forged Canadian passports in a bungled assassination attempt in Jordan on Hamas leader Khaled Meshal.

• Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin returned to Gaza after eight years in an Israeli prison.

• The French Roman Catholic Church issued a "statement of repentance" for its silence during the persecution of Jews in Nazi-occupied France.

• Three hundred war criminals from around the world were living in Canada, a Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration report indicated.

• At least 11 people were killed and dozens injured as rainstorms caused flash floods and accidents in Israel.

PEOPLE

• Bay Street lawyer and former B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) national president Brian Morris became the national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee.

• Baron Edmond de Rothschild, French-born financier, benefactor of Israel and Jewish causes and reputedly the wealthiest descendant of the legendary banking family, died of emphysema in Geneva at age 71.

• Alleged war criminal Ladislaus Csizik-Csatary, 82, a wartime member of the Royal Hungarian Police, was believed to have left Canada before being forced to face a formal deportation hearing.

•Rabbi Yitchak (Isadore) Twersky, Harvard professor and chassidic rebbe, died in Boston at age 67.

Cheshvan (Nov.)

EVENTS

• A $23-million plan to expand, renovate and integrate FEDERATION CJA and the YM-YWHA was unveiled in Montreal.

• Mel Lastman, long-time mayor of North York in the former Metropolitan Toronto, became the first mayor of the newly amalgamated City of Toronto.

• A B.C. Human Rights Tribunal ruled that although a 1994 column by *North Shore News* columnist Doug Collins about *Schindler's List* was anti-Semitic, it was not hateful enough to warrant action under the B.C. Human Rights Act.

• Greece dedicated a memorial in Salonika to the approximately 50,000 Jews from the city killed during the 1941-45 German occupation of Greece.

• Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged to expand the Jewish presence in east Jerusalem after a yeshiva student was killed in the Old City.

PEOPLE

• Oxford political theorist Isaiah Berlin, a giant in 20th century liberal thought, died at age 88.

Sir Isaiah Berlin

Kislev (Dec.)

EVENTS

• Carleton University professor Duncan McDowall reported that none of the wartime gold transferred in Canada between Swiss and Portuguese national banks was connected to Nazi loot.

• Hundreds of delegates from around the world gathered in Jerusalem for the 33rd Zionist Conference marking 100 years of Zionism.

• A strike by 150,000 Histadrut trade unionists paralyzed Israel.

• The Israeli government announced that the contractors who built the bridge that collapsed during the opening ceremonies of the 1997 Maccabiah Games will face trial. Four Australian team members were killed.

Uzi Narkiss

• Neal Sher, former director of the Nazi-hunting U.S. Office of Special Investigations, joined the federal Justice Department's war crimes unit as a special consultant. Former unit head Bill Hobson claimed the government was trying to prevent disclosure of the extent of anti-Jewish prejudice in the unit.

• One hundred prominent people across Canada received what the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) called the biggest mass hate mailing in Canada in years.

PEOPLE

• Uzi Narkiss, commander of the troops that captured Jerusalem in the 1967 Six Day War, died in Jerusalem at age 72.

• Ottawa accused Windsor resident Michael Baumgartner, 73, of lying about his alleged Nazi past as a guard at two wartime concentration camps in order to enter Canada in the 1950s and gain citizenship.

• Former Toronto activist Sam Resnick, who made aliyah in 1988, died in Netanya at age 75.

Tevet (Jan.)

EVENTS

• Netanyahu's government narrowly passed its budget, after foreign minister and Gesher party leader David Levy resigned.

• Defence Minister Yitchak Moredechai became the first senior Israeli official to pledge Israel's willingness to withdraw from southern Lebanon in keeping with 20-year-old UN Security Council Resolution 425, providing the Lebanese government asserts its sovereignty and ensures peace and security in the area.

• The biggest ice storm to hit Canada in recent memory struck Montreal and wreaked havoc with hydro and municipal services, inconveniencing thousands, and forcing many sick and elderly from their residences.

• Heavy snow and below-freezing temperatures hit central and northern Israel causing traffic snarls in Jerusalem and blackouts in Haifa.

• France marked the 100th anniversary of Emile Zola's famous *J'Accuse* letter defending alleged spy Capt. Alfred Dreyfus and denouncing French anti-Semitism and France's military and judicial establishment.

• Israeli Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman presented the recommendations of his committee on conversions. Its two main suggestions were the establishment of a joint conversion education institute to be run by Judaism's three major streams, and the establishment of special rabbinical courts by the Chief Rabbinate to perform the actual conversions. Netanyahu passed the document to the Chief Rabbinate "in the hope" it would be adopted.

• Israel's $50-million low-orbit Ofek 4 spy satellite fell to earth after a rocket booster malfunctioned.

• West coast businessman Harry Abrams launched a second B.C. Human Rights action against *North Shore News* columnist Doug Collins, this time for a series of articles in 1994 that allegedly were hateful to Jews.

PEOPLE

• The Chief Sephardi Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi Doron, visited Toronto and Montreal.

• Rabbi Pinchas Hirschprung, Montreal's chief rabbi for the last 28 years, died after a lengthy illness. He was 85.

• National Religious Party leader and Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Zevulun Hammer died of cancer at age 62.

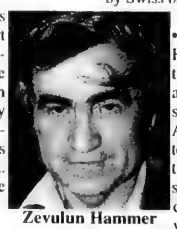
• David Orlikow, NDP member of Parliament for Winnipeg North from 1962 to 1988, died of pneumonia at age 79.

Shvat (Feb.)

EVENTS

• *The CJN* launched its own Web site.

• CJC and BBC leaders voiced qualified support for a controversial Holocaust gallery in the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, but said they were prepared to compromise with veterans opposed to the idea. (Plans for the gallery were eventually dropped.)



Zevulun Hammer

• The number of anti-Semitic incidents reported across Canada – 212 in 1997 – dropped for the second year in a row, according to the B'nai Brith League for Human Rights.

• The Ne'eman Committee's compromise proposal on conversion in Israel hit a roadblock when Israel's Chief Rabbinate rejected a key component calling for non-Orthodox participation in a conversion-training institute.

PEOPLE

• Montreal resident Mamertas Rolland Maciukas became the second alleged Nazi collaborator not to challenge Canadian government efforts to strip him of his citizenship.

• Joseph Baruch (J.B.) Salsberg, community activist, writer, former politician, died in Toronto at age 95.

J. B. Salsberg

• Legendary comedian Henry Youngman, king of the one-liner, died at age 91.

• Rene de Epelbaum, a founder of the Mothers of the Plaza del Mayo, which protested the abduction and killing of Argentinians – including her own three sons – during the military dictatorship of the 1970s and '80s, died in Argentina at age 77.

Adar (Mar.)

EVENTS

• Immigrant and Jewish groups criticized sweeping reforms proposed for Canada's refugee and immigration system. One of the 172 recommendations – that newcomers be required to speak French or English – would have prevented many now-successful immigrants from coming to Canada.

• The Roman Catholic Church apologized for church members who failed to do enough to help Jews against the Nazis in World War II. However, the church absolved Pope Pius XII of charges he ignored the plight of Europe's Jews.

• A U.S. district court ordered Iran to pay $247.5 million (US) in damages to the family of the late Alisa Flatow for Iran's role in financing a 1995 Islamic Jihad bus attack in Gaza in which Flatow was fatally injured.

• A $2.5 million (US) compensation package was earmarked for needy Holocaust survivors in Canada as part of a humanitarian fund created in 1997 by Swiss banks and businesses.

• Netanyahu called on Hebron's settler community to "abide by the law" after settlers claimed responsibility for smashing Arab-owned cars in the town. The incident followed two days of violence sparked by the shooting deaths of three Palestinian workers at a West Bank Israeli checkpoint the previous weekend.

• A report prepared for Canada's Justice Department found no evidence of anti-Semitism in its war crimes unit; the report was criticized by the unit's former head as a "whitewash."

PEOPLE

• Pioneering CBS television producer Fred Friendly died at age 82.

• Ephraim Halevy, Israel's envoy to the European Union, was named new head of the Mossad.

Nisan (Apr.)

EVENTS

• An Israeli cabinet subcommittee approved the establishment of a joint conversion institute to be run, as recommended by the Ne'eman Committee, by Judaism's three streams. The move was denounced by all sides, including Reform and Conservative spokespeople, who said it would delude the public into thinking the Chief Rabbinate had agreed to Ne'eman's recommendations.

• Former Vichy official Maurice Papon, 87,was convicted for complicity in crimes against humanity for his role in the deportation of Jews from wartime France. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

• A *New York Times* poll found 58 percent of Americans sympathize with Israel over the Palestinians, the highest level in 20 years of polling.

[Cont'd. on page B-37]

Celebrations mark Israel's 50th anniversary

[Cont'd. from page B-36]

PEOPLE

• Bella Abzug, 1970s Manhattan congresswoman, feminist, anti-Vietnam War activist and one of the first politicians to call for Richard Nixon's impeachment, died at age 77 in New York City.

Iyar (May)

EVENTS

• Israel and Diaspora communities marked the beginning of year-long celebrations to mark Israel's 50th anniversary.

• Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat reiterated his intention to unilaterally declare Palestinian statehood if no agreement is reached on permanent status when the Oslo timetable expires in May 1999.

• Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman announced changes that will allow Israelis greater freedom to invest abroad, including the ability to hold foreign bank accounts and take unlimited amounts of money out of the country.

• The far-right German People's Union garnered 13 percent of the vote in elections in the eastern German state of Saxony-Anhalt, the highest percentage won by a far-right party in state elections since World War II.

• Israel claimed the PA has deployed close to 50,000 security police in the areas under its control, 66 percent more than the number agreed to under the Oslo accords.

• In the most violent outburst since the September 1996 clashes between Israeli troops and Palestinian police, 10 Gazans were killed and 400 were injured as thousands of demonstrators rampaged through IDF roadblocks protesting Israel's 50th anniversary.

PEOPLE

• Moshe Ronen, 39, was acclaimed as the CJC's youngest president ever.

• Defence Minister Yitzchak Mordechai chose Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, 50, over Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i as Israel's 16th IDF chief of general staff.

Sivan (June)

EVENTS

• Plans to close Montreal's 40-year-old Israeli Consulate for budgetary reasons were scuttled, but the Israeli Foreign Ministry refused to rule out a future closure.

• A bill to abolish direct election of the prime minister, introduced by Likud MK Uzi Landau and Labor MK Yosi Beilin, passed preliminary reading with cross-party support. Netanyahu, along with Labor leader Ehud Barak, opposed the bill.

• Iran agreed to provide Hamas with $15 million (US) a month and called for the establishment of a Hezbollah-style organization to assist Hamas in carrying out terrorism, according to a Paris-based Arab newspaper.

• Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel was banned from "parliamentary precincts" for the duration of the current Parliament by all-party consensus.

• Rene Louis Gabriel Azais, a former French Nazi collaborator sentenced to death by a postwar French court, was reported to be allegedly living as Louis Robin, in Vancouver.

• Netanyahu ruled out the formation of a national unity government or holding early elections, saying he would persuade his coalition partners and the public to support a second West Bank pullback proposal once it is reached.

• Despite being labelled by the judge in the case as "missionaries for anti-Semitism and pro-white racism," Eileen and Claus Pressler won a libel suit against Westcom TV Group Ltd. and Salmon Arm, B.C. professor David Lethbridge.

• A Quebec Superior Court judge granted a permanent injunction against several Orthodox condominium owners in the Le Sanctuaire Mont-Royal complex, barring them from putting up their own sukkot on their balconies. The judge concluded that no religious rights were violated by the ruling.

PEOPLE

• Alfred Kazin, author, critic and embodiment of the New York liberal intellectual, died in New York City at age 83.

• Norman Spector, former Canadian ambassador to Israel, resigned as president and publisher of the *Jerusalem Post* to return to Canada to write for the *Globe and Mail*.

• Margalit Har-Shefi, a friend of Yigal Amir, was convicted of failing to attempt to prevent the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

Tammuz (July)

EVENTS

• A World Jewish Congress report indicated the Nazis looted between $9 billion (US) and $14 billion in Jewish assets in the 20 countries they occupied in World War II.

• U.S. public finance officials lifted a moratorium on sanctions against Swiss banks after settlement talks with Jewish groups over dormant pre-war Jewish accounts collapsed.

• A new demographic study showed Britain's Jewish population dropped to less than 300,000 for the first time this century. If current trends continue, Britain's population of 285,000 Jews could fall to less than 200,000 within 25 years.

• A new agreement between Germany and the New-York based Council on Jewish Material Claims extended compensation to 7,500 Holocaust survivors worldwide – including roughly 1,000 in Canada – who spent the war in camps and who were not originally covered by previous agreements or whose incomes were previously considered too high.

• The United Israel Appeal and the Council of Jewish Federations merged to create UIA Federation. The new organization will allocate funds for Israel and funds for national organizations and projects.

• The Knesset defeated two bills, including one submitted by Labor leader Ehud Barak, aimed at imposing military service on 28,000 haredi yeshiva students. Netanyahu, whose coalition depends on religious party support, opposed the bills.

• Stuart Eizenstat, the Clinton administration's Holocaust issues expert, appealed to U.S. public finance officers not to threaten sanctions against Swiss banks, saying such steps would hurt U.S. financial markets, damage U.S.-Swiss relations and delay justice for survivors.

• Israel refused to sign a treaty creating an International Criminal Court to prosecute war criminals, saying a provision defining the transfer of populations as a war crime was a politicization of the court in response to Arab pressure.

• Canada announced that $46.8 million over three years would be allocated to units investigating Nazi-era and modern-day war criminals, roughly double the previous budget.

PEOPLE

• Alleged war criminal Ludwig Nebel, 88, faced deportation for allegedly lying about his membership in the Austrian Nazi party and two stormtroop units.

• Ottawa community leader Gerald Berger died in Ottawa at age 60.

Av (Aug.)

EVENTS

• The re-interment of bones reputed to be those of the last czar of Russia rekindled old conspiracy theories that Jewish Bolsheviks were behind his assassination.

• The Knesset voted 60 to 6 to dissolve the legislature and force new elections before the elections scheduled for 2000. Most government coalition members boycotted the opposition-sponsored motion that needs to pass three more times with 61 votes each time.

• Israel sent IDF rescue teams to Kenya to help search for survivors in the rubble of the bombed U.S. Embassy in Nairobi.

• The World Jewish Congress arrived at an out-of-court settlement with Swiss banks on dormant World War II-era accounts worth $1.25 million (US). The deal forestalled sanctions threatened against the Swiss by some American state and local governments, but left unclear how the funds would be distributed.

IDF soldiers look for survivors in the bombed out rubble in Narobi, Kenya. [RNS/Reuters photo]

• Arafat reiterated his threat that unless the peace process advances significantly, he will proceed with plans for a unilateral declaration of statehood in May 1999.

• The Supreme Court of Canada ruled Quebec has no right to secede unilaterally from Canada under either Canadian or international law and that the federal and provincial governments would be obliged to negotiate with Quebec in the event of a Yes vote in a future referendum.

• Israel's Hotel Association reported the deadlocked peace talks have led to a 20 percent drop in tourism, worth $400 million (US), over the last years.

• PA cabinet ministers Hanan Ashrawi and Abdul Jawad Salah resigned from the cabinet, accusing Arafat's government of corruption and mismanagement.

PEOPLE

• Puppeteer and Emmy-award winning ventriloquist Shari Lewis died in Los Angeles from complications related to uterine cancer. She was 65.

• Holocaust survivor Egon Lansky joined the Czech Republic cabinet as deputy prime minister for European integration.

• The inventor of the Obus Forme backrest, Frank Roberts of Toronto, was shot dead in the parking lot of his factory. He was 68.

Elul (Sept./Oct.)

EVENTS

• A leading Dutch newspaper reproduced what it claimed were excerpts from five missing pages of Anne Frank's diary.

• Russian Jews braced for the possibility of renewed anti-Semitic incidents in the wake of economic turmoil following the virtual collapse of the ruble.

• Israel authorities "braced" for a possible increase in aliyah from Russia as a result of the economic turmoil there.

• Polish Catholic militants escalated their campaign against Jewish sensibilities at Auschwitz by placing more than 150 crosses on the perimeter of the former death camp.

• A bomb outside the Great Synagogue of Tel Aviv injured at least 21 people.

• The Jewish community of Halifax was called upon to assist in chaplaincy-related services for the relatives and friends of the Jewish passengers who perished among the 229 in the crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Peggy's Cove.

PEOPLE

• NHL hockey legend Bobby Hull denied a story by a Moscow-based newspaper that he had made anti-Semitic and anti-black comments.

The Year in Review was compiled by Daniel Wolgelerenter, pictured with son Nathan.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

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Jewish World Features

Fifty luminaries of Israel

By GIL TROY

For the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Scopus Award Tribute Dinner in Honor of J. Stephen Lipper last spring, I was asked to generate a list of 50 invisible guests of honor, luminaries who shaped Israeli/Jewish/Zionist thought. I offer this as one final tribute in the waning days of Israel's jubilee year.

This is one man's list – idiosyncratic and hardly systematic. I encourage people to take issue with me, for there were many worthy names which did not make the final cut. Even though 50 sounds like a lot, I filled the list pretty quickly (and ended up with 50 entries and 55 names).

The list is in no particular order, although I did group them into broad categories:

The Dreamers. Zionist thinkers who were insane enough to believe that their dreams could come true (and were largely right!)

The Architects. The men and women who helped establish the intellectual, social, cultural and political infrastructure of the Jewish homeland in Palestine, even before the official creation of the state.

The Founders. The heroes of the initial state-building effort.

The Shepherds. Leaders who have guided the state from a weak infant into the vibrant modern country it is today.

The Gurus. Thinkers, leaders, artists and popular figures who represent various aspects of the modern state.

Finally, I would note that at the end of the exercise, I was quite impressed – not with my efforts, but with the richness, the breadth, the depth of this small embattled country, which despite enduring so much trauma and tragedy has accomplished so much in so many realms.

The Dreamers

• *Abraham,* the first and simplest Zionist. God said *"Lech Lecha MeArtzecha,"* leave the land of your birth and he did.

• *Moses Hess,* early Zionist, friend of Hegel, author of *Rome and Jerusalem.*

Theodor Herzl

• *Theodore Herzl,* the founder of modern Zionism. His personal odyssey from liberal, literate, assimilated journalist and playwright to Zionist visionary reminds us that Zionism was rooted in 19th-century intellectual movements and triggered by a deep disappointment with the failures of emancipation and enlightenment.

• *Eliezer Ben Yehudah,* the man most responsible for reviving the Hebrew language.

• *Ahad Ha'am,* a cultural Zionist, who anticipated a state which was not the place all Jews lived, but which had a central role in Jewish life.

•*Ze'ev Jabotinsky,* a Revisionist Zionist, who emphasized the need for Jewish self-defence, and for a Jewish nationalism.

•*A.D. Gordon,* a Labor Zionist, who "returned" to Palestine, worked the land and reflects the great pioneering love of *Eretz Yisrael,* the land of Israel.

• *Henrietta Szold,* founder of Hadassah, constructive force behind the all-important youth aliyah. She helped teach Diaspora Jews how to make critical and ongoing contributions to their old-new land, their newly-revived ancient homeland.

The Architects

• *Berl Katznelson,* great figure of the Second Aliyah, founder of the newspaper *Davar,* leader of the Histadrut labor movement. He inspired labor Zionists to focus on building the infrastructure of their soon-to-be state.

• *Rav Avraham Kook,* chief rabbi of Palestine in the 1920s and1930s. He showed that you could be a traditionalist and a Zionist, while also teaching his followers to tolerate the secularists.

• *Hannah Senesh,* poet, resistance fighter. Her poems reflect the Zionist love for the land. Her martyrdom as a resistance fighter behind Nazi lines, reflects the Zionist demand for heroic Jews ready to face any enemy.

• *Chayim Nachman Bialik,* poet. His poems praise the beauty of the traditional Sabbath, condemn the passive and pedantic galut victims of the Kishinev pogroms, and point the way to a vital and new tradition of Hebrew Literature in the new Jewish state.

Chayim Nachman Bialik

• *Rachel Hamishoreret,* poet. Her achingly beautiful hymns to the Kineret (the Sea of Galilee) evoke the intense love the chalutzim (pioneers) had for the land.

• *Rabbi Judah Magnes,* American-born Reform rabbi, chancellor and first president of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He helped establish the intellectual infrastructure of the fledgling state, and was one of the most eloquent champi-

[Cont'd. on page B39]

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[Cont'd. from page B38]

ons of a bi-national state where Arab and Jew could live in harmony.

• *Prof. Martin Buber,* brilliant, German-born, eclectic philosopher whose love of Haskalah (Enlightenment), and Chasidism led him to articulate a mystical yet rationally-based Jewish nationalism.

• *Prof. Gershom Scholem,* the quintessential Israeli academic, whose controversial reinterpretation of Kabbalah, Jewish mysticism, showed how central, even seemingly arcane, intellectual and historiographical issues could be to the modern Zionist enterprise.

• *Natan Alterman,* poet. He warned that no state will be given to the Jewish people on a silver platter, anticipating decades of great sacrifice.

• *Saul Tchernechovsky,* poet. He took the Zionist rebellion against tradition to its extreme, celebrating the "Canaanite" nature of the new Jew.

Saul Tchernechovsky

The Founders

• *David Ben-Gurion,* Israel's "George Washington" and "Thomas Jefferson." He was not only its first prime minister, but a key player in charting the state's ideological position on such difficult issues as the relations between Orthodox and secular Israelis, and the relations between Israeli and Diaspora Jews.

• *Menachem Begin,* first non-Labor prime minister, and eternal symbol of the anger and courage Zionism mined from European anti-Semitism. Begin was bold enough to bomb Iraq's atomic installation without the world's permission and bold enough to accept Anwar Sadat's challenge to risk trading land for peace.

• *Moshe Dayan,* Israel's superman. The one man most responsible for changing Israelis' (and Jews') image and self-image.

• *Yigael Yadin,* soldier, politician, and archaeologist. He uncovered the Jewish people's roots in modern Israel's soil.

• *S. Y. Agnon,* Israel's Shakespeare. His dense prose was rooted in layers of interpretation and thousands of years of rich Jewish learning. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature for works that symbolized the young country's search for intellectual and artistic legitimacy.

• *Dr. Shimon Agranat,* American-born president of Israel's Supreme Court. He capped a distinguished career as the young country's premier jurist by chairing the commission that explored the heart-breaking chain of mistakes that led to the surprise attack on Yom Kippur, 1973.

• *Moshe Shamir,* novelist, playwright. His 1948 novel and play, *Hu Halach BaSadot (He Walked Through the Fields)* described the new, strong, defiant and gruff sabra, and was part of an explosion of Israeli literature from the Palmach era that helped define the new country as a real place rather than an enduring dream.

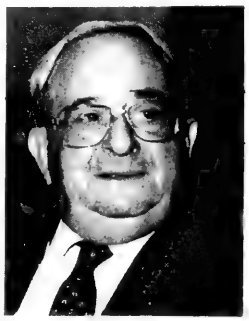
• Naomi Shemer, modern Israel's popular muse. Her songs capture the country's contradictory yearnings for normalcy and uniqueness, for the modern beauty of Tel Aviv, and the ancient power of Jerusalem the Golden, *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav.*

The Shepherds

• *Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin,* political leaders and Nobel laureates for peace. These bitter rivals functioned for decades as the yin and yang of the Israeli Labor party, and of the country itself. Peres, the Polish-born politician with European sensibilities, dreamed about a peace treaty which would make Israel the Switzerland of the Middle East. Rabin, the gruff sabra-soldier-turned peacemaker, rooted his dreams of peace in hard-edged strategic realities.

• *Shulamit Aloni,* civil rights activist, cabinet minister. She tried to translate the Zionist yearning for normalcy into policies by shoring up the state's secular identity and its commitment to human rights.

• *Teddy Kollek,* long-time mayor of Jerusalem. He shepherded the ancient city into the modern world while forging a model of Arab-Jewish cooperation in local, everyday matters.



Yitzhak Navon

• *Yitzhak Navon,* playwright and president. His tenure in office quietly but eloquently reminded Israelis of the rich and proud Sephardi tradition that shapes and enriches the modern state.

• *Rav Moshe Levinger,* founder of Gush Emunim. He synthesized

[Cont'd. on page B40]

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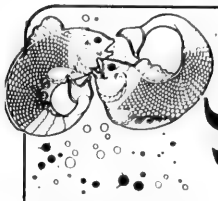

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

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[Cont'd. from page B39]

the biblical and Zionist love of the land, turning thousands of religious Israelis into modern chalutzim in Judaea and Samaria.

• *Rav Eliezer Shach*, spiritual and political leader of the Haredim. He helped shape the modern state while rejecting the modern world.

Rav Shlomo Goren

• *Rav Shlomo Goren*, chief rabbi of the army, and Ashkenazi chief rabbi. His presence at the liberation of Jerusalem in 1967 linked the ancient with the modern, the religious Israeli with the secular Israeli.

Rav Ovadia Yosef

• *Rav Ovadia Yosef*, long-time Sephardi chief rabbi, and spiritual leader of Shas. This first-rate biblical commentator appeals to Sephardim who want the state to remain publicly traditional, regardless of what they do in their private lives.

• *Tufik Tubi*, Arab Communist, knesset member. He served in the Knesset for so long he became its senior member. He represents the conflicting impulses of the large Israeli Arab population. They enjoy far more democratic rights than their brethren in other Middle Eastern countries, yet lack complete acceptance in the State of Israel.

The Gurus

• *Prof. Nechama Leibowitz and Prof. Yeshayahu Leibowitz*, the brilliant brother-sister academic team. She was the Bible teacher and commentator extraordinaire who exposed generations of secular Israelis to the joys of Judaism's most venerable texts and its values. He was the iconoclast and dissident who harshly critiqued the emergence of the modern fortress state. He re-

[Cont'd. on page B41]

Prof. Nechama Leibowitz

Prof. Yeshayahu Leibowitz

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Sharansky represents new Russian aliyah

[Cont'd. from page B40]

vealed the widespread crises of conscience provoked by Israel's military triumphs and tragedies.

• *Natan Sharansky*, politician, activist. The short, balding, modern-day Zionist hero today represents the great social, cultural, political, and intellectual potential of the new Russian aliyah.

Natan Sharansky

• *Dan Ben Amotz*, writer. This young writer's novels describe the new Sabra who is angrier, more materialistic, and more aimless, yet in many ways more secure than the first generation of Israelis.

Amos Oz

• *Amos Oz*, novelist and peace activist. He represents the continuing influence of kibbutz ideals, even as the kibbutz fades as a political, economic, and symbolic force.

• *Ephraim Kishon* and *HaGashash HaCheever (Pauli, Gavri, Shaike)*, satirists and comedy trio. Together they were most responsible for teaching Israelis that all-important skill – how to laugh at themselves.

Ephraim Kishon

Prof. Benzion Netanyahu

• *The Baba Sali*, popular mystic. He ministers to thousands of Israelis who do not share the modern rationalists' disdain for the spiritual realm.

• *Uri Zohar*, popular entertainer. His emergence as a baal tshuvah inspired many other Israelis to reevaluate, and embrace traditional Judaism.

• *Prof. Benzion Netanyahu*, historian. His monumental analysis of the Spanish inquisition concluded that anti-Semitism is an enduring and central part of the Western tradition. This widespread belief, which is generally associated with Revisionist Zionists, has very powerful political implications for the contemporary state.

• *Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz*, commentator and thinker. His work on the Talmud signifies Israel's role as a thriving centre of rabbinic thought.

• *Azariah Alon*, founder of Chevra L'Haganat HaTeva, the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. His weekly radio show made him a household name for two generations of Israelis who learned from him how to appreciate their natural environment

Rabbi David Hartman

• *Rabbi David Hartman*, thinker, oleh from Canada. His eloquent analyses of the central dilemmas of modern Israeli, Jewish, and Zionist thought do not solve all these issues, but certainly make it easier to think about them and discuss them.

• *Prof. Naomi Chazan*, academic and Knesset member. She represents a generation of professional Israeli women seeking to incorporate feminism into their lives.

• *Prof. Anita Shapira*, historian. A leading member of a new generation of historians, she is committed to revising standard Zionist myths and understanding the real facts behind the establishment of the State.

• *Alice Shalvi*, political activist. She is trying to reconcile Orthodoxy and feminism, with mixed results.

• *Aviv Geffen*, nihilistic rock star and *enfant terrible*. He represents the angry young Israeli wired into American values and popular culture.

Gil Troy teaches history at McGill University.

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Exploring the mysteries of techelet

By SARAH HERSHENSON
WZPS

A scuba diver holds a live murex trunculus snail, from whose gland the dye is taken for use in creating *techelet*.

God commanded the Children of Israel to use *techelet*, the royal blue color, on one strand of the white fringes worn on tzitzit (four-cornered garments) and prayer shawls. But between 570 and 750 CE, when royal edicts by conquering nations declared the wearing of tzitzit illegal, the secret of *techelet's* procurement and production was gradually lost. The Midrash Tanhuma, written in 750 CE, laments, "And now we have no *techelet* – only white." Although Jews continued to wear tzitzit through the centuries, the tradition of including the blue thread among the white fringes disappeared for 1,300 years.

A Jerusalem-based group established in 1980, *Amutat P'til Techelet* (the Association for the Promotion and Distribution of Techelet), claims to have solved the mystery of *techelet* and is producing the colored thread needed to fulfil the long-lost commandment.

Since the product gained the approval of several prominent rabbis in Israel, including the chief rabbi of Rehovot, Rabbi Simcha Kook, orders are pouring in from customers all over the world, at a rate of 300 per month.

The Talmud records that *techelet* comes from a snail, *hilazon* in Hebrew, whose home was said to be along the northern coastline of Israel, in the part of the country apportioned to the seafaring tribe of Zevulun. According to the Talmud, the tribe of Zevulun complained that their portion was hilly and unsuitable for agriculture, but God reassured them that everyone will come to them to buy the *hilazon* and blue *techelet*.

The search by Jewish scholars for the source of the true *techelet* was revived over 100 years ago. Archeologists, chemists, marine biologists, a great chassidic rabbi, the former chief rabbi of Israel, and some of the greatest rabbinical minds of our day have been involved in this quest.

The impetus for the rediscovery of *techelet* came in the late 1800s from Rabbi Gershon Hanokh Leiner, the chassidic rabbi of Radzyn. In addition to being a great scholar and the leader of a large chassidic community in Poland, Rabbi Leiner was a world traveller and a polylinguist with a penchant for medicine and chemistry. He believed that because it is a biblical commandment to wear *techelet*, it was his duty to find it. He concluded that the *hilazon* was not a snail at all but a cuttlefish belonging to the squid family. With a method discovered 200 years previously by a Parisian chemist, Rabbi Leiner turned the black ink powder this creature emits into a blue dye. Within a few years, all of his chassidim were

[Cont'd. on page B43]

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Dissertation examines the biblical blue

[Cont'd. from page B42]

wearing the blue thread in their tzitzit and continue to do so today.

The rabbi wrote three books to substantiate his claims and counter the strong opposition from other scholars. He felt that because this was such a great mitzvah, one should follow it, even if in doubt.

In 1913, Rabbi Isaac Herzog, the chief rabbi of Ireland who later became the chief rabbi of Israel, continued the search. He wrote his doctoral dissertation on the subjects of the biblical blue, "porphyrology," a word he coined, meaning the study of purple. He doubted whether the *techelet* the Radzyner rabbi found was really *techelet* and if the cuttlefish was in fact the *hilazon*.

Rabbi Herzog studied the dyeing process that called for the ink of the cuttlefish to be subjected to intense heat and then mixed with chemicals and colorless iron filings. The resultant dye, he concluded after chemical analysis, was not from the ink at all but rather the commonly used Prussian blue. Nevertheless, scientists point out that even though the Radzyner rabbi was proven wrong and actually produced an inorganic dye, he had started the quest for the true *techelet*.

Dr. E. Spanier; the late Dr. Edelstein; Prof. Roald Hoffman, a Nobel Prize winner in chemistry; and Dr. Irving Ziderman, a foremost authority on antique purple dyes and the scientific director of the Techelet Foundation, contributed extensively to the study of the *hilazon*. The animal has now been identified as the murex trunculus, located today as in ancient times along the shores of Israel, Lebanon and Greece (ancient Phoenicia).

Murex trunculus snail

About 35 years ago, when the archeologist Prof. Yigal Yadin discovered caves that had been inhabited by Bar Kochba and his followers during the rebellion against Rome in 2 CE, Yadin found a small amount of wool that had been dyed blue but not woven into thread. Chemical tests revealed that it had been dyed with kala ilan (indigo) of vegetable origin. Referring to the passage in the Gemara which states that indigo and *techelet* are indistinguishable to the human eye, one could now prepare the dye from the mollusk identified as the *hilazon* and compare it with the strands of wool found in the cave.

Further proof that the *hilazon* is the murex trunculus snail was substantiated by a coin unearthed in a cave in the Phoenician city of Tyre. On its face is the image of the murex trunculus snail. Why else would a non-kosher and unimportant animal be on the face of a coin, if not for its role in the commandment of tzitzit?

The riddle of how to produce a violet blue color from the snail was solved by the late Prof. Otto Elsner of Israel's Shenkar College of Textiles in the 1980s. He was researching the methods used by the ancient dyers and noticed that the dye of the murex trunculus female snails tended towards purple, but the wool turned a brilliant blue with the dye of the male snails. The combination of both dyes over a period of many days created the required *techelet* shade. It has also been proven that exposure to sunlight during the dyeing process could artificially and immediately yield indigo blue.

This step led to further accomplishments, including the researching and writing of a book on tzitzit in 1985 by Rabbi Eliyahu Tavger of Jerusalem. After much investigation, he became convinced that the authentic *techelet* came from the murex trunculus snail. After many trials, he succeeded in applying the process according to the prescribed ritual from beginning to end.

Gland contains the dye

The gland containing the dye is removed from the snail while it is still alive – because after its demise the color quickly loses its potency. The dye is then put into a beaker containing a solution of chemicals and the wool is dipped in, undergoing an amazing transformation from yellow to green. When exposed to air and sunlight, the color then changes to blue.

Based on Rabbi Tevger's work, the Association for the Promotion and Distribution of Techelet was formed in Israel by Ari Greenspan, Baruch Sterman, and Joel Guberman, three Yeshiva University graduates who made aliya in the 1980s, in order to make the *techelet* thread available to the general public and provide information about it to observant Jews all over the world.

Today, the association is marketing *techelet* worldwide, with four *techelet* threads and 12 ordinary tzitit fringes selling for $70 (US).

A growing number of rabbinic personalities and members of religious communities are wearing *techelet* and Ziderman is determined to elicit additional rabbinic endorsement for *techelet* observance. He is also promoting the marine agricultural project of breeding murex trunculus in captivity, thus protecting the species from possible extinction due to maritime pollution and renewing the observance of this long-lost mitzvah.

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

St. Louis: voyage of the damned

By MARILYN HENRY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

As the *St. Louis* steamed toward Havana from Hamburg, Germany, with nearly 1,000 Jews fleeing the Nazis aboard, Recha Weiler desperately nursed her dying husband, Moritz.

While other passengers enjoyed the elegance of the civilized cruise after the repressions and humiliations of Germany, Weiler spent most of the voyage in her cabin with Moritz.

But her efforts failed. The university professor died aboard the ship and was buried at sea.

An estimated half of the passengers were to die later, after both the United States and Cuba rejected their pleas for refuge, and the cruel 40-day journey sent them back to Europe to face the Nazis.

Some 59 years after the *St. Louis'* desperate passage back and forth across the Atlantic, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and its Survivors' Registry are trying to trace the fates of its passengers, including Recha Weiler, the 61-year-old widow originally from Cologne.

The *St. Louis* left Germany on May 13, 1939. Its passengers, most of them from Germany, had expensive documents – some bogus – for entry into Cuba.

When the ship arrived, however, Havana – and the United States – refused to admit them. The *St. Louis* sat in the harbor for days.

Desperate relatives packed motorboats and approached the anchored liner, shouting messages to loved ones. All awaited the outcome of frantic international negotiations to allow the refugees to disembark.

Ultimately, only 29 passengers were permitted to land in Havana. Then the ship was ordered to leave, maneuvering slowly and tantalizingly near the coast of Florida before turning back to Europe.

On June 17, 1939, the *St. Louis* docked at Antwerp: 214 passengers remained in Belgium, 224 went to France, and 181 to the Netherlands. Another 288 passengers went ashore in Britain on June 21.

The end of that journey was, for its passengers, the beginning of the Holocaust.

"The fate of the 963 is a microcosm of the Holocaust," said Scott Miller, a researcher at the American museum who is organizing the *St. Louis* project.

Belgium, France and the Netherlands proved to be only temporary havens, as they were quickly overrun by the Nazis. A large number of the passengers who sought sanctuary there were deported, and perished in the camps. Some went into hiding. Others apparently fled Europe, most likely before 1941.

Miller estimates that as many as 450 of the *St. Louis* passengers survived – most of them emigrating to the United States.

However, Miller knows of at least eight people who subsequently went to England. Another eight migrated to Israel, two went to Germany, four to Canada, three to Australia, two to France, one to the Netherlands, one to Argentina, and four to Chile.

Miller's estimates do not necessarily reflect the whereabouts of *St. Louis* passengers today; many have died, while others may have moved on.

One passenger, for example, hid in Belgium during the war, emigrated to the United States, and then quickly resettled in Palestine.

It seems extraordinary that, after being turned away once, the overwhelming majority of the *St. Louis* survivors still came to the United States after the war. Many must

[Cont'd. on page B45]

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Voyage of the damned

[Cont'd. from page B44]

have felt the same sense of betrayal that haunted passenger Wilhelm Sydower.

Sydower had boarded the ocean-liner intent on finding refuge for his family – a wife and daughter he left behind – and had planned to bring them over when a sanctuary was secured.

Instead, he was returned to Europe, and he and his loved ones hid out the war in Belgium, says his daughter, Renee Schifter of Tel Aviv.

After the war, the family returned to Germany. Sydower died within five years, but not before telling his daughter of the journey.

"He told me about the problems they faced to get to a safe shore and how the United States of America, the great nation of immigration, was unable to take in 1,000 people who were in danger of being murdered," Schifter said.

"He told me that the Americans were not much better than the Germans. They did not kill people with their own hands – however, they did not help them in time."

Schifter, who now works on behalf of survivors, refused to emigrate to the United States.

"Instead I went to Israel, because I never wanted to stay in Germany," she said.

Miller suggests that others did go to the United States after the Holocaust because it may have been easier than entering Palestine in 1946-47.

Those who migrated to Israel went at different times, from different places and under different circumstances, he said.

"It was not the original intent of any of them to go to Palestine," said Miller, who did graduate work at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Before Miller's project, little was known about the fate of the *St. Louis* passengers, in part because the voyage was only the beginning of their Holocaust experiences.

Much of what is known about the survivors is where they were at the war's end, not at its start.

To document the fate of each of the *St. Louis* passengers, Miller has scoured archives in Israel, the Unites States and Europe. At this stage, he says, the project is nearly complete.

Among the Israeli institutions consulted were the Jewish Agency's Missing Persons Bureau, known for its postwar efforts to locate family members of those who came to Palestine; Yad Vashem; and the Jerusalem branch of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which did extensive relief and resettlement work after the war.

Only 70 passengers remain unaccounted for, says Miller, who has appealed to the public for information.

It is assumed that the 70 survived, because there is no evidence to the contrary. Their names do not appear in memorial books or on shipping manifests, or on lists for deportations, concentration camps or displaced persons camps.

Miller says that the project is central to the mission of the Holocaust Museum and the Survivors Registry, partly because it will assemble information about the U.S. role in the Holocaust.

Miller hopes to trace the remaining passengers by next May, the 60th anniversary of the *St. Louis'* tragic journey, which became known as the voyage of the damned.

It is believed that a commemoration of the *St. Louis* voyage could open an international discussion on the American and European refugee policy during World War II.

An independent Swiss panel of international historians, known as the Bergier Commission, is expected to release a report at year's end about Switzerland's wartime refugee policy. Switzerland admitted about 28,000 Jewish refugees, but has drawn international condemnation for turning away another 30,000.

The United States, which also turned away refugees, has yet to be strongly criticized. Its policy on Jewish refugees during the war seems to have been swept under the rug.

Only 29 percent of all Americans know that the United States did not admit all European Jews who sought refuge before or during the war, according to a survey of the American public conducted for the museum, and released last spring.

The survey found that 34 percent were unaware of the American refugee policy, while 37 percent thought the United States admitted, or probably admitted the Jewish refugees.

However, acknowledgement of the United States' not so admirable role during the Holocaust came recently from U.S. Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat.

In two separate reports on the financial ties between the Nazis and neutral states during World War II, Eizenstat talks about the cold response given the *St Louis*.

In the June report, Eizenstat admitted that "America's response to the early stages of the slaughter of European Jews was largely one of indifference."

Eizenstat noted that the United States accepted only 21,000 refugees from Europe, and did not significantly raise or even fill its restrictive quotas, accepting far fewer Jews per capita than many of the neutral European countries and fewer in absolute terms than Switzerland.

"No country, including the United States, did as much as it might have or should have done to save innocent victims of Nazi persecution – Jews, Gypsies, political opponents and others," Eizenstat said in an earlier report in May 1997.

"Restrictive U.S. immigration policies kept hundreds of thousands of refugees from finding safety in the United States, most tragically exemplified by our refusal to allow the *St. Louis* to dock with its cargo of refugees – many of whom perished when the ship was forced to return to Europe."

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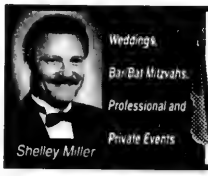

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An anti-Semitic lie that wouldn't die

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The infamous *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, a notorious anti-Semitic document written in 1894, had dire consequences for the Jewish people in the 20th century.

Many scholars believe the document was plagiarized from an old French satirical pamphlet that attacked Napoleon III.

"Thousands, perhaps even tens of thousands, of Jews have died because of this infamous forgery," Joseph Telushkin wrote in his book, *Jewish Literacy*.

"Hitler used this book as a manual in his war to exterminate the Jews," wrote Nora Levin in *The Holocaust*.

Yet, despite its notoriety and grievous impact on Jewish history, most Jews know very little about the document, says an expert on the *Protocols*.

Hadassah Ben-Itto

Retired Tel Aviv district judge Hadassah Ben-Itto, author of a newly published book on the subject, *Hasheker Mesarev Lamoot (The Lie That Wouldn't Die)*, notes that most Jews have never read the *Protocols* and still fewer know of the courageous attempts over the years to refute the *Protocols*' conspiracy theory in court.

"We hear *Protocols* and we roll our eyes, or snicker, or think, 'Who is going to believe this garbage? Who is going to believe that a group of Jews got together and drew up a blueprint for world domination?' But people do believe it," Ben-Itto says.

The Malaysian president speaks of a world Jewish conspiracy to devalue his country's currency. Palestinian suicide bombers are found with the *Protocols* in their pockets. The text of the *Protocols*, and explanations on how the booklet explains perfectly today's news, can easily be found on the Internet.

On October 31, 1991, Ben-Itto, a respected judge who had served a short stint on the Supreme Court, presided over her last hearing. A few months earlier she shocked the country's legal community by announcing her early retirement. Her stated reason: to research and write a book about *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* — a subject that became an obsession for her, she says.

If the Jews were painfully uneducated about the nefarious document, she was determined to educate them.

Ben-Itto's journey to the *Protocols* is an intensely personal one. She immigrated to Israel with her parents from Poland in 1935, at the age of nine, leaving her extended family behind. The dedication in her book reads simply, "To the memory of all my relatives who were killed in the Holocaust, and whose burial place is unknown. Let this be their monument."

But it was not until she served as a representative in Israel's delegation to the UN in 1965, and again in 1975, that she began to feel the power of the *Protocols*. While she was part of Foreign Minister Golda Meir's delegation to the UN in 1965, Ben-Itto writes in her book, a Russian delegate quoted from the *Protocols* during a routine verbal assault on Israel.

A Latin American diplomat, surprised that Ben-Itto did not object, told her "You Jews must learn from the past. At the time you ignored

[Cont'd. on page B47]

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Protocols incited pogroms

[Cont'd. from page B46]

what Hitler wrote in *Mein Kampf*. It is forbidden for you to ignore anti-Semitic libels, and more importantly, don't make light of libel about a Jewish criminal conspiracy to take over the world, as described in the *Protocols*."

Ten years later Ben-Itto was back at the UN, this time as part of the Israeli delegation during the debate on the "Zionism is racism" resolution. For 10 years we didn't do anything about that, we said 'Oom [UN] schmom,' who really cares, what does it matter?" Ben-Itto recalls.

Then, in 1985, President Chaim Herzog, who had been Israel's ambassador to the UN during the 1975 debate, held a reunion for some key people who were involved.

"At that time I had a very difficult conversation with [former U.S. ambassador to the UN] Jeane Kirkpatrick," Ben-Itto says, "She told me, 'I can't believe that the same thing is happening to the same people twice in one generation. You did not read *Mein Kampf* carefully. Had you read it carefully you, would have known what was coming.'"

Kirkpatrick's message – one that had a profound impact on Ben-Itto – was that anti-Semitic documents, as easy as they are to dismiss, must not be taken lightly. As an activist in the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, an organization she heads today, Ben-Itto began working hard for the repeal of the UN resolution, and soon after she began researching the *Protocols*.

"[The *Protocols*] was important in order to incite the mobs," she says. "Not everyone would be willing to go kill their neighbors, but when it was explained to them that their neighbors were part of a plot to take over the world..."

Although anti-Semitism existed long before the *Protocols*, Ben-Itto says it undoubtedly helps contemporary anti-Semites by making their job easier. "Otherwise they would not use the *Protocols*. The fact that it was used to stir up pogroms, that Hitler used it – this shows that it is an effective tool. It helps to explain that by killing Jews you are actually doing a good thing, because they are plotting to take over the world."

Habits accrued by long years on the bench die hard for Ben-Itto, and this is clear in the way she conducts an interview. She focuses only on the matter at hand. Her legal background is also felt throughout the book.

"I felt as if part of me would stay

[Cont'd. on page B48]

Figure 4. Cover of a popular French edition of the Protocols, *c. 1934.*

This photo illustration and the illustrations on the next four pages are taken from *Warrent For Genocide*, Norman Cohn, Penguin Books, 1970.

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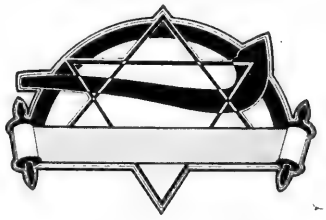

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French: Frontispiece of a Polish edition of the Protocols, Russian: The Jew must have a blood bath! Only then will Russia's faith: She must have a blood bath! Death to her enemies! Should remain! Already the Jew hails: Death to her enemies! Long live this marching column and let us be awake, for we have [illegible]!

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

The book was in the dock

[Cont'd. from page B47]

in this court," Ben-Itto writes, describing what it was like to leave the bench after 31 years. "But I carried with me a wonderful feeling of satisfaction and expectation for the future. I knew that I was retiring from the bench, but not from the business.

"Without a court and without a robe, through a giving up of the authority and the chains of procedure, I appointed myself an investigating judge. I was on my way to discover the truth and dispense justice, and the book was in the dock."

The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, based on anti-Semitic canards that flourished in the Middle Ages, is a booklet that claims to disclose the secret plans of a Jewish conspiracy for world domination.

"Today I can assure you that we are only within a few strides of our goal," the *Protocols* reads. "There remains only a short distance and the cycle of the Symbolic Serpent – that badge of our people – will be complete.

"When this circle is locked, all the states of Europe will be enclosed in it, as it were, by unbreakable chains."

There is a major difference, Ben-Itto says, between the *Protocols* and other anti-semitic calumnies, such as the blood libels.

"*The Protocols* is first and foremost a political document. It is not something said about Jews – that we kill kids for their blood – but it presents itself as an authentic document of the secret government of the Jews. 'Don't ask us about the Jews,' the anti-Semite says while referring to the *Protocols,* 'see what they say themselves.' This document is a recipe for control of the world."

It is a recipe that did not come out of nowhere. One of the precursors of the *Protocols* was a treatise at the end of the 18th century that blamed the French revolution on a secret conspiracy of Freemasons. It did not take long before that treatise was altered to implicate the Jews as well.

The *Protocols,* as we know it today – and which can be downloaded from the Internet sites entitled, Antizion, and Radio Islam – was based on a pamphlet written by French satirist Maurice Joly in 1864, entitled *Dialogues in Hell Between Machiavelli and Montesquieu.* This pamphlet was an attack on Napoleon III, and made no mention of the Jews.

Thirty years later it was plagiarized by Pytor Ivanovich Rachkovsky, an officer of the Russian secret police, in an effort to strengthen the new Czar Nicholas III and discredit liberal voices in Russia that were expressing some sympathy for Jews.

Rachkovsky apparently was also helping out the French Right, which wanted Dreyfus to look bad. The *Protocols* was first published in Russia in 1905, during the failed revolution of that year. An organization called the Black Hundreds wanted to incite against the Jews, whom they blamed for the revolt. The *Protocols* was published by a mystic priest, Sergius Nilus, and formed part of the propaganda campaign that accompanied the pogroms inspired that year by the Russian secret police.

After the 1917 revolution, Russian emigres brought the *Protocols* to Europe, where it fell on at-

[Cont'd. on page B49]

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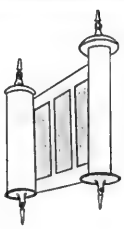
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Hitler praised the Protocols

[Cont'd. from page B48]

tentive ears, particularly – but not solely – in Germany, where in 1920 120,000 copies were sold. The *Protocols* also found its way to England and the United States, where auto mogul Henry Ford promulgated its ideas of Jewish control and domination through his anti-Semitic newspaper *The Dearborn Independent*.

Hitler praised the *Protocols* in *Mein Kampf*: "What many Jews may do unconsciously is here consciously exposed," he wrote. "It is completely indifferent from what Jewish brain these disclosures originate; the important thing is that with positively terrifying certainty they reveal the nature and activity of the Jewish people and expose their inner contexts as well as their ultimate final aims... Once this book has become the common property of a people, the Jewish menace may be considered as broken."

In the '30s there were attempts by Jews to discredit the *Protocols* in court, with the two notable cases being in Bern, Switzerland, and Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Ben-Itto managed to obtain the transcripts of both trials.

Much of her book centres around the court drama in Bern, which was covered widely by the world press, where in 1934 the Jewish community took the local Nazi party to court for publishing the *Protocols*.

The lower court judge in Bern ruled that the *Protocols* was indeed plagiarized from Joly's book and constituted indecent literature, and fined the defendants. He said he considered the *Protocols* "ridiculous nonsense."

The defendants appealed, however, and won the appeal on the basis that the pornographic clause used to bring the issue to the court was not applicable. But the judges in the appeal also wrote that the *Protocols* was "trash" and "absolutely unjustified and outrageous insults and defamation."

Over the years there have been various courts and official bodies, including a U.S. Senate subcommittee, that have declared the *Protocols* to be a forgery. As late as 1993, a Russian court ruled that the *Protocols* was an anti-Semitic forgery, after the anti-Semitic Pamyat organization sued a Jewish newspaper for libel when the paper said Pamyat was fostering anti-Jewish sentiment by publishing the book.

Yet regardless of how many times and in what forum the booklet has been discredited, the *Protocols* always finds fertile ground – if not in Europe or the U.S. – then in Arab states, where it is often sold and even more often quoted.

Ben-Itto says that in Egypt some copies of Shimon Peres' book *The New Middle East* were distributed with an insert that read: "When *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* was revealed 200 [sic] years ago and translated into many languages, including Arabic, the Zionist movement tried to deny the existence of a conspiracy and said the document

[Cont'd. on page B50]

Figure 5: Cover of a popular French edition of the Protocols, c. 1934.

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Jews 'make light' of book

[Cont'd. from page B49]

was a forgery. The Zionists even tried to purchase all the copies of the book to prevent its distribution. Now Shimon Peres is providing eternal proof that the *Protocols* was correct and what was said inside them was accurate. His book serves as a step in carrying out the dangerous plan."

The Jews, Ben-Itto says, do not take the written doctrines of anti-Semitism seriously, and do not try to refute them. This stems, she says, from a fatalistic approach, an attitude that looks at anti-Semitism almost as something that descended from heaven; something that was, is and always will be. As such, this attitude holds, there is nothing that can be done to combat it.

"In my opinion," Ben-Itto says, "we have been so hurt by anti-Semitism for so long, that we have given up, raised our hands, and said the world will always be anti-Semitic.

"This book is not intended to fight anti-Semitism," Ben-Itto continues. "Anti-semitism is another story. The purpose of this book is to come and compete with a lie. Let's say that someone in the world is saying terrible things about you, that you are a murderer and a thief. Would you say it doesn't matter? Of course not."

Hasheker Mesarev Lamoot is not meant for the anti-Semites, Ben-Itto says. "They will not read it, or if they read it, they will deny it. It won't stop them from being anti-Semitic.

"But by not refuting the *Protocols*, the idea of a Jewish conspiracy has thrived and spread even among enlightened people – not only anti-Semites. I have run into so many people who said there is something to this. When I tell them it is a fake, a forgery, they ask me why we don't say so, why we don't reject it. That is who I am addressing in the book, enlightened people – first Jews, but also non-Jews."

Ben-Itto wrote the book originally in English, and then translated it into Hebrew. About half way through the writing, a German publisher showed interest and bought the rights. It was published in Hebrew and in German. Negotiations are still under way with a publishing house to bring the book out in English.

"The German publisher is making great efforts to publicize the book over there – you have no idea how serious they take these matters over there, because they know where it can lead," Ben-Itto says. "*Der Spiegel* dedicated four pages to it – not so much [to] the book, but the issue of the *Protocols*. German Television sent someone over to do a story. They are interested in uncovering the truth about the *Protocols*, because they understand the harm it can do."

Everyone understands what damage the *Protocols* can wreak, Ben-Itto says, except the Jews, who are ignorant of the subject, and often make light of it. "I have actually heard politicians here say that the *Protocols* is a good thing, because people will think we have strength, and will respect us."

The *Protocols*, Ben-Itto points out, is available in almost all the world's languages, save one – Hebrew. "Don't we care what people write about us?" she asks.

In Israel, Ben-Itto points out, there is a tendency to wink at the mention of the *Protocols*, and – from time to time – to refer to an international Jewish millionaire, jokingly, as an "Elder of Zion."

"We have become horribly superficial," she says. "We cheapen words and concepts horribly – like when we use the term Nazi loosely, when we use the word Holocaust to refer to many things, and how if someone doesn't give us 12 points

[Cont'd. on page B51]

Figure 7. Cover of a Brazilian edition of the Protocols, *São Paulo, 1937.*

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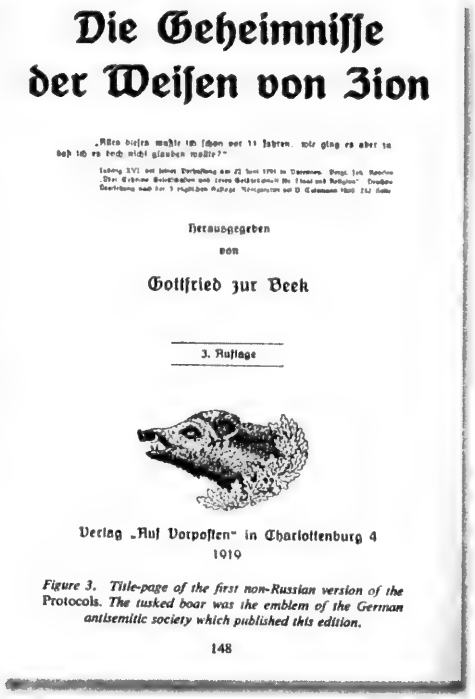
Information helps refute the lie

[Cont'd. from page B50]

at Eurovision, they are anti-Semites. We use these terms, including the *Protocols*, so often that they lose their importance."

It is a "scandal," Ben-Itto says, when terms such as anti-Semite and Nazi and *Protocols* become part of the accepted lexicon in internal Israeli debate. It cheapens these concepts, she says and "deprives them of all their sting. When I was at the UN in 1965, an Iraqi called us Nazis. To back up his claim he brought a protocol from an [Israeli] Supreme Court hearing where the justice minister at the time argued in front of the court, and said the IDF behaved toward a group of Arabs at the time like Nazis.

"The Iraqi delegate at the UN said, 'We say they are Nazis, look, they say it themselves.' Someone could say, 'They say we are anti-Semites, look, they hate Jews themselves,' and then point to Haredim on Rehov Bar-Ilan shouting anti-Semites [at the police]. We are emptying the words of their content by cheapening their usage."



Die Geheimnisse der Weisen von Zion

„Alles dieses mußte ich schon vor 11 Jahren, wie ging es aber zu daß ich es heute nicht glauben wollte?"

Herausgegeben von

Gottfried zur Beek

3. Auflage

Verlag „Auf Vorposten" in Charlottenburg 4

1919

Figure 3. Title-page of the first non-Russian version of the Protocols. *The tusked boar was the emblem of the German antisemitic society which published this edition.*

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History of the book has everything

The history of the *Protocols* has everything – forgery, passion, lies, deceit, fascinating historical characters, secret agents, court tension, drama. Were the history of the *Protocols* made up, it would make riveting, sensationalistic paperback writing. Tragically, it is all too true.

Nevertheless, Ben-Itto writes her book in a way that brings the drama behind the *Protocols* to life; concentrating on what she understands the best – courtroom drama, particularly the landmark trial in Bern. "There are numerous books and articles written by academics on the *Protocols*, footnoted and found in university libraries, and only someone who is interested in the *Protocols* will seek them out,"she says. "I decided to write this book for the wider public."

Judges often find themselves watching witnesses faced with having to refute a lie. "You have to give people the tools to refute a lie," Ben-Itto says, hoping her book will provide people with a tool needed to refute a lie that has stuck to the Jews, with awful consequences, for more than a century.

"Millions of copies of the *Protocols* have been distributed. Don't we have a responsibility to place the facts on the table and say, 'Whether or not you want to believe me, these are the facts.'

"Don't we have a responsibility,"asks Ben-Itto "to set the record straight?"

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Shofar: one of the most mysterious mitzvot

By CHANA FALIK
WZPS

"And in the seventh month, on the first of the month, you shall have a holy celebration, it shall be a day of blowing the shofar for you." (Numbers 29)

Rosh Hashanah is characterized by one of the most mysterious *mitzvot* in the entire Torah – blowing the shofar. Every other major holiday in the Jewish calendar finds us eating certain symbolic foods (such as matzot at Passover) or performing certain actions (such as learning Torah all night on Shavuot), or saying special prayers (the confession of sins on Yom Kippur). Rosh Hashanah, ironically, even though it is the first day of the Jewish year and the birthday of Creation, has none of these customs. It seems as if when Rosh Hashanah's turn came for mitzvot, God in His love, teased His people by giving them a mitzvah that they could perform literally through their sense of hearing.

The shofar is one of the earliest musical instruments known to man. It is made from the horn of a kosher animal — except for cows, which lost out on the "privilege" following the sin of the golden calf. Shofars tended to be made from the horns of the animal most prevalent in the country Jews lived in: in Ashkenazi Europe, for example, they were usually made from rams' horns, whereas in Ethiopia they were made from the horns of kudus, or African antelope.

[photo by Fritz Cohen courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

The size of a shofar doesn't matter, as long as it is bigger than the width of a man's hand. The largest curlicued kudu horns stretch the length of an entire arm.

Each shofar has its own distinctive sound. According to professional musician and shofar blowing instructor David Lloyd Perkins, the longer the shofar, the easier it is to play and produce harmonics.

"On a short ram's horn I can get three harmonic tones," says Perkins, "but on a long kudu shofar I can produce between nine and 12 harmonics."

Perkins has blown his shofar in such diverse locations as the roof of the Vatican in Rome, and in Seoul, Korea, on Israel Independence Day 1995, when he was an official representative of the Israeli government.

According to Perkins, playing the shofar is not difficult at all. "Even the 3- and 4-year-olds in my classes play the shofar wonderfully," he says. Sometimes, though, he says, "the mouthpiece cut into the shofar is too small, which is very often the case with the factory-produced shofars." What should the correct mouthpiece size be? "Big enough to be comfortable for human lips," says Perkins, who heats the ends of his shofars in order to enlarge the mouthpiece.

Harmonics, note range and tone are very important when the Rosh Hashanah shofar sounds are taken into consideration. There are four distinct sounds for the Rosh Hashanah service. The blast (*tekiah*), one long blast with a clear tone, the broken (*shevarim*) sighing sound of three short calls, the alarm (*teruah*), a rapid series of nine or more very short notes, and the great blast (*tekiah gedolah*), a single unbroken blast, held as long as possible.

In fact, no one really knows what a *teruah* sound should be. It could be a *shevarim*, a *tekiah* or a combination of both. On Rosh Hashanah, several combinations are used to accommodate the various rabbinic opinions, says Perkins. "The more a shofar's mouthpiece permits the blower a wide-range of harmonic sounds, the more sincere and profound the shofar experience is for the listener."

To add to the irony of the shofar blowing mitzvah, the command is given to us in the Torah without explanations. Thankfully, Torah sages throughout history have provided many interpretations to the meaning of blowing the shofar. Maimonides, the medieval Jewish philosopher and physician, likens the reason to a wake-up call to all Jews. In his Laws of Repentance, Maimonides

[Cont'd. on page B53]

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Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

[photo by Fritz Cohen, 1959, courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

[photo by Moshe Milner, 1968, courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

A return to the beginning

[Cont'd. from page B52]

writes: "Awake, sleepers from your sleep! Arise, slumberers from your slumber! Scrutinize your deeds, return to repentance and remember your Creator. Those who forget the truth in the vanities of time and those who stray all their year in vanity and emptiness which can neither help nor save, look into your souls, better your ways and deeds! Let each of you abandon your evil way and your thoughts which are not good."

The famous List of 10 Symbolic Meanings of the shofar as taught by Rav Sa'adia Gaon (Rabbi Sa'adia the Genius) is still studied today — over 1,000 years after it was first published in the early 900s. Among them are: The shofar sounds remind us of the Revelation at Mt. Sinai, where the children of Israel in perfect faith told the Lord, "We will do and we will understand." The shofar sounds remind us of the words of the prophets, which in the Book of Ezekiel (chap. 33) were compared to the sounding of a shofar. "And whoever hears the sound of the shofar and takes no warning — if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head; because if he had taken warning, he would have saved his soul." The shofar reminds us that the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) is just around the corner, only 10 days away. Time to get down to the eternally important business of repentance!

Rosh Hashanah is a return to beginnings — the beginning of Creation, the beginning of the yearly cycle, the beginning of autumn — and the shofar, with its otherworldly calls, unlocks our heart to God and to ourselves by allowing us to make a new start. With this comes the knowledge that the mitzvah of the shofar, in the end, isn't as mysterious as we thought it to be.

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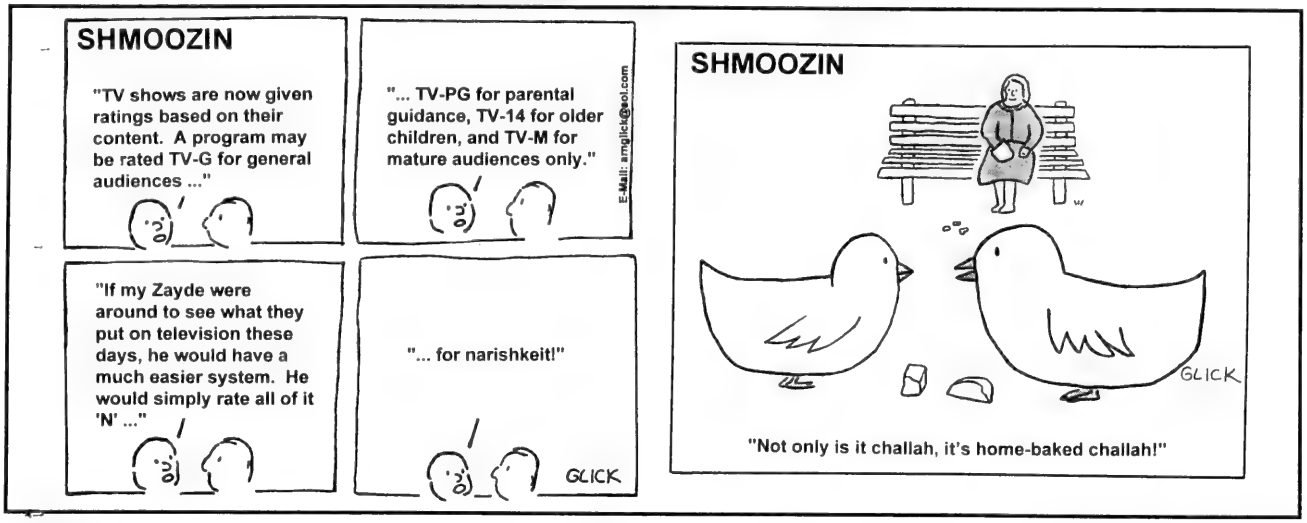
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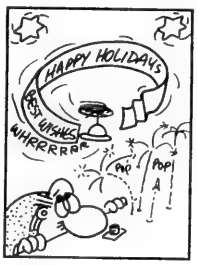

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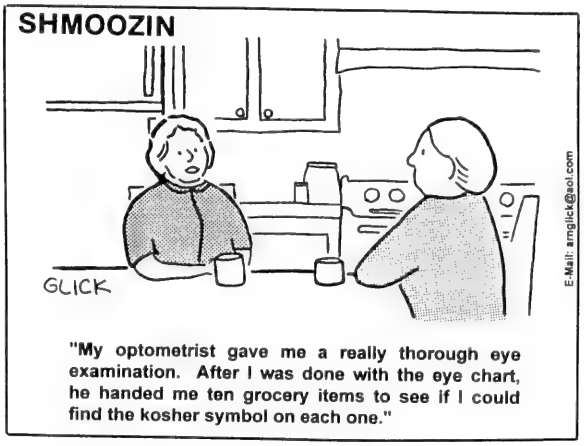
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Israel Features

Brigadier General Orit Adato
[WZPS photo]

Women and the IDF

By GAIL LICHTMAN
WZPS

The following is an interview with Brig. Gen. Orit Adato, head of the IDF Women's Corps

Q: What is the role of the Women's Corps today?

A: The Women's Corps has two main roles. First and foremost, we deal with realizing the potential of the women soldiers and officers in the IDF. Secondly, we deal with aspects unique to women in the army, such as women's medical care and behavioral norms with respect to sexual harassment. The latter is done by instructing and training women soldiers, commanders and male soldiers in all aspects related to this.

We also deal with sexual discrimination, which I prefer to call placement that is not related to the actual job qualifications. That is, placement on the basis of gender and not on the basis of objective considerations.

Our first area of concern, realizing potential, is the most important. It links up with the fact that we are speaking about the State of Israel and the IDF. If we look at the world map, it's clear that we do not have a relative advantage in size or in numbers. The only relative advantage that Israel has in general and the IDF in particular is the quality of its human resources. In order to maintain this advantage, we have to be able to realize our existing potential. This is a point that is very relevant to women because there is no doubt that women's potential in the IDF today is still not fully realized.

Q: One of the measures of women's advancement in the IDF has been the move away from clerical positions. What percentage of women are engaged in clerical jobs today?

A: This is one of the subjects that testifies to the involvement and integration of women in meaningful positions. The drop in the percentage of clerical workers is due to two factors. One, technology is advancing. There is less of a need for clerical workers. And two, women are being integrated into other jobs. Overall, 30 percent of the women soldiers in the IDF are in clerical positions as opposed to 50 percent 10 years ago.

For example, women first began working as combat instructors 10 years ago. Today, this system, in-

[Cont'd. on page B57]

Young soldiers stand ready to jump from their transport.

Women may enter combat units

[Cont'd. from page B56]

cluding artillery, engineering, infantry and tanks, is almost entirely based on women instructors. The bulk of instruction in basic training for non-combat soldiers – more than 60 percent – is carried out by women.

Most of the non-combat training is carried out by women

Another area that women have moved into is land, sea and air warning systems. Along the Lebanese border, women soldiers serve in two capacities: in operations rooms, where they are responsible for relaying information directly to forces in the field, and as lookouts in advanced outposts along the border – those still in Israel. Here they are responsible for observing a specific area and discerning the slightest changes, which they pass on immediately to commanders in the field.

Another aspect is the reserves, the IDF's main force. The entire reserve system is administered and called up by women soldiers.

These three examples indicate how women, even though not directly involved in combat, contribute to the IDF's central aims through combat support positions.

Q: In many countries, including the U.S. and Canada, women are fully integrated into the armed forces. Do you think this is a model for Israel and are there any reservations?

A: No. I don't have any reservations. I would be very happy to close this office the minute what has happened in the U.S. happens here. That is, that men and women who are drafted are at the same jumping off point and can reach the same positions.

We have to close the gap between the IDF and other armies. We are the only army in the world that has compulsory service for women. In all other armies, even if there is

[Cont'd. on page B58]

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Sharon & Syd Bojarski Michelle & Michael
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Larry & Helen Bossin Brian & Helen Melanie & Robbie

Wish all our relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Soorah Borovoy
Ruth, Chris & Alexander
Barry & Lori & Joshua & Lorne

Anne & Allan Bank

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Michael & Lynda Birnbaum Shera, Daniel & David

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Kalman & Cynthia Bielak, Yakov & Pamela, Simcha & Barbara, Shneur, Gideon & Shlomo
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Molly & Bert Bainerman

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Nancy Blackstien & Family

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Leo & Sara Beliak
Marlin & Michelle Bendayan,
Chaim, Chava, Shoshana & Shalom Gershon Beliak
Robert, Tamara, Samantha,
Dexter & Joshua Beliak
Murray, Stacey, Matthew & Shannon Beliak
Arnold, Ruth, Elliot, Faye & Bryan Kravetz
Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

David and Sandy Bleeman
Amanda-Beth & Brian &
Marni & Jesse

Wish all their relatives and friends
a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

George Bernard, Estelle & Steve
Marilyn & Michael
and Grandchildren

Wish their relatives and friends
a happy and healthy New Year.

C's . . .

Mrs. Fannie Caplan
Sid & Nancy Caplan

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors
a happy and healthy New Year

Ted and Joli Chester
Children and Grandchildren

Wish their relatives and friends
a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Wayne and Ann Caplan
Elana & Dayna

wish their parents, relatives and friends
a very happy and healthy New Year.

Elsa & Howard Chandler
& Family

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors
a happy and healthy New Year.

Fred & Celia Chapnick

Best wishes to our children,
grandchildren, friends and relatives
for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Cheslow

Best wishes to our children,
grandchildren, relatives and friends
for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

D's . . .

THE DAITER FAMILY
Ronnie & Rene
Joel & Cindy, Aaron, Liane & Carey
Stephen & Tammy, Alexis & Nicole

Wish all their relatives and friends
a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of
peace and serenity, health and happiness
to our relatives and friends
and the people of Israel

Gloria & Morris Dadoun

E's . . .

Sam & Sara Eker
and Children

Best wishes to our children,
grandchildren, friends and relatives
for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

F's . . .

שנה טובה
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fox
***and* Charise**
Felicia & Warren Spiegelman
***and* Samantha**
wish their relatives and friends
a happy and healthy Shana Tova

Philip & Cyla Fiksel
Nathan, Miriam, Jaimie &
Stacie Birnbaum

wish their relatives and friends
a happy and healthy New Year.

Sylvia & Edward Fisch
and family

wish their relatives and friends
a happy and healthy New Year.

Training is a rigorous, physical process. [IPPA photo]

New job openings for women

[Cont'd. from page B57]

compulsory service for men, the women are volunteers. And in a large percentage of these armies, service for both men and women is voluntary. This is a significant difference. As long as that service is compulsory and the jumping off point for men and women remains different. The Women's Corps is necessary in order to realize the two central aims that I have spoken about.

Q: What are the obstacles to full integration of women in the IDF?

A: There are three significant differences between men and women's service in the IDF. One, is the length of service. Once, when men served 30 months and women 24, this difference was not so important. But over time, men's service has been lengthened to 36 months and women's service has been curtailed to 21 months. This influences the professions and jobs into which women are integrated.

The second is that women do not serve in combat positions or in combat areas. There are exceptions. For example, we have women in pilot training who, when they finish the course, will be integrated like every other pilot. There are also women who serve with the Border Police in combat positions. In August 1998, women soldiers were incorporated as combat soldiers in anti-aircraft units. We already have women doctors serving in the field. But these are the exceptions and not the rule today.

The fact that women do not serve in combat areas is an even more critical limitation because it means that even in jobs that do not require combat skills, women cannot be assigned to them if the unit will be sent to a combat zone.

The third difference preventing full integration is the fact that women in almost all cases do not serve in the reserves. If the bulk of the army's forces are the reserves, then the fact that very few women serve in them significantly influences the quality of women's service.

Q: Can women attain positions from which they are now excluded?

A: I believe that we can. We are moving ahead but at an evolutionary pace, not a revolutionary one. One of my jobs is to be the catalyst for this change, to expedite this process.

Q: Do you see women in combat positions in the future?

A: Yes. We see from other armies that there is chronological order to the advancement of women and we apparently are following this pattern.

[Cont'd. on page B59]

Two of the first women to become tank instructors in the late 1980s. Today, the majority of tank instructors are women. [WZPS photo]

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Enjoying a lighter moment during training.

Serving along Lebanese border

[Cont'd. from page B58]

The first places where women are accepted into combat positions are in the air and naval services. With respect to the air force, we are already there with the entry of women into pilot training and in anti-aircraft. The subject of women serving in naval officer training programs is now coming up before the Supreme Court.

We are now at the threshold of the 21st century. Warfare is taking on a different orientation. It is more technological, more toward pushing buttons rather than brute force. I see women being integrated more and more into technological warfare.

Women have a number of characteristics that are important for leadership – their ability for team work, to accept someone who is different, to listen. These are important and can improve leadership. Women have been integrated into management and command positions in the army with great success.

Q: In the U.S. military, recent surveys have found a high percentage of women soldiers who have been subjected to sexual harassment and there have been a number of highly publicized cases that have even included rape. Doesn't a Women's Corps in some sense protect women from these abuses?

A: We are dealing with the problem from the opposite direction. Today, sexual harassment in the army is being treated very seriously even before we have full integration. What we are doing includes dealing with incidents, but mainly involves training, information and enactment of laws in order to change the army's behavioral norms. The minute that behavioral norms change and there is a higher recognition and awareness of sexual harassment, the next stage of full integration will take root in much more hospitable ground.

Q: What new jobs are opening up for women?

A: Women are moving into technical positions such as electricians and mechanics. Women are also becoming truck drivers. We now have women assistant-base commanders. We have women security officers in the air force responsible for base security.

There is one place opening up to women soldiers that makes us smile – the kitchens. As much as this traditionally has been a woman's place, in the army there are almost no women in the kitchens. And so we are trying to get women back in the kitchen, especially in the field units.

Every year, some eight to 10 permanent positions open up to women. The aim is to integrate women into the army as much as possible in accordance with their ability and talents, taking into consideration the ability of the system to absorb them and the qualifications necessary for the job. This is the policy – of course, within the limitations that I have mentioned.

Jerry & Helen Fishman
Mark & Doreen, Aimee, Haley,
Stacey & Shane Fishman
Gary & Sheryl, Robbie, Raquel
& Alexander Rubinoff
Marcy & Ryan
Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year.

Phil & Rochelle Feldberg
Jeff & Waleuska,
Robyn & Adam
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Dave & Shirley Farberman & Family
25 Greenwin Village Road
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year

Henry & Molly Finkelstein
David & Rachel
Matthew
Wish all our relatives & friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Allan, Pat, Marla Friedland
and
Gitla Friedland
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Esther Freiman
Borys Kowal & Family
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Allen & Miriam Finklestein
Perry, Matthew & Jeremy

Joe, Marlene,
Melanie & Jason Flicht
Elyse, Ron& Zachary Goldkind
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Chaim & Eda Feinstadt
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Betsy, Lou & Marla Fruitman
Pamela, Howie & Jeffrey Gould
Lisa, Dan & Amanda Belzowski

G's . . .

Ruth & Ernest Goldsmith
543 Fairlawn Avenue
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Sarah & Nathan Goldlist

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Gladstone and Neil
Dr. & Mrs. Terry Davis and family
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Mr. & Mrs. Israel Goldgrub and Family

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel
Max and Guta Glicksman
19 Misty Crescent

Annie Goldlist
Best wishes my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Charles & Charlotte Goldlist

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Anne Gottlieb
Marc, Beth,
Brian & Stephanie
Gottlieb

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy Shana Tova.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Fay Goldlist
Marlene & Sam Hait
Barry & Randee Goldlist
Rochelle & Seymour Frydrych
and Families

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel

Ruth Gilad and Family

Irving & Faye Gold

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Sam & Gitta Ganz
Children & Grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Rae and Sam Goldberg
Debbie, Sol & Esther

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all my family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Selma Goldstein

Regina and Charles Goldfinger and Family

Best wishes to our children grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Moishe & Mania Gruda

Joseph, Nina & David Glincman

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

David & Gert Goldberg
children Jill, John & Sydney
64 Carscadden Drive
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Jack & Ruth Gutholc

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Felice Gropper

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Irving & Paula Goldhar

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Bella & Willy Goldstein

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

MORI & ANABELA GOLDLIST
RACHEL *and new brother*
NATHAN DANIEL *Born April 18, 1998*

wish family & friends a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Special wishes to daughter & sister
JORDANA

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Beatrice, Hymie & Alyssa Guttman

Female pioneers often idealistic

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Golda Meir

Many people think of Golda Meir as the archetypical Israeli woman, a tough pioneer who rose to the pinnacle of political power.

But when she first arrived in Palestine, with 10 pairs of shoes in tow, her fellow kibbutz members at Merhavya rolled their eyes and wondered whether the pampered American would be able to make it in the new country.

According to Joseph Glass, an adjunct professor in the Department of Geography at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, such reactions were a typical response of the chalutzim to the thousands of North American women who arrived in Palestine between the two world wars.

Glass' research, done under the auspices of the Laufer Centre for Women's Studies at Hebrew University, has focused on North American women who chose to leave comfortable lives for the uncertainties of life in Palestine.

The North Americans who arrived between the world wars made up between 2.5 to three percent of the total Jewish immigration to Palestine at that time. What characterized them as a group was their intense idealism and the fact that, unlike the immigrants from Europe, who often fled poverty and oppression, the North American Jews came of their own free will.

"It wasn't so easy for them to get here," explains Glass, who is originally from Toronto and is also affiliated with the university's Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies and the Centre for Contemporary Jewry."There were only a certain number of entrance certificates allotted to immigrants, and sometimes there were 200-300 candidates vying for 25 certificates. Those who received them were very excited.

"One woman, Dorothy Ruth Kahn, recalled in her memoirs the moment when, after years of waiting, she finally held her certificate in one hand and her passport in the other, leaving America to fulfill her dream."

That idealism took different forms, leading the American immigrants to take varying paths in their new land, according to Glass. He classifies the female immigrants of the time into four groups.

The first was made up of older haredi women who came to live out their days in the holy land under the auspices of organizations such as Kollel America and Tiferet Yerushalayim. Their husbands studied at yeshivot mainly in Jerusalem and Tiberias, while they kept house.

Even if a woman was widowed she would usually prefer to remain in Palestine, and be buried beside her husband, rather than return to her children in North America.

Palestine was generally the third stop for members of this group. Most were originally from Eastern Europe. They immigrated to the U.S. as children and grew up there.

Few of these women wrote about their experiences and so records of their lives are difficult to find, Glass says. They were sometimes difficult to distinguish since they blended easily into the community of Eastern European Haredim, with whom they shared a great deal in terms of their Yiddish origins and very traditional lifestyles, he notes.

Most from Eastern Europe

While the first group of women came to continue their traditional lives in a different location, the second group came with dreams of utopian revolution, says Glass.

The pioneers who settled in the kibbutzim dreamed of creating a society characterized by socialism and equality between the sexes. Meir was part of this group (though her subsequent commitment to sexual equality as a politician and leader has been called into question by feminist critics).

Throughout the 1920s and '30s, groups of women trained in camps in the United States and Canada which had been started by the socialist youth movements. The aim of the camps was to equip the fledgling pioneers with the practical skills needed in Palestine.

The majority of these women chalutzim worked in the areas for which they trained in North America: raising chickens, agriculture, or teaching school. Meir was atypical in that she didn't engage in manual labor for long before finding her niche in leadership within the Labor Zionist movement.

[Cont'd. on page B61]

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

New immigrants in 1950 do back-breaking work near the Yarkon River. [photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

From socialist dream to capitalism

[Cont'd. from page B60]

"Over the years I've had an opportunity to meet with these North American immigrants, some of whom are still living on their kibbutzim," Glass says.

"What is hard for many of them today is seeing their dream of a wonderful form of socialism going in a capitalist direction.

"For North Americans who left a capitalist society to build something new it is particularly hard to see so many of the kibbutzim being privatized."

Glass adds, however, that the women he interviewed in this group did not seem too disappointed that equality of the sexes had not developed to any greater extent within the kibbutz system. In most cases, women stayed in traditionally female jobs.

"There is a sense that this evolved because of the will of the women themselves, and not because they were forced into matriarchal roles," Glass says.

The third group of women he categorized were responsible for founding many of the communities in which English-speaking immigrants live today, such as Herzliya and Ra'anana.

This was a group of middle-class Jews, most of them urban, who in the early 1920s "had a colorful, biblical dream of a rural lifestyle: picking grapes from vines, oranges from the trees," he says.

"They would organize into groups and purchase tracts of land. In addition to Herzliya and Ra'anana, there was Balfouria, just north of Hadera, and Gan Yavne. These families had a specific agricultural dream, and both men and women were busy with agriculture and livestock."

The lives of these North American immigrants were well-chronicled by women such as Canadian writer Molly Lyons Bar-David, who wrote *My Promised Land* in 1953 and also contributed to the *Jerusalem Post*.

In her book, Bar-David describes her life in the small orchard community of Gan Hasharon, now part of Kfar Saba, where she immigrated as a child.

"At one point in the book she describes her mother's immigrant experience," Glass says. "She (Bar-David) conveys the sense that such women took a very maternal view of the land and its relationship to the people. As she tended the green gardens, taking care of her family, full of hope, at first living in difficult conditions, the dream was very strong for her, as was her sense of fulfillment."

In the late 1920s, the atmosphere changed in these isolated rural settlements. With the Arab riots in 1929, and increased Arab hostility, pioneer life in the country became less appealing and more immigrants from North America joined the fourth group Glass describes – the urban dwellers.

This group consisted of white-collar workers who brought their professional skills to their new country – medicine, social work, engineering, accounting, and in the case of many of the women, stenographic and secretarial work.

Their excellent English skills were appreciated in a land that was still under the British Mandate, Glass says. The members of this group, many of whom came from

[Cont'd. on page B62]

Morris & Ada Rose Glick

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Alan, Lori & Noah Gutmann

Wish their relatives and friends a happy, and healthy New Year.

H's . . .

Gusta Hefner and Family

Best wishes for a year of peace, health and happiness to our relatives & friends.

Max and Mary Hain

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Sonia & Yehudi Hendler,
Jeff & Fran
Sindi, Joel, Fern, Marissa & Mark Kachuck

ADAM & ZELDA HARRIS and Family

Wish their relatives and friends a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

I's . . .

Joseph & Faye Isakow and Family

10 Barksdale Avenue

wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Larry & Bunny Iskov Howie & Rachel

wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

J's . . .

Isaac & Basia Jesin & Family & Sonia Slawin

wish all our friends & extended families a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year.

Wolfe & Miriam Justein

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

K's . . .

Bernyce & Marvin Kalifer
Ronnie, Nancy & children
Debbie, Wayne & children
Ellen, Gerry & children

Wish their friends & families a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year
לשנה טובה

Dora, Harry, Andrew & Jonathan Kichler

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Nancy & Howard Kleinberg children & grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Ruth Kerbel and daughter Donna

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Izak & Regina Kozlowski and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes to our children grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

שנת שלום

Betty & Izzy Kirshenbaum

Leonard & Joyce Krieser Ryan, Shawn & Cody

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Ronny & Shelli Klayman

Best wishes to our children, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Israel Koplowitz

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Helen Krieser Robert & Regina Hisse, Jodi & Brian Lee

Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

BEST WISHES FOR A YEAR OF PEACE AND SERENITY, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS TO OUR CHILDREN, MACHATONIM, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AND THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.

Joe & Jean Kichler

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kranc and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Marilyn Kostman Elayne & Roberto Slimak Sasha, Jonathan & Noah Arny, Jesse & Tyler Kostman

Best wishes for a year of Peace and Serenity, Health & Happiness to all our Friends

Mara & Eugene Katz Linda, Leon, Michael, Aaron & Daniel Katz

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Susie & Murray Klein David, Robbie & Jamie

Blossom Klein & Family

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel

Rita, Tom & Brandon Kolin

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Kon

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mrs. Rose Krieser and Family

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

L's . . .

Fela Lichtblau and Family

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

A young pioneer at Kibbutz Nirim in 1947. [photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod - UIA]

Part of exciting social experiment

[Cont'd. from page B61]

American Modern Orthodox families, had strong Jewish values and were responsible for establishing some of the major synagogues in the urban centres, he adds.

Within this group were some unconventional, older, unmarried Jewish women, who contributed significantly to the country and whose work can still be subtly felt in many aspects of society, Glass notes.

"These were second-generation American-born Jewish women with good educations who came here to be part of an exciting social experiment and a new nationalism."

Among the most conspicuous was Henrietta Szold's dedication to the Hadassah medical organization, but there were other outstanding examples, too, Glass says. "There was Julia Aharonson, who worked in the field of diets, encouraging new immigrants away from their eastern European traditional way of eating toward a healthier, more varied diet.

"In education, Deborah Kallan established a school in Jerusalem based on the ideas of John Dewey; and Jessie Sampter, an American Jewish poet who moved to Rehovot in the 1920s, organized activities for young girls and initiated classes to help Yemenite immigrant women learn to read and write and advance themselves."

Not every immigrant was cut out for life in Palestine and so there was return migration, too. Glass estimates that 30 to 35 percent of the North Americans left Palestine – a far higher percentage than other immigrant groups – because they had the option of returning to a secure life in their country of origin.

They went back for a variety of reasons: an inability to adjust to society or the harsher way of life, or missing family. He says that one individual from frosty Saskatchewan left Ra'anana, she claimed, "because she just couldn't stand the climate."

Like the women on Merhavya who looked askance at Meir's shoes, there was some envy on the part of veteran pioneers and Eastern European immigrants toward the arrivals from the U.S. and Canada. But, Glass stresses, that envy was mingled with respect.

"Because they came here of their own free will from a place like North America, many of the Jews in Palestine saw the Americans as the demonstration of true commitment to the Zionist ideal."

Glass is interested in any archival material dealing with the lives of North American immigrants to Palestine between the two world wars, and requests that any readers with such material contact him through the geography department at the Hebrew University.

Israeli students tops in math

By WENDY ELLIMAN
Special to The CJN

In the Third International Math and Science Study (TIMSS), an evaluation of educational achievement, 12th graders from 58 Israeli high schools achieved a score of 557 points, placing them first among 21 participating countries. Russian students came in second with 542 points, and Swiss youngsters were third with a score of 533.

Israel's results for physics were also good, with Israel securing fifth place in the world after Norway, Sweden, Russia and Germany.

"We were, of course, delighted with these results," says Prof. Zemira Mevarech, chief scientist of Israel's Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport. "We knew the level of mathematics in Israel to be very high, but it's still important for Israel to know where it stands relative to other countries. This was why we took part in the TIMSS study."

The study is carried out by Boston College, and funded by among others, the National Council for Educational Statistics, the U.S. National Science Foundation and the Canadian government.

The study has taken place three times since 1950 and Israel has participated all three times. U.S. President Bill Clinton has based U.S. educational policy, in part, on TIMSS findings.

Encouraging as the recent study's results are for Israel, Mevarech cautions against complacency. "Our results are good, but they're drawn from a small and select group," she says. "Only seven percent of Israeli 12th graders take advanced math, compared with up to 20 percent in other countries."

Israeli fourth and eighth graders, who also took part in the study, took tests in math and science, and in both grades the students emerged in the middle stretches of the 42 countries taking part in this section of the study.

"This result doesn't demonstrate any determination in skills or ability," says Mevarech. "First, it's a comparison of apples and pears – advanced math was tested among the 12th graders, and math and science among the younger children. Teaching can, of course, always be improved, but the fourth and eighth grade results are not alarm signals."

Israeli students are good at advanced math because they are taught by teachers who use up-to-date, high-level teaching methods and special computer programs. Moreover, students and educators regard the advanced math course as important and prestigious.

Mevarech said she was disappointed to discover that "Gender differences still plague math in Israel. Significantly more boys than girls still select math and physics, and they usually do better in these subjects than the girls. Our gender gap, in fact, emerged in the study and it's this gap we must work to close. Other countries – a prime example is the United States – have succeeded in closing this gap over the years, and we must now concentrate on doing the same."

The ministry is examining issues such as: Where does the gender bias come from? Does Israel society emphasize achievement for boys over girls, and is this something that the schools reflect? Do teachers and parents encourage boys more than girls in math? Are math textbooks oriented more toward boys than girls?

"We're just at the beginning of our investigation," says Mevarech, "but we're also examining programs that have been used to close the gender gap elsewhere, to see if we can adapt them for Israel."

According to statistics from previous years, most students who participated in the study will pursue advanced study and academic careers. These statistics show that proportionately, Israel has both a high number of students in the world studying math and physics in a post-high school framework, as well as a proportionately large number of PhDs in math and physics.

BLOWIN' IN THE WIND
Young men celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary by evoking the ancient sounds of the shofar. [WZPS photo by Vera Etzion]

Sarah & Simon Laski
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Teddy & Lorraine Libfeld and Family

Shelly & Marilyn Little
Adam, Jeremy & Sari
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Vicki & Syd Lanys
Sandra, Michael & Zachary Lanys
Sheryl, Sheldon, Lindsay and Sean Cheskes
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Sonia & Ben Lant
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

I wish my family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Mary Levitt

Yetta Lanys
Marty & Sandy Lanys
Shawn & Jana
Shane & Patricia Lanys
Tiffany & Lori
Wish all our relatives and friends a Happy , Healthy & Peaceful New Year

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Marilyn, Bruce, Erin, Michael & Brian Lubelsky

Jack & Rose Lipszyc
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Natalie & Manny Langer
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

M's . . .

Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Marcus
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

The families of
Sid & Sandy Moshenberg
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Melnik
children & grandchildren
Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Carl & Sylvia Mahler
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. David Mendlowicz
Simon & Deborah Mendlowicz
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

JOE & HELEN MORGAN AND FAMILY
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Alice & Morris Macarz
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Mr. & Mrs. Max Moneta

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Dr. & Mrs. Seymour Moskovitz and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Markle & Mr. & Mrs. Jack Markle

Wish their relatives and friends a happy, and healthy New Year.

N's . . .

Chaim & Sarah Neuberger Children & Grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

O's . . .

Mark & Barbara Obar Children & Grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Matthew, Shawna, Lewis & Ryan Orzech

Best wishes to our family and friends for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Orlan

P's . . .

Isaac, Minny, David, Barbara, Sammy & Alyssa Peters Morris, Marsha, Michelle & Jennifer Goldstein

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Rose & Sam Pacht
Children & Grandchildren

Wish all their relatives, friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Leib and Fanny Pillersdorf and Family

83 Collinson Boulevard
Toronto, Ontario

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Zalman & Pola Pila
199 Clanton Park Road

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Pearl
Melvin & Rhonda, Jordan
Michael, Zane & Samantha
Jack, Sigal, Tommy, Mickie & Tal

SADIE PEREL
ARNOLD & HYLA PEREL
STEVEN, CHANA MIRIAM, BRYNA & YOSEPHA

wish their relatives and friends a Peaceful, Healthy and Happy New Year

Sam & Dora Prince

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

The cast of Natala in a scene from *Black Natala*. [WZPS photo courtesy of JDC - Israel]

Ethiopian theatre troupe breaks out

By WENDY ELLIMAN
WZPS

Shouting and screaming, crying and laughing raucously is considered immodest behavior among Israel's Ethiopian community. Reticence, reserve and a smiling face is the Ethiopian way, no matter what emotions churn inside.

So when in 1994, Natala, Israel's first Ethiopian theatre troupe, was founded, "they found it very difficult to open up on stage, western style," says the troupe's director, Yaffa Schuster. "Their acting teachers literally had to force them into expressing the emotions of the characters they played, and into making emotional demands on one another during a performance. The fact they can now do this with professional ease is one of Natala's major successes."

The Natala troupe (named for the traditional white veil or shawl that symbolizes the Ethiopian heritage) was founded when American anthropologists Ferdy and Shari Davis wrote a play in English called *The Stone Shoe,* to help visiting American groups gain a better understanding of Ethiopian Jews. The play brought together most of the people who went on to write and perform the unexpectedly successful *Black Natala,* written in cooperation with Schuster and her co-director, Sharon Levitan.

Black Natala tells the story of three young Ethiopian Jews on their desperate journey to Israel. In words, music and dance, it plays out a love story in the desert, evokes the dangers of the long trek, and conveys the struggle of many Ethiopians to reconcile the reality they find in Israel with their long-held dreams.

"We performed *Black Natala* all over Israel more than 40 times, and even once in Budapest," says Schuster. "Successful as it was, however, we knew it wasn't good enough. We planned, as soon as we could, to build a program to teach Natala's actors classical stage skills – movements, acting, stagecraft and voice development. It was vital for them to bring something new to the Israeli stage; to be more than black actors presenting their rich heritage as quaint folklore, and to turn Ethiopian culture into an international culture. For this they needed the training of western repertoire theatre."

So in 1996, when the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)-Israel linked with the group, they created a specially designed one-year program in theatre at Jerusalem's School for Performing Arts, in conjunction with the Jerusalem Foundation, the Jerusalem municipality and the school itself. The troupe's 20 performers, 16 Ethiopian Israelis, a former Australian, a former Iranian and two Israelis, who were provided with stipends by JDC-Israel, recently graduated the program.

In Ethiopia, as in much of Africa, traditional performing is in the form of storytelling, not theatre. "Storytellers can speak for hours on end, and the good ones have high social status," says Yehiel Fran of JDC-Israel. "To perform in Israel, Ethiopians just needed to make the transition from one form of the art to another."

Although many in the troupe hope to turn professional, all currently have other jobs and responsibilities. Tehilla Yishayahu, 24, who came to Israel with Operation Moses in 1984, for example, is studying for high school matriculation. "I have two young children and a full study program, so it was really hard to fit in 10 hours a week of theatre as well," she says. "But I wanted a way to express myself, and it's important for me to continue with Natala."

[Cont'd. on page B65]

Theatre troupe

[Cont'd. from page B64]

Tamir Tamiat, 29, Natala's senior actor and co-writer of *Black Natala,* has a small telephone business in downtown Jerusalem. "When I opened the business, I started missing some of my theatre classes," he says. "But Natala is important to me. Its success is the success of Israel's entire Ethiopian community. So I make an extra effort to keep on coming."

Marsha Tov, formally of Melbourne, Australia, is one of Natala's four non-Ethiopian members. "We whites are part of Natala because it's Israeli theatre," she says. "But we're the minority, the strangers. In the new production, for example, we get the outsiders' roles – the lost child, the prostitute. It's a challenge to work with any group and perhaps our different cultural perspectives make working in Natala more of a challenge than usual. But I love it and hope to continue."

Shai Fredo, assistant director for Natala's second production, a surrealistic play unconnected with the Ethiopian experience, hopes to be a movie director. He was among 400 applicants for 19 places at the Jerusalem Film Institute last year. "I wasn't accepted but they told me to reapply next year," he says hopefully. "In the meantime, I help direct and act in Natala's new production and work nights as a security guard."

The new production, now in rehearsal, *Bavel* (Babel), is dramatic testimony to how far the troupe has come. Written by Natala members themselves, it is a series of powerful, surreal encounters: a garrulous father stares into the distance, painting compelling word-pictures of where he comes from and what he wants, while his daughter stands motionless, intoning "Yes, papa," over and over, her feelings a mystery; a small energetic man sweeps across the stage, trailing an oddly dressed assembly of people after him, anger, fear and excitement coursing through them; a woman in a green sheath appears at the back of the stage, shouting urgently in an unknown tongue (Swedish, as it turns out). The others shout back in a polyglot of languages, the confusion between them absolute; a child and her grandmother play and talk together, love overflowing from every gesture and syllable. Each successive scene, seemingly disconnected, draws an intense emotional response.

"We've worked very hard, and we'll work much harder," says Schuster, "because we know that we're doing something worthwhile, and doing it well. We're very aware that Natala is not simply 'black actors on stage' or 'poor Ethiopians'. By drawing from the fountain of Ethiopian culture and marrying that with western stage skills, we believe we're creating not only a new form of art, but also a voice that can help Ethiopians be better absorbed into Israeli society, and bring different parts of that society closer together."

A poignant reunion as Ethiopian Jews arrive in Israel. [IPPA photo]

Isaac & Sylvia Peck
Ryan, Jared & Samantha
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.
Moniek & Genia Prusznowski

R's . . .

Paul & Phyllis Rosengarten
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Morris & Dena Rozen
Eryn & Daniel
Wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

THE ROSENS
Hannah, John, Amy and Eric
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Helen Reich
52 Evanston Dr.
Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Ralph, Jesse, Danielle, Joanna, Kari Rabinowicz & Mrs. Bella Rabinowicz
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Willie & Bertha Rosengarten & Family
672 Briar Hill Avenue.
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. P. Rechtsman and Family
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year

Mike & Sally Rosen
31 Denmark Crescent
Wish all their relatives, friends and clients a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

David & Wendy Rechtsman
Mikael & Noah
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Genia & Henry Rakowski
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Nathan & Heddy Rydel
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Martin, Lena, David & Joshua Rauchwerger and Helen Rauchwerger
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Lily & Mike Rosenberg
children & grandchildren
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Myer & Miriam Rosenberg
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Sam & Eva Rotholc
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Adele & Jan Rolin

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy and healthy & peaceful New Year.

Wishing all our relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year.

THE ROSENTHAL FAMILY
62 CARSCADDEN DRIVE
NORTH YORK

S's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mrs. Pauline Sporn

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

MINKA SMITH
IAN, TOBE & SHELDON TWEYMAN
AUBREY & KAREN LIPMAN

Rosita & David Salomon

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Nathan & Helen Shiff
Martin, Michelle, Mitchell & Jaimie Shiff
Jeffrey, Aviva, David & Tatum Shiff
Adam, Barbara, Matthew & Carly Altberg
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy & healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Szmeiser
Leora, Robyn & Justin Hazan
David, Shelley, Tabitha & Daniel Star
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Nachum & Lea Shore
23 Fanshawe Dr., Richmond Hill

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Rachelle, Lisa, Mindy & Jessica Salamon

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

JOSH & MALKA SEGAL

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Louis Szikla & family
Fay Kolinsky

Belle Shub & Family

471 Coldstream Avenue

Wish my relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Harold Sayles

471 Coldstream Avenue

Wish my relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

David Scheer & Naomi Weinfeld and their children

Morris & Yetta Sternberg and Family
90 Overbrook Pl.
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Israeli author Gur tops book lists

By SHELLEY KLEIMAN
WZPS

One day, at age 39, Batya Gur woke up and decided she wanted to become a writer – so she did.

Now 50, Gur popularized the detective genre in the Israeli literary canon and has become one of Israel's best-selling novelists abroad.

Her first three mysteries (a fourth has not yet been translated into English) have made it onto the *New York Times'* annual Notable Book List, an impressive feat for any writer not to mention a foreigner and a whodunnit novice to boot. Her books have been translated into French, German (she won Germany's Crimi Prize), Italian, Dutch and Japanese.

But her success is first and foremost local, so much so that this native Jerusalemite is currently writing a portrait of Israel's capital city. Her books are all best sellers – a fact that leaves her not a little bit uncomfortable. Painfully shy, Gur fidgets in her chair at a crowded Jerusalem cafe as if waiting to have a tooth extracted.

"I hate being asked personal questions," says Gur, a trim, woman with striking green eyes and pale blonde hair.

Gur began writing only nine years ago, when she suddenly became tired of teaching high school and got fed up with working on her master's thesis on the Israeli poet Natan Zach. She launched her writing career with a detective novel because, she says, it's the least presumptuous genre. "If I failed, nobody would notice," she explains.

Gur's murders take place in self-contained insular societies – the Jerusalem Psychoanalytic Institute (*The Saturday Morning Murder,* 1988), the Hebrew University's literature department (*Literary Murder,* 1991), and a kibbutz (*Murder on a Kibbutz,* 1991). For her fourth mystery (*Orchestral Murder,* 1996), Gur ventured into the world of musicians.

To solve the murders, Gur introduces readers to Inspector Michael Ohayon, a shrewd observer of the human condition who solves cases by getting into his suspects' shoes. Israel's first home-grown detective is also very different from Gur: He is male and the son of Moroccan immigrants, while she is the daughter of Holocaust survivors.

Batya Gur

For Gur, the appearance of the detective genre is indicative of a nation's maturity.

"Totally realistic in an unrealistic way, it is a serious genre in that it is so ironic," says Gur. "I think we've become grown up enough to take a look at ourselves through this finely tuned microscopic lens."

After completing her third mystery, Gur took an imaginative leap of faith and wrote *I Didn't Imagine It Like This,* a novel with no crime and no suspects whose main character is a female gynecologist. Just released in Hebrew is *Stone for a Stone.* The story of a mother whose son is killed in an army related accident, Gur's second non-mystery novel is receiving rave reviews in the Israeli press.

Gur lights one cigarette after another, as do many of her characters, a rather dated trait in these health-conscious times.

"I am rather anachronistic, anyway," Gur offers between puffs. "I am also old-fashioned; I like to have a door opened for me and enjoy being helped on with my coat. And," she takes a deep breath, "I hate the politics of feminism."

Gur maintains a busy schedule. She gets up at 6:30 a.m., exercises at a local gym, and is at her computer by 8:30 a.m. Aside from writing novels, Gur, a voracious reader, also has a weekly book review column in the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz* and teaches creative writing twice a week at the Jerusalem Film and Television School. She avoids television and the social literary scene and enjoys cooking, classical music and the beach. She also finds time for her children – two boys and a girl, ages 20, 18 and 13.

How does she do it all? Gur shrugs. "I don't know; it does sound impressive when you put it on paper," she admits, looking at her watch. "Oh dear, I really must go," she apologizes and hurries off to her next appointment.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

SCREAMING AT THE DEAD SEA
[Jodie Petel photo, *Honorable Mention*, Israel Experience]

Israel Experience lets youth see Israel

By SIMON GRIVER
WZPS

Many Diaspora youngsters would be unable to visit Israel were it not for the Israel Experience programs offered by the Jewish Agency's Department for Jewish Zionist Education. An estimated 8,000 Jewish youths from around the world visited Israel on such programs this summer. At Jerusalem's Rose Garden in July, 3,500 of them gathered to salute Israel's 50th anniversary before marching to a rally at nearby Mount Herzl.

Statistics show that most participants on Israel Experience summer programs return to Israel repeatedly, often for more extended stays and even aliyah. Jessica Feldman, 22, from North York, Toronto, was a counselor leading a Young Judea youth group from Canada.

"I was a teenager on an Israel Experience program when I first came to Israel and now I'm back for the eighth time," she said. "I've fallen in love with the openness and friendliness of the people and the diversity of the landscapes. I love hiking in Israel, from Nahal Hazbani in the north to the Red Canyon near Eilat."

A graduate in Sociology and Human Resources from York University, which included a one-year program at the Hebrew University, Feldman has now chosen to spend a year in Israel studying at yeshiva. "I've become very interested in Orthodox Judaism," she said. "I'm not Orthodox but I'd like to find out more about it."

Many of the youngsters were in Israel for the first time. Sarah Linsk, 15, from St. Paul, Minn., found that Israel was not quite what she expected but she loved the country anyway.

"There are a lot of very attractive places in Israel," she observed, "but it's also very run down in other places. Despite my disappointment, I still really like it here. I immediately felt a strong sense that this is my land and my people."

[Cont'd. on page B68]

GADNA: THE BEST EXPERIENCE
[Adi Levin photo, *Honorable Mention*, Israel Experience]

Best wishes for a Happy & Healthy New Year to all our relatives, clients & friends

Mr. & Mrs. Milton Snow
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Snow & family
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Schwartz & family
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Cohen & family
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Snow

Derek & Jill Stern
100 MacArthur Drive
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Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year

Zanvel & Sylvia Stern and Corinne
37 Steele Valley Road
Thornhill
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year

Larry & Pam Shapiro
Jodi & Robyn
Mark, Lori & Jordan Shapiro
Annie Okun, Syd Shapiro
Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Max & Dorothy Stern
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

David & Luba Smuschkowitz and Family
Wish all their relatives & friends a year of peace, good health and happiness

Alter & Helen Steinfeld
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Stork and Family
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Anne & Joe Steinberg
Bella, Elliot, Jason, Adam & Daniel Sinukoff
Wendy, Stuart, Zachary, Cory, Matthew & Michael Himmel
Evy, Elliot, Hailey & Carly Sugar
Wish their relatives, machatunim & friends a happy & healthy New Year.
52 Green Acres Road

Jack, Lola, Rose-Mary Sylman
Sid, Evelyn, Madison & Tyler Rochwerg
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Isaac and Mary Szames
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
The Steinman Family
6 Barclay Court

Laury & Evy Snow
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Leon & Bela Sniatowski
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Oscar & Florence Shainhouse
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Wishing our parents, family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Henry, Susyn & Carl Smith
Lisa & Derek Frankfort

BEN STERNBERG
and
JEAN KAPLAN
Wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Mr. & Mrs. Karl Sanders and family

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Sigmund Schmidt
3900 Yonge St., PH. #3

Dorice & David Silverman & Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Switzer Jordan, Eric and Kyle

Wish their relatives and friends a happy, and healthy New Year.

Sollie & Florence Sherman

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

T's . . .

Mr. & Mrs. G. Thaler and children

Sam, Bess and grandson Jason Wagowsky

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Dina & Willie Tenenbaum

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Norm & Sandra Turk and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Morris Teper & family

Mrs. Rose Tenenbaum

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

U's . . .

Irving & Sylvia Ungerman and family

Wish their relatives & friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of israel

Harry & Yetta Ungerman

V's . . .

Gordie & Debra Verk Jaime & Courtney
127 Lord Seaton Road

Wish their relatives and friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

W's . . .

Leonard, Gloria & Barb Wiseberg Azriel & Sigal Har Lavan, Nitzan and Dafna

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Program helps strengthen Jewish identities

[Cont'd. from page B67]

Linsk was spending 25 days in Israel on the Etgar program. Organized by the Jewish Community Centres (JCC) of the United States, together with the Jewish Agency, Etgar brought 150 teenagers to Israel this year. For Linsk, the two highlights of the itinerary were floating in the Dead Sea and praying at the Western Wall.

"I'm not an especially religious person," said Linsk, who irregularly attends a Reform temple. "My views about God and religion are very unclear. And I must admit I'm coming away from Israel even more confused on the subject. We have heard so many conflicting ideas here about religion, but I think I'll start lighting Shabbat candles on Friday nights when I return home."

Though Linsk took pleasure from the fact that everybody in Israel is Jewish, she also enjoys being part of a small minority in St. Paul. "Not only is there no anti-Semitism at home," she said, "but people are interested in Judaism. I like that."

In contrast, Kimberly Frank, 17, also in Israel for the first time on an Etgar Israel Experience program from Kingston (near Scranton), Penn., does not enjoy being the only Jew at her school.

"There is a lot of anti-Semitism where I live," she said regretfully. "I've been called a dirty Jew at school and some anti-Semitic slogans were spray-painted on a nearby Reform temple."

For Frank, the highlight of her visit to Israel was climbing Masada at four in the morning to see the sunrise over the desert to the east.

"Most of all, visiting Israel has restored my pride in being Jewish," Frank said. "I feel very proud when I see what has been achieved here. I think I'd like to come back to do a one-year program at the Hebrew University."

The Israel Experience program was integral in strengthening the Jewish identites of participants in Israel for their first time.

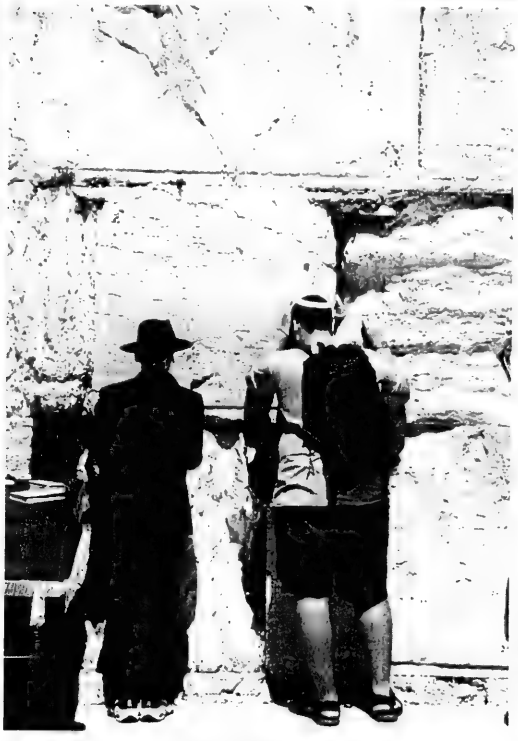
"I really feel as though I am part of the Jewish people here," said Loren Dunn, 16, from Needham, Boston, Mass. "I feel a part of something much larger. In the United States, I go to temple on the High Holy Days, but Judaism has not been central in my life, even though it is a basic part of my identity. People in America don't usually believe me when I say that I'm Jewish, because I have blond hair and don't look Jewish. That makes me angry."

For Dunn, who was in Israel for five weeks on a North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) program, the highlight of the trip was participating in chas-

[Cont'd. on page B69]

SCULPTURED IN MUD
[Andrea Schaffer photo, *Honorable Mention*, Israel Experience]

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759



THE WESTERN WALL
[Iouri Liamine photo, *Honorable Mention*, Israel Experience]

Europeans mainly veteran visitors

[Cont'd. from page B68]

sidic dancing in Jerusalem's Zion Square.

"I'm beginning to understand what it means to be Jewish," he added. "This program has definitely changed me. When I go home, I'm going to attend temple more often."

While most of the Americans were in Israel for the first time, the Europeans were mainly veteran Israeli visitors. Simon Buckman, 16, from Finchley, London, described Israel as his second home.

"I have been drawn back again and again since I first came here when I was 12," he said. "My mother's sister lives here and I have a lot cousins. When I was 14, I spent five months studying at Youth Aliyah's Yemin Orde school."

Buckman spent a month in Israel with 43 other English teenagers on a Federation of Zionist Youth (FZY) program. For him, the highlight of the trip was visiting Jerusalem's Old City. "I'm always surprised by its beauty," he said.

Buckman comes from a traditional family. "We go to synagogue every Shabbat and I'm not allowed to watch soccer on Saturday. We've always been taught that Israel is central to Judaism. I'll make aliyah as soon as I'm old enough."

Maureen Meyer, 15, from Geneva, Switzerland, was in Israel for the 18th time. She was touring the country with the American Etgar program, which she had found and applied for through the Internet.

"This is the first time I've come to Israel without my parents," she said. "We usually come at Pesach and the High Holy Days. This is the first chance I've had to tour the country from the Galilee to the Negev and I've been really struck by how people have had to fight to develop Israel.

"I feel I am a part of everything that is going on here," she continued, "and I'd like to do a one-year (learning) program."

According to Dr. Ben Eliezer, director general of the Jewish Agency Department for Jewish Zionist Education, Israel Experience programs "are being seen increasingly as the most effective way to strengthen Jewish identity and reinforce a sense of pride in being Jewish."

Lou & Helen Wronzberg
Rick, Debbie, Alexis & Danielle
Larry, Darlene, Lynsey & Tarah
Randy, Debbie, Jordan, Ashley, Dustin & Melissa
Donna, Jonah, Nechama, Chaim & Shmuel
Wish all their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Sylvia & Henry Waks
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Victor & Klara Wise

Ted, Annette Madison & Eden Wine
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and muchatonim friends, and the people of Israel.
Harry & Rose Wolfe
43 Kennard Avenue

Norman & Sonia Wagner and Family
344 Hillhurst Blvd.
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

David & Ruth Warsh Family
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Harry & Ida Weisleder & Marsha
Mark, Jodi & Hillary
Louis, Marlene, Joshua & Lindsay
Anne & Sam Himelfarb
Adam & Eric
wish their relatives, friends and neighbours a peaceful happy and healthy New Year.

Jack & Anne Weinbaum & Family
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Albert & Helen Waisglass
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Weinstock
David, Moss, Mark & Daniel
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year

Sarah & Abe Wertman
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy holiday and a healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Hy Weinrib
Marla Weinrib , Risa, Shane, Lauren, Jamie Fine
Wish their relatives, friends& neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. John Wenus
Dustin, Shelby and Brittany
Wish their relatives , friends & neighbours a happy, and healthy New Year.

Ted & Perlan Waxman
Mark & Marnie
Aaron & Rosemany
and Randy
83 Stonedene Blvd.
Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Shana Tova
To our friends & relatives for a happy & healthy New Year
Stefanie & Steve Winter

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759

Y's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

The Yermus Family

Hy & Ruth Young

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Z's . . .

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Abe & Margot Zukerman

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Zajdner

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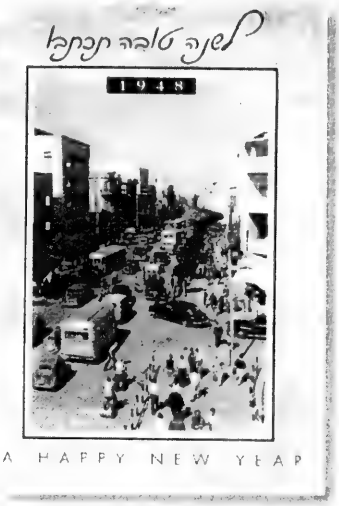
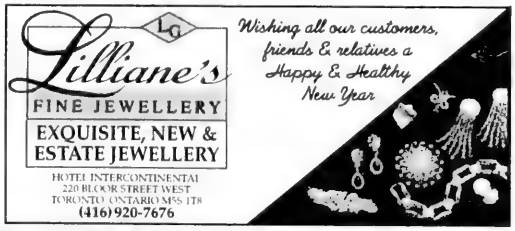
I'M PLANNING TO CELEBRATE ON MY OWN.
TA DAA
HAPPY 50TH!
THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH WAS LAID-BACK RATHER THAN JUBILANT!
IT'S BECAUSE OF AN INNATE JEWISH UNEASINESS WITH SUCCESS.
YUP.
WE KNOW THAT BEHIND EVERY SILVER LINING...
THERE'S A CLOUD.
BEHOLD! THE MIRACLE OF MODERN ISRAEL!
ON ONE SIDE WE FACE THE RISING TIDE OF UNEMPLOYMENT!
ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE FLOOD OF FOREIGN WORKERS, HERE FOR THE JOBS!
BOTH PROBLEMS AT THE SAME TIME?!?
I SAID IT WAS A MIRACLE!
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THIS TIME...
ISRAEL IS NOT SEEN AS A "THREAT" TO THE UNITY OF THE COALITION AGAINST SADDAM.
AND THE BAD NEWS IS THAT THIS TIME...
THERE IS NO COALITION AGAINST SADDAM!
AFTER 50 YEARS OF LIES AND DENIALS
AND AFTER THREATS OF A WORLD-WIDE BOYCOTT OF THE SWISS
SWISS BANKS HAVE FINALLY BEEN FORCED TO RETURN SOME OF THE MONEY THEY STOLE FROM HOLOCAUST VICTIMS
YOU ARE NOW FREE TO TRUST THEM WITH YOUR MONEY AGAIN
IN THIS POST SOVIET-AMERICAN COLD WAR PERIOD...
INDIA-PAKISTAN
THE INDEPENDENT NATIONS OF THE PLANET HAVE SHOWN THEIR ABILITY
ETHIOPIA ERITREA
TO BOMB, KILL AND THREATEN EACH OTHER
YUGOSLAVIA ALBANIA
ENTIRELY WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF ANY SUPER POWER SUPPORT!
http://drybones.org
©1998kirschen

Rosh Hashanah Greetings 5759



ROSH HASHANAH GREETING CARDS WERE A BIG HIT

Many of the greeting cards that the young man is buying, below, were produced by Palphot, which was founded in 1934 as the Palestine Photo Rotation Company. The three cards displayed here were typical of the types of cards produced by Palphot.
[photo by Fritz Cohen, 1960]



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Wishing our clients a very healthy and happy New Year
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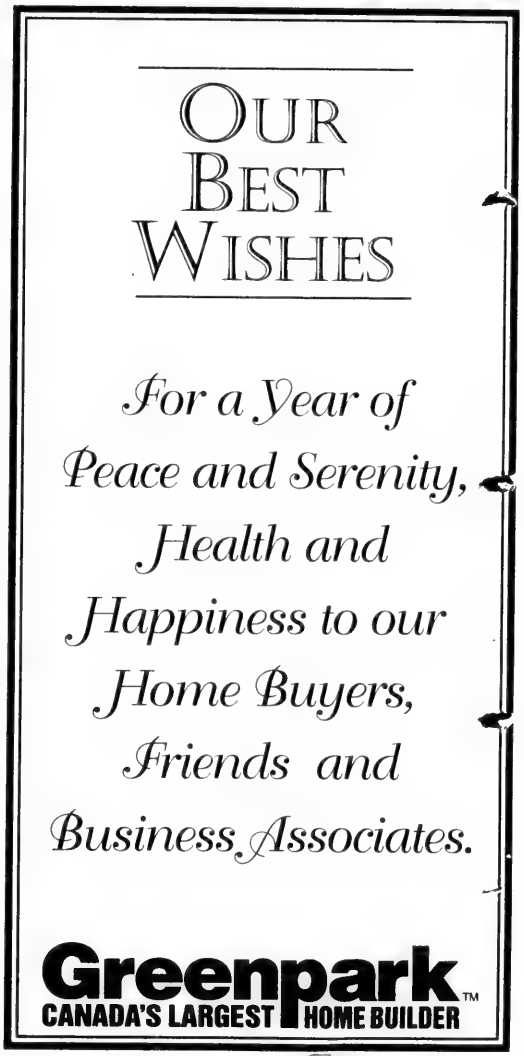
OUR BEST WISHES
For a Year of Peace and Serenity, Health and Happiness to our Home Buyers, Friends and Business Associates.
Greenpark
CANADA'S LARGEST HOME BUILDER

The PICKLE BARREL BLOOMSBURY cafe

The Partners and Management wish all their customers a Happy and Healthy New Year

Best Wishes for Peace, Happiness and Prosperity in the New Year

The Affordable Leather Collection

Luxurious quality is affordable at De Boer's. This genuine leather sofa can be ordered in 10 vibrant colours. Matching loveseat and chair available. Sofa as shown, just $1595.

De Boer's

It's a comfort to know we're here!

OPEN MON. TO WED. AND SAT. 10AM-6PM, THUR. AND FRI. UNTIL 9PM, (COLLEGE PARK TO 6PM)
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OTTAWA 1050 BAXTER RD. (613) 828-9682 · **VISIT US AT www.deboers.com**

Na'amat Canada

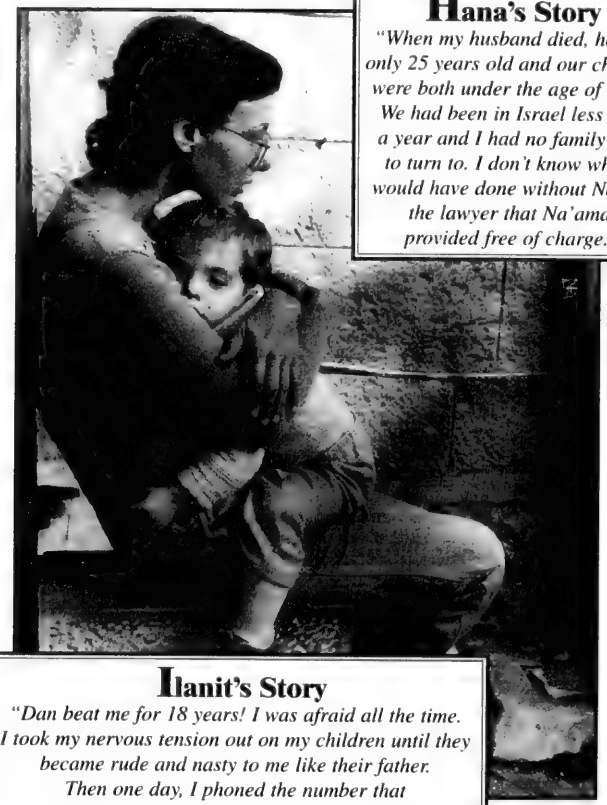
HAND IN HAND

With **Na'amat Israel**

Enhancing The Dignity Of Women

Na'amat in Israel is a leader in acting on behalf of women's rights and improving the lives of children. Through Na'amat Canada's Hand in Hand program, support is provided for a number of key initiatives in Israel. Contributions from caring people like you are essential.

We are proud to tell you about the significant services that the *Hand in Hand* program provides. Which project touches you?



Hana's Story

"When my husband died, he was only 25 years old and our children were both under the age of three. We had been in Israel less than a year and I had no family here to turn to. I don't know what I would have done without Naomi, the lawyer that Na'amat provided free of charge."

Ilanit's Story

"Dan beat me for 18 years! I was afraid all the time. I took my nervous tension out on my children until they became rude and nasty to me like their father. Then one day, I phoned the number that Na'amat publicizes to let people like me know where to go for help. Its been two years since Dan and I began going to a Na'amat Counselling Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence."

MAIL POSTE

Postage paid / Port payé

Business Reply / Réponse d'affaires

0096146999 01

0096146999-M3H3X2-BR01

Hand in Hand
Na'amat Canada
272 Codsell Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M3H 9Z9

Domestic Violence Prevention

Na'amat's five Centres in Israel for the Prevention of Domestic Violence provide counselling and run support groups for victims and rehabilitation services for their partners. With a 90% rehabilitation rate among treatable batterers, we are world-renowned for successfully rebuilding dysfunctional families.

Legal Aid

In over 30 legal aid offices throughout Israel, lawyers provide legal services to women. Typical clients are widows with financial or estate problems, single mothers, abused women, divorcees with child custody problems and women seeking a religious divorce.

Health Care

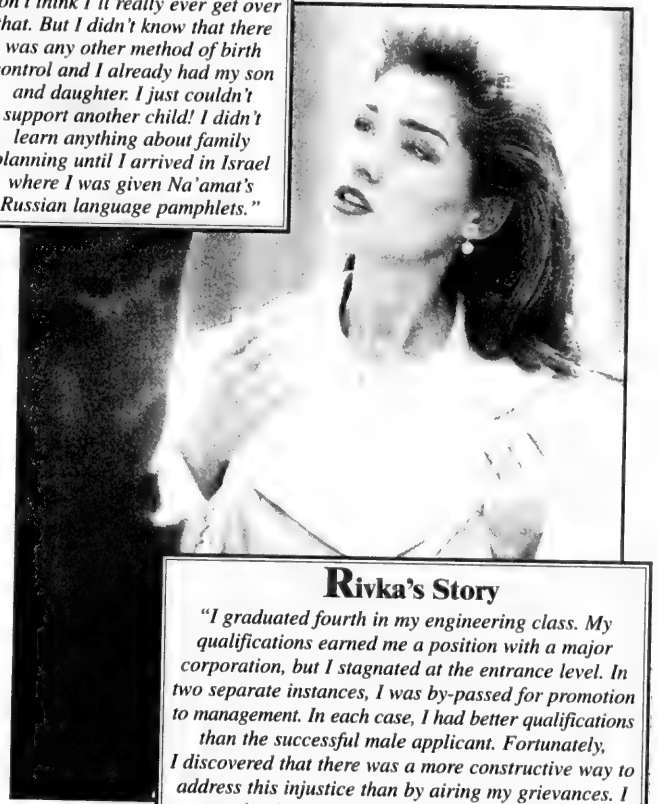
Na'amat offers free lectures and publishes pamphlets on nutrition, hygiene, general health and fertility - filling a basic need for information. Free health information clinics provide individual treatment and counselling.

Management Skills Training

Na'amat has established university-level courses which prepare Israeli women for upper management positions. Also funded by Na'amat are management training seminars and classes in entrepreneurial skills.

Natasha's Story

"I had four abortions in Russia. I don't think I'll really ever get over that. But I didn't know that there was any other method of birth control and I already had my son and daughter. I just couldn't support another child! I didn't learn anything about family planning until I arrived in Israel where I was given Na'amat's Russian language pamphlets."



Rivka's Story

"I graduated fourth in my engineering class. My qualifications earned me a position with a major corporation, but I stagnated at the entrance level. In two separate instances, I was by-passed for promotion to management. In each case, I had better qualifications than the successful male applicant. Fortunately, I discovered that there was a more constructive way to address this injustice than by airing my grievances. I took a leave of absence to attend Na'amat's Management Skill Course at Haifa University.

Please check that you have enclosed...
1) Your completed order form
2) Your payment. Please DO NOT SEND LOOSE CASH.

Thank You.

NA'AMAT

...or

❒ I would prefer to use my Israel Bonds as payment:

No. of Bonds: Value: $ _____

or

I prefer to use a ❒ Pre-Authorized Chequing Plan

❒ Pre-Authorized Visa, MasterCard or Amex

❒ Monthly ❒ Quarterly

Bank: _____

Account #: _____

Branch: _____

Signature: _____

I authorize Na'amat Canada to withdraw:

❒ **$10** ❒ **$25** ❒ **$50** ❒ **$100** ❒ **Other $** _____

The first withdrawal will begin on: _____

Funds will be drawn on the indicated account the 1st of each month/quarter. I may cancel this plan any time upon written notice.

Note: Please include a "VOID" blank cheque with this form

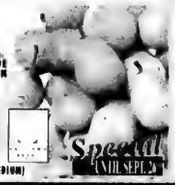
Fresh Basics

FRESH TOMATOES
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
NO. 1 GRADE
1.87 kg
lb .85 OR LESS!

RIPE CANTALOUPE
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
NO. 1 GRADE, SIZE 15'S
each
1.25
ONE SERVING = 170 G (1/4 LARGE)

FRESH SPINACH
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
10 oz (284 g) bag
.95

BARTLETT PEARS
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
EXTRA FANCY GRADE
CALIFORNIA GOLDEN
1.72 kg
lb .78
ONE SERVING = 166 G (1 MEDIUM)



CELERY STALKS
PRODUCT OF ONTARIO
CANADA NO. 1 GRADE
each
.65
ONE SERVING = 60 G (1 STALK)

PEPPER SQUASH
PRODUCT OF ONTARIO
2/.77
ONE SERVING = 100 G (1/4 CUP/1/4 OF CUBED)

Frozen Basics

LEAN CUISINE ENTREES
212-296 g box
ASSORTED VARIETIES OR STOUFFER'S HOMESTYLE
196-340 g box
1.97

BOSTON BLUEFISH FILLETS
FROZEN HIGH LINER
400 g pkg
2.47

STOUFFER'S PASTARIA ENTREES
ASSORTED VARIETIES
225-255 g pkg
1.49

CAVENDISH GOLDEN CROWNS
2 kg bag
1.99
Every Single Day!

BREYERS CLASSIC ICE CREAM
ASSORTED FLAVOURS
2 L tub
2.97
Every Single Day!

HIGHLINER ALASKAN POLLOCK FILLETS
400 g
OR CAPTAIN'S TABLE ENTREES 267-300 G
1.97

•**THORNHILL:** 8190 BAYVIEW AVE.-ROMFIELD CRES. & BAYVIEW AVE.;
THE SHOPS ON STEELES & 404-DON MILLS & STEELES; MAIN EXCHANGE PLAZA-BATHURST & STEELES

Z4Z4 A4

food Basics

Bottom Line Prices!!!

Best Prices Everyday!

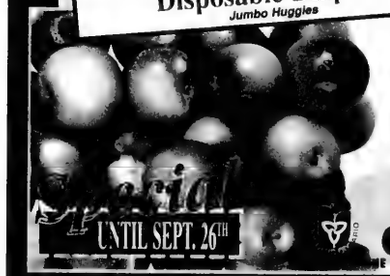
Rosh 5759
Hashanah
INSERT INSIDE
PRICE IN EFFECT FOR 2 WEEKS

WE OFFER INTERAC DEBIT CARD SERVICE

Triple The Difference!!!

If you find any of these items at a lower price at our major competitors we'll cheerfully refund
Triple the Difference!!!
Milk 4 litre
Eggs large white
Butter 1lb.
Sugar 2kg
Bread white-675g
Head Lettuce
Bananas
Potatoes 10 lb (4.54 kg) bag-white
Tomatoes
Disposable Diapers
Jumbo Huggies

TROPICAL GROVE FRUIT DRINKS
OR ICED TEA
ASSORTED FLAVOURS
case of 12 x 300 mL btls
1.97



McINTOSH APPLES
PRODUCT OF ONTARIO
CANADA FANCY GRADE
3 lb (1.36 kg) bag
.98
ONE SERVING = 160 G (1 MEDIUM)

CROSS RIB ROAST
BONELESS,
CUT FROM CANADA GRADE AAA,AA,A
4.34 kg
lb 1.97

YUKON GOLD POTATOES
PRODUCT OF ONTARIO
CANADA NO. 1 GRADE, YELLOW FLESH
10 lb (4.54 kg) bag
1.48
ONE SERVING = 150 G (1 MEDIUM)

ALORO PIZZA
227 g
OR PONZOS 200 G
.67

SAVE MONEY!

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT!
- RE-USE YOUR OWN BAGS
- PLASTIC TOTE BOXES AVAILABLE-1.98each
- PLASTIC BAGS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

PRICES EFFECTIVE FROM SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH TO SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1998.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
SEPT. 13	SEPT. 14	SEPT. 15	SEPT. 16	SEPT. 17	SEPT. 18	SEPT. 19
SEPT. 20	SEPT. 21	SEPT. 22	SEPT. 23	SEPT. 24	SEPT. 25	SEPT. 26

Z1Z1A1

food Basics Special Buys!!!

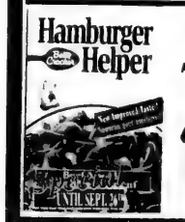
GENERAL MILLS CHEERIOS
575 g box
APPLE CINNAMON 575 G, MULTIGRAIN 450 G, FRENCH TOAST CRUNCH 425 G, TRIX 325 G, PEANUT BUTTER PUFFS, LUCKY CHARMS OR MAPLE WHEATIES 400 G,
2.77

FRUIT ROLL-UPS
110 g box
OR 10 DALICIOUS 153 G
1.77

HABITANT SOUP
ASSORTED VARIETIES
READY TO SERVE
796 mL tin
.99

PEEK FREANS COOKIES
ASSORTED VARIETIES
400 g bag
1.97

HEINZ BEANS OR PASTA
ASSORTED VARIETIES
IN TOMATO SAUCE
398 mL tin
.49



HAMBURGER HELPER
ASSORTED VARIETIES
200-240 g box
1.47

SMUCKER'S PURE JAM
ASSORTED VARIETIES
500 mL jar
2.47

JELL-O JELLY POWDER
ASSORTED VARIETIES
85 g pkg
.33

food Basics ...Best Prices Everyday!!!

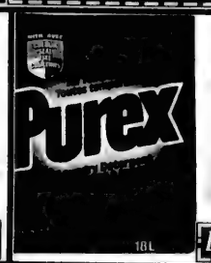
SUN PAC APPLE JUICE
PURE
1.36 L TIN
.87
Every Single Day!

OLD SOUTH ORANGE JUICE
OR GRAPEFRUIT, ORANGE/PEACH, ORANGE/GRAPE/STRAWBERRY
355 mL tin
.99
Every Single Day!

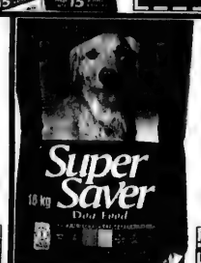
HUMPTY DUMPTY POTATO CHIPS
pkg of 12
OR TREAT SIZE NESTLE, HERSHEY, EFFEM, CADBURY CANDY BARS
each
1.97
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

DEL MONTE FRUIT CUP
ASSORTED VARIETIES
568-570 mL pkg of 4 cups
2.49
Every Single Day!

KRAFT SIDEDISHES
ASSORTED VARIETIES
135 - 175 g
.99
Every Single Day!



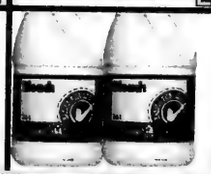
PUREX LAUNDRY DETERGENT
18 L
POWDERED OR 5.9 L LIQUID
9.97
Every Single Day!



SUPER SAVER DOG FOOD
16 KG
9.97
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

CRISP RICE SQUARES
176 g pkg
1.79
Every Single Day!

INSTANT NOODLES
EQUALITY
85g sells pkg
5/1.00
Every Single Day!



BLEACH
3.6 L jug
.89
Every Single Day!

CAT LITTER
REGULAR
10 kg bag
2.69
Every Single Day!

Meat Basics

CHICKEN BREAST QUARTERS
BAGGED BACK ATTACHED, FRESH
5.05 kg
lb **2.29**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

GROUND CHICKEN
EXTRA LEAN, FRESH
4.39 kg
lb **1.99**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

PICNIC SHOULDER
SMOKED PORK
2.62 kg
lb **1.19**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

STEWING BEEF
FRESH, BONELESS CUT FROM CANADA GRADE AAA,AA,A
6.15 kg
lb **2.79**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

LUNCHABLES
FUN PACK, ALL VARIETIES OSCAR MAYER
317-347 g pkg
2.99
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

Deli Basics

SALADS
ASSORTED VARIETIES
KEYFARMS
500 g tub
1.29

KIELBASSA LOAF OR BLACK FOREST HAM
PRE-SLICED
.88 100 g
lb **3.99**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

COLBY OR BRICK CHEESE
PRECUT SILANI
.99 100 g
lb **4.49**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

CALIFORNIA WRAPS
ASSORTED VARIETIES
255 g pkg of 6
1.69
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

HUMMUS OR DIPS
SUMMERFROST ASSORTED VARIETIES
225 g tub
2.49
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

Bakery Basics

SPANISH BAR CAKE
JANE PARKER
540 g pkg
1.29

RAISIN BREAD
JANE PARKER
450 g Loaf
.99
Every Single Day!

PUDDING CAKES
BAKER'S OVEN
500 g
2/5.00
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

BRAN OR FLAX SEED BREAD
JANE PARKER
450-475 g
.99
Every Single Day

BREADSTICKS
FORLANI'S
10's
2.79
Every Single Day

Dairy Basics

SOUR CREAM OR COTTAGE CHEESE
EQUALITY ASSORTED VARIETIES
500 mL tub
1.27
Every Single Day!

KRAFT CHEEZ WHIZ OR SLICES
PROCESSED CHEESE FOOD
500 g
3.27
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

SAFARI YOGOURT
ASSORTED FLAVOURS
4x125 g tubs
1.17
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

ORANGE JUICE
OR PINK GRAPEFRUIT CHILLED 100% PURE FLORIDA
1.89 L carton
2.47
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 26

food Basics....Over 4,000 Products at the Best Prices Everyday... *Plus* Extra Savings on Special Buys!!!

Basics...Best Prices Everyday!!!

BILLY BEE HONEY
CANADA NO. 1 GRADE, LIQUID
500 g jar or beehive
1.77
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

KEDEM OR TAMPREE GRAPE JUICE
650 mL btl
1.99
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

HECHAL, NER ZION OR ROKEACH MEMORIAL SHABBAT CANDLES
pkg of 72
3.37
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

WESTERN SOUR CREAM
500 mL tub
.97
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

STREIT'S EGG NOODLES
340 g pkg
.95
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

BENZ OR UNGAR'S GEFILTE FISH
FROZEN
624-680 g pkg
4.97
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

HECHAL YOHRTZET OR ROKEACH MEMORIAL CANDLES
each tin
.37
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

DANISH LEGEND OR THE ROSE DANISH BUTTER COOKIES
500 g tin
3.47
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 20

•***MARKHAM:*** 8190 BAYVIEW AVE.-ROMFIELD CRES. & BAYVIEW AVE.; THE SHOPS ON STEELES & 404-DON MILLS & STEELES AVE. E.
•***THORNHILL:*** MAIN EXCHANGE PLAZA-BATHURST & STEELES

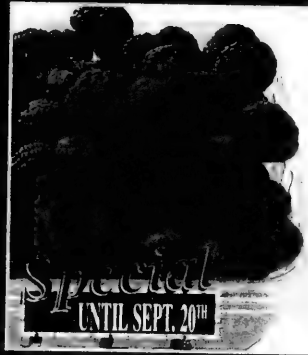
In the Spirit and Tradition of
Rosh Hashanah,
may the sounds of the Shofar
fill all with joy,
as we wish you a New Year of
Health and Happiness.

Happy 5759 Rosh Hashanah

POTTED MUMS

ASSORTED COLOURS
6 inch pot

3.99



RED RASPBERRIES

PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
NO. 1 GRADE
6 oz (170 g) pkg

1.65

ONE SERVING = 1000 (3/4 CUPS) ML

Basics

SPECIAL BUYS IN EFFECT FROM SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH TO SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1998.

Best Prices Everyday!

MYZAIDY'S ROUND HOLIDAY CHALLA BREAD

750 g

2.69

WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!

MYZAIDY'S CHALLA BUNS

pkg of 6

2.40

WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!

MIXED BOUQUET

COLOURFUL, FRESH CUT

each

3.99

TRAY 8.95

CACTUS PEARS

PRODUCT OF ITALY

2.77

ONE SERVING = 140 G (2 MEDIUM PEELED)

MYZAIDY'S HONEY CAKE

18 oz

5.79

WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!

BAGELS

ASSORTED

4/1.00

Everyday Low Price

CHICKEN BREAST QUARTERS

PART BACK ATTACHED, FRESH CHAI KOSHER

6.33 kg

lb **2.87**

CARROTS

PRODUCT OF ONTARIO
CANADA NO. 1 GRADE

5 lb (2.27 kg) bag

.99

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The Canadian Jewish news
48 Pages | Thursday, September 24, 1998 | Tishrei 4, 5759 | 75¢

SHANA TOVA
ELYAL7N

This Week

Greater Toronto Area

JIAS launches mission to rescue as many Jews from the FSU as possible. **Page 3**

Ontario Tory party plans fundraising dinner on Yom Kippur. **Page 5**

A Palestinian children's TV show calls for a holy war against Israel. **Page 7**

Jewish Life

Three Canadians embark on stints in Jewish communal service with the JDC. **Page 14**

Coast to Coast

New group fights for compensation for survivors. **Page 21**

Sports

Toronto's JCC Maccabi team finishes with fewer medals. **Page 46**

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Shabbat: Vayelech
Candlelighting: 6:53
Tishrei, 5759
Havdalah: 7:58

www.cjnews.com

Netanyahu talks to *The CJN*

AN ECUMENICAL DISCUSSION

Israel Meir Lau, Israel's Ashkenazi chief rabbi, appears to be making a humorous point with Abuna Paulos, patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church before the official opening recently in Romania, Bucharest of the 12th international religious meeting of senior clerics organized by the Catholic community of St. Egidio from Assisi, Italy. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Bureau

JERUSALEM — This past year has been particularly difficult for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. He has demonstrated on many occasions his ability to be a political survivor, even when pressures are applied from within Israel and abroad at the same time.

Several times his fragile coalition has seemed ready to fall apart and propel the country towards a new election. At the 11th hour, however, he has always managed to reconcile with his coalition partners.

Exclusive

Just this month, it seemed that the cabinet was in disarray over next year's budget. Most ministers threatened to vote against the adoption of the new budget, each minister adopting a partisan approach to his own interests.

In the end, however, there was another compromise. Netanyahu easily won, with 14 ministers voting in favor of the 1999 budget, and only two against.

The opposition has also helped Netanyahu as a result of its own internal difficulties and lack of firm leadership.

The prime minister is holding fast to what he calls reciprocity in the peace process. The preoccupation of President Bill Clinton at home has perhaps enabled Netanyahu to adopt a less flexible attitude than he might otherwise have done.

Last week, the prime minister spoke to *The CJN*'s Edgar Asher in the cabinet room at his office in Jerusalem.

* * *

CJN: Since the signing of the Oslo accord five years ago, 279 people have been killed by terrorists. This figure is greater than that in the 15 years prior to Oslo. The Palestinian Authority (PA) violates the Oslo accord on an almost daily basis by, among other things, attempting to set up de facto governmental institutions in Jerusalem. What is being done about this?

PM: There have been about 20 attempts to set up illegal de facto governmental institutions in Jerusalem. We keep shutting them down; the number has now diminished considerably. They [the PA] had about six or seven full-scale institutions operating in the eastern part of Jerusalem including the Orient House. All the leaders of governments, prime ministers and foreign ministers came there one after the other.

We changed that, obviously, and shut down those institutions, but there are continuing efforts of encroachment. The battle for Jerusalem is continuing on [illegible]

'The Kol Nidre I always remember'

By JUDY WEISSENBERG COHEN
Special to The CJN

Feature

Practising any part of Judaism or celebrating anything Jewish was totally forbidden by the Nazis at Auschwitz because they knew it could give solace to people.

So we weren't allowed to mark any Jewish occasion. But this particular year when I was there, some of the older women – and by older I mean they could have been 40 or 35; you know, to a 15-year-old, everybody who is over 30 looks old – asked these two specific kapos for permission to do something for Kol Nidre.

Some of the kapos were quite awful, but some of them were very kind. We knew that the two we spoke to were approachable. One of the kind kapos, I remember, was a tall Polish woman, non-Jewish. The other was a little red-headed young woman, a Jewish girl from Czechoslovakia.

So we told them we would like to do something for Kol Nidre.

Continued on page 22

EARLY DEADLINE NOTICE

October 8 issue: organizational and classified ads Monday, Sept. 28 at 12 noon.; display ads Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 10 a.m.
October 15 issue: organizational and classified ads Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 10 a.m.; display ads Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 12 noon.

[illegible] every week.

Israel's population almost 6 million — please see page 31

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

Benjamin Netanyahu

Message from the prime minister of the State of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu on the occasion of Rosh Hashanah 5759

Israel remains an isle of stability

Dear Friends,

As we approach Rosh Hashanah 5759, I want to wish you a good year, a year of peace and prosperity for the Jewish people everywhere.

It is characteristic of our people that we do not consider the onset of the new year an opportunity to revel.

Instead, we review the past year with trepidation, and look forward to the next with awe and determination to improve. This applies to governments as well as individuals.

Today, I believe we can view the achievements of this government with some satisfaction. We have managed to stabilize the economy by dramatically bringing inflation down, privatizing publicly owned enterprises at an unprecedented pace, attracting more foreign investment than ever, and deregulating the currency. In the world's economic turmoil we have remained an isle of stability.

We have also addressed ourselves to one of the most troubling problems in Judaism – the proposed conversion law and its ramifications. For the first time since the establishment of the state, we have attempted to find a solution which will avoid the need to resort to litigation and legislation. The recommendations of the commission headed by Ya'acov Ne'eman should form a basis for progress in the direction of unity and cooperation.

In the past year, the government has devoted considerable time and energy to the peace process. We are committed to the Oslo and Hebron agreements and we have made clear our readiness to make the concessions required by these agreements.

But we have also insisted that the Palestinians comply with the commitments they have been making for five years now, particularly in the fight against terrorism, both by word and deed. It is time they rejected the Palestinian Covenant which calls for Israel's destruction, and it is time they cracked down on the infrastructure of the terrorist organizations which now operate openly and freely in the Palestinian Authority areas.

Despite the difficulties which are an inevitable part of such a complicated process, I have no doubt that we shall achieve peace with security for Israel and our neighbors. I also hope that with the help of the democracies we will also be able to remove the dangers to world peace posed by the predatory regimes in the region.

We have good reason to be proud of the state's achievements as we enter its second half-century and approach the 21st century. But we must not forget that the realization of the Zionist dream – the ingathering of the Jewish people in the land of Israel – is not yet complete. Our goal for the next decade must be to have a majority of the Jewish people living in Israel.

The challenges we face are still formidable. To meet them, we must be united in purpose, strong in resolve and unbending in faith.

I wish you all a year of peace, security, health and happiness.

SUPER SUNDAY

Jamie Solomon, 19 months, was the youngest of many volunteers who staffed telephones on Super Sunday, held Sept. 13. The annual one-day blitz for United Jewish Appeal netted $2.1 million in pledges. [Stephen Epstein photo]

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THE TORONTO STAR

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JIAS plans mission to rescue ex-Soviet Jews

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Warning of an "impending social disaster" and rising anti-Semitism in Russia and other ex-Soviet republics, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS) is embarking on an urgent drive to bring over as many Jews from the former Soviet Union as possible.

"We're shifting to emergency mode," said JIAS national executive director Michael Briks.

JIAS is meeting this week in Ottawa with officials from the Citizenship and Immigration Department to discuss how Jews from the former Soviet republics can be brought to Canada before the Russian winter sets in and before all social order breaks down.

Through its Montreal office, JIAS is hoping to organize a mission as soon as possible to Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kiev and other cities, with a view toward bringing out as many Jewish families as it can.

Jewish immigrant and advocacy groups around the world are watching developments in Russia carefully. Officials with JIAS' international arm, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), returned recently from Russia and Ukraine, saying that Jews in both countries are bracing for trouble.

According to the U.S.-based Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, in addition to the financial and political crises in Russia, there is a rising tide of neo-fascism and anti-Semitism.

Letters from Russia to relatives in Canada report pronounced shortages of supplies and foodstuffs, and skyrocketing prices, Briks said.

As well, the harsh Russian winter is around the corner.

"We're dealing with some really serious stuff there," Briks told *The CJN*. "I think most Canadian Jews are really concerned."

Children and seniors are expected to be hit especially hard.

This Thursday's meeting with federal officials will revolve around how emigres' paperwork can be expedited, Briks said.

A memo from Briks to Barry Silverman, chair of JIAS' Montreal regional council, warns of political and economic turmoil in the former Soviet Union, and repercussions for Jews.

Political, economic turmoil in country

"The perils of yet another frigid Russian winter, coupled with the rapidly diminishing purchasing power of the ruble, present road signs for inevitable hardship and suffering for our Jewish brethren," Briks stated.

He added that "every effort" must be made to secure funding for a JIAS mission to Russia and other countries, notably Ukraine and Belarus.

A mission would take place under the Montreal office's aegis. Three prior JIAS missions to the former Soviet Union, the last one some 18 months ago, each yielded about 100 Jewish families.

Briks said the Quebec government, which establishes its own immigration rules, has been "very sympathetic" to the plight of Jews from the former Soviet Union.

The immigrants would come to Canada in the family reunification category. Once here, they could move from Quebec or make a claim for refugee status, Briks said, because Russian Jews once again have "strong and valid" stories of persecution.

More and more officials in Russia and other ex-Soviet republics "are turning their backs" on Jews and tolerating anti-Semitic incidents, he said.

One recent report noted there are dozens of neo-fascist newspapers sold openly in the streets and subways of Moscow.

Prof. Aurel Braun, a University of Toronto expert on Soviet Jewry, says the appointment of new Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov does not bode well for Jews.

When he was foreign minister, Primakov "consistently" adopted a pro-Arab line, urging arms sales to Iran and cozying up to Iraq's Saddam Hussein, Braun said.

Domestically, Primakov has lashed out at bankers and businesspeople. "These are code words for Jews," Braun said.

Primakov will have more power than any prime minister since 1945, Braun added.

"Things look bleak and dangerous" in Russia, he said. "There are reasons to be worried. For Jews, emigration is more prudent than staying."

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From the editor's desk

The Hamas ideology

It is only natural that the anger and the indignation expressed in the western world after the bombings of the U.S. embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam would abate, as it has.

The strikes by American forces in Afghanistan and Sudan seemed to "satisfy" the public's need for a measure of retaliation. Moreover, societies simply cannot sustain such intense feelings of red-hot anger for long stretches of time. In addition, and perhaps most germane, there have been other distractions in Washington occupying and preoccupying people's attention.

But suspicion for responsibility for the bombings has fallen with some certainty on militant Islamic fundamentalists. In particular, the mysterious expatriot Saudi multi-millionaire Osama bin Ladin appears to have either masterminded or inspired the attacks.

Bin Ladin shares with groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad an outlook on western life that boldly, proudly propounds the use of extreme violence against the United States and Israel. Indeed, even as this column is being written, security forces in Israel are on alert against possible revenge attacks by Hamas for the execution two weeks ago of two top Hamas operatives, Imad and Adel Awadallah.

Israelis, unfortunately, are far more familiar than are North Americans with the underlying philosophies of radically militant groups such as Hamas, and of radically militant individuals such as Osama bin Ladin.

Two excellent, highly informative articles on bin Ladin and on militant Islamic fundamentalism recently appeared in the *New Republic*. I reproduce key portions of them for *CJN* readers.

The first article (Aug. 31), written by Peter Bergen and Frank Smyth, was entitled *Holy Warrior*. Bergen and Smyth are seasoned foreign affairs journalists.

Their article is essentially in three parts: the elaborate furtive "protocol" required to see bin Ladin, the man's background, and his record.

The following brief excerpt explains his call for jihad. "His followers treat him with the utmost deference, which he seems to take as his due. And, although he speaks in a near whisper, his talk is of bitter injustice and merciless revenge. The United States, he said…'has committed acts that are extremely unjust, hideous and criminal' by supporting Israel and imposing sanctions on Iraq. But it is the presence of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia, the land of Mecca and Medina, 'the holiest place of the Muslims,' that most outrages bin Ladin – this he says, is why he has declared a jihad on the United States."

The second article (Sept. 14 and 21), entitled *Unholy War*, was written by Steven Emerson. Emerson has written frequently on terrorism's connection with Islamic fundamentalism.

The nub of Emerson's article is to call upon American foreign policy to recognize and challenge the dangers posed by militant Islamic fundamentalism.

Throughout the article, Emerson is at pains to differentiate between Islam and Islamic fundamentalism. "Islamic fundamentalism," he writes, "represents a minority wing that would impose religious doctrine from an earlier historical era." He later adds that "the vast majority of Muslims worldwide do not support violence."

But in equal measure to the understanding and respect he shows for Islam as a religion, he holds only contempt for the radical evil embodied in the mercilessly violent doctrine of the militant fundamentalists.

It is important that readers gain a sense of the reasoning behind the Hamas doctrine.

"Driving Islamic militants," Emerson explains, is a fear that the Christian west, abetted by the Jews, is bent on destroying and subjugating Islam. Sheik Yusuf al-Qardawi, one of the world's most revered Islamic clerks, has written that 'we are being confronted by the unrelenting – and infiltration – of secularism, communism, Zionism and Christianity' and that Islam is the victim of a 'devilish alliance of Zionist, Christian and atheist powers for a vicious and united campaign against Islam and Muslims.'

"Sheik al-Qardawi, whose Web site contains a religious sermon condoning the killing of Jews…exhorts Muslim youth to impose Islam by 'fighting' or, alternatively, to give money to warriors waging jihad."

It is a dangerous doctrine that radical, militant Islamic fundamentalism preaches. It stands four-square-ly against the west.

Western governments must have the courage and the conviction to defend the western way of life, with all its imperfections, against all terrorists, let alone militant Islamic fundamentalism. But it is the latter group which is vocally, vociferously and violently waging war against the values on which the western way of life rests: the rule of law, democracy, freedom and justice.

We must retreat neither from the battle nor from our western values.

Emerson provides a prescription: "If the battle against bin Ladin is to be won, then it will require a systematic effort to isolate and undermine the ideological underpinnings of militant Islamic theology."

Canada must be part of that effort. It must not only fall upon the shoulders of Israel and the United States.

MBD

CORRECTION

Shira Herzog's column of Sept. 17 contained an error in the headline. The headline should have read "On bullets and ballots" rather than "On bullets and ballets."

The CJN regrets the error.

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

A TEL AVIV SIMCHAT TORAH

The crowd of Simchat Torah celebrants fills Kikar Malchei Square in Tel Aviv, Sept. 1975.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Hull denies remarks in meeting with Jewish, black leaders

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Bobby Hull, the Golden Jet of hockey fame, has denied that he ever spoke favorably of Adolf Hitler or that he defamed the black community.

"We appreciate his clarification, but we will not be the judge of what he said. That is up to the courts, and we have full confidence in the justice system," said Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Moshe Ronen at a press conference with Hull in the CJC offices last week.

Ronen was referring to a libel suit launched by Hull and his attorney, Tim Danson, against the *Moscow Times* and the *Toronto Sun* for libel and defamation relating to stories carried in those publications about remarks he is alleged to have made in a Moscow interview.

Hockey legend Bobby Hull meets the press last week at CJC headquarters. [Ron Csillag photo]

Ronen told the large media gathering, amid flashing bulbs and TV cameras, that he welcomed Hull's support for a national Holocaust memorial in Ottawa and the attention it brings to the Holocaust "the single most important event in Jewish history."

In answer to many questions about why the CJC was taking part, Ronen said it had a duty to respond.

Both Ronen and Antoni Shelton, of the Urban Alliance on Peace Relations, a black leader, said they welcomed Hull's explanations.

"We want the facts to be divided from the fiction," said Shelton. "At the moment we do not know what the truth is."

Hull said he wants the libel suit tried in Belleville, Ont., where he started in hockey in 1949. A member of the Sports Hall of Fame, he wants an apology and retraction from the newspapers.

An executive of the *Toronto Sun* said there would be no apology from his newspaper and that Hull's argument is with the *Moscow Times*, which printed the original story.

In a prepared statement read to a private meeting of Jewish and black leaders prior to the press conference, Hull said: "To my mind Adolf Hitler was the most evil and despicable person who ever lived and there is nothing good or positive that can ever be said about such an evil man."

He said the black community has made an "enormous and very positive" contribution and "I have nothing but respect and admiration for the black community."

Hull visited the Holocaust Memorial Centre in the same building and told the reporters that the night before, he had seen a documentary, *The Eighty-first Blow*, about the beating of a Jewish boy in the Holocaust and could not sleep because of the images it created.

He said he has written to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien asking him to ensure a national Holocaust memorial in the capital.

Several times reporters asked Hull why he had asked for the meeting with Jewish and black leaders and the hockey star replied firmly that he had done so to defend his reputation.

Hull denied ever making racist statements during his hockey career, and when a reporter started asking him about a specific incident, Danson advised him not to reply, stating it was a matter for the courts.

The 59-year-old hockey legend said he was "set up" in the Moscow interview and would like to find out why. "There is more to this than meets the eye," he said.

His explanation of the Moscow statements attributed to him was that he was asked "in a generic sense" what if certain leaders like Stalin, the czars or Napoleon returned.

"I said I hoped it would never happen. I might have added that certain leaders went too far. But I never mentioned Hitler."

He said the interview with the Russian agency Tass was interrupted by a third person he did not know, who asked "bizarre" questions.

"I told him 'What do you want from me? I'm only a hockey player.'"

Adding to the confusion, he said, was that a translator was interpreting his remarks, and he believes this may have led to mistakes appearing in the *Moscow Times* story.

At the press conference here, the antipathy some reporters evinced towards Hull came to a head when a female reporter asked him about instances of alleged sexual harassment. "Who am I to believe?" the reporter asked.

Hull replied: "Believe me, I'm telling the truth."

Shelton said the black community has always felt a kinship with the Jewish community and is concerned about the alleged comments made by Hull.

"These comments must have emanated from somewhere," he said. "How did they get in the public domain?"

Hull said he and his counsel have not decided what financial compensation, if any, they will ask for in the libel suit.

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Greater Toronto Area

New Austrian law could benefit former nationals

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Former nationals of Austria who apply for and receive Austrian citizenship will be eligible for a package of social security benefits, including a monthly pension.

Austria recently amended the 1993 Austrian Nationality Act, which enables former Austrians to reclaim their citizenship if they were driven out of the country by Nazi persecution or fear of it.

The new amendment was passed recently and goes into effect on Jan. 1, 1999.

It applies to individuals from various parts of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire who settled in Austria after World War I and did not formally acquire Austrian citizenship, said Wolfgang Spadinger, the minister counsellor at Austria's embassy in Ottawa.

Such individuals had not been covered by the original Austrian Nationality Act, he added.

Before it was absorbed by Germany in 1938, Austria was home to about 180,000 Jews. The annexation, or Anschluss, reduced Austrian Jews to second-class citizens and prompted many of them to emigrate.

The vast majority of Jews unable to leave were eventually murdered. It is estimated that 65,000 Austrian Jews were killed during the course of the Holocaust.

According to Spadinger, there are about 1,500 Jews in Canada from Austria.

Spadinger said that those who regain their Austrian citizenship do not lose their Canadian citizenship.

With Austrian citizenship in hand, a person can apply for a pension which, on average, is worth about $300 per month.

Furthermore, Austrian citizens are exempt from existing regulations governing the purchase of property by non-Austrians, said Spadinger.

An Austrian national is also eligible for social assistance payments should he or she reside in Austria.

As well, Austrian citizens, regardless of where they live, can vote in Austrian and European Union elections. Austria is a member of the European Union.

Finally, he explained, an Austrian citizen can acquire an Austrian passport, which exempts the recipient from applying for a visa in many countries.

The amendment of the Austrian Nationality Act comes on the heels of Austria's recent decision to expand a relief fund for victims of National Socialsm.

Two months ago, the Austrian government announced it would add $12 million to a 1995 fund. Under its terms, Austrian Jews who were persecuted by the Nazis can apply for a one-time $8,500 payment.

Further information about the fund and the Austrian Nationality Act can be obtained from Austria's embassy in Ottawa, 613-789-1444.

10 months for cemetery desecration

ST. CATHARINES — A man who desecrated this city's only Jewish cemetery last spring has been sentenced to 10 months in jail followed by three years probation.

The court found that the crime committed by Warren Soles, 20, was "racially motivated against the Jewish community."

The judge ruled that a sentence of 18 months was appropriate but reduced it by eight months for time already served.

As well, Soles must make restitution for the damage he caused at the B'nai Israel cemetery on April 25.

In July, Soles pleaded guilty to one count of concealing a weapon, one charge of mischief over $5,000 and 43 counts of causing indignity to human remains – one each for the 43 tombstones toppled at the cemetery.

Damage was estimated at between $5,000 and $8,000.

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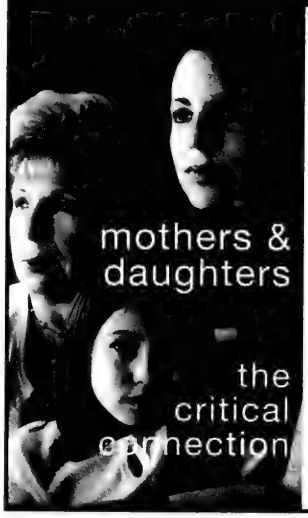

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Greater Toronto Area

Palestinian kid's show calls for a holy war

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An Israeli group that monitors Palestinian television is circulating a videotape of a children's show that combines images of cartoon characters with calls for holy war against Israel.

The videotape, which was compiled by a group called Shalom L'Dorot (Peace for Generations), includes numerous clips from the *Children's Club* as well as excerpts from Palestinian news reports.

The children's program is produced by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and runs on the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation (PBC), the Palestinian Authority's official broadcaster based in Ramallah.

The clips include fiery and often violent rhetoric in connection with Israel. In one excerpt from the Feb. 13, 1998 show, a young girl says: "Oh my sister sings constantly about my life as a suicide bomber. How we remain steadfast, each and every part of your soil I have drenched with my blood. And we shall march as warriors of jihad (holy war)."

In another program (Feb. 6), a youngster proclaims: "When I wander into the entrance of Jerusalem, I will turn into a suicide warrior in battle-dress. In battle-dress. In battle-dress.

"Thank you, thank you," he continues as the adult group leader salutes him with "bravo, bravo, bravo."

Gil Zemonsky, who provided the tape to the *The CJN*, said its contents illustrate Yasser Arafat's goal of "preparing the next generation" of Palestinian children for violence.

"It's patently obvious what's going on here," said Zemonsky, who described himself as a member of the Israeli nationalist camp. "Arafat is not preparing his people for peace but for the next conflict, for jihad, for war."

Founded in 1994

Zemonsky said he received the tape and related news clippings from David Bedein, an Israeli researcher associated with Shalom L'Dorot. That organization was founded in 1994, one year after Israel and the PLO signed the Oslo agreement that was to usher in a new era of peaceful relations.

According to Bedein, Shalom L'Dorot is a "centrist group with 500 members that is not politically affiliated. Its avowed purpose is to galvanize a consensus within Israel behind the fundamentals of the peace process."

(One article of the Oslo Accords states that Israeli and Palestinian leadership must "foster mutual understanding and tolerance, and shall accordingly abstain from incitement, including hostile propaganda.")

Bedein said PBC on-air content suggests that the PLO covenant, which called for the destruction of Israel, is alive and well and being taught to Palestinian school children.

In Washington, U.S. congressmen are taking the PBC tapes seriously. Doubts have been raised whether the United States should underwrite any of the costs of maintaining the network. Currently, two U.S. agencies provide the PBC with $500,000 (US) annually.

Last May, 62 U.S. congressmen asked Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to formulate a policy "to terminate U.S. taxpayer support for the PBC.

"The PBC...is engaged in a campaign to restrict a free press and promote violent propaganda," the congressmen wrote. "The PBC consistently broadcasts programming that attempts to undermine all the United States seeks to achieve in the Middle East."

In addition to its U.S. funding, PBC also receives more than $6 million in aid from the European Union, according to a report in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Bedein suggested the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) also funds the network, though he gave no specific figures. That suggestion was rejected outright by Christine Skladany, CIDA's chief of media relations, who denied that the agency funded the Palestinian network in any way.

Bedein, who is also a media researcher for the Israel Resource News Agency and founder of the Institute for Peace Education, reported in a recent news article that he confronted Arafat about the TV show when the Palestinian leader was in Oslo last August. Arafat was being led around a conference by handlers and appeared to be "no longer functioning," Bedein wrote.

Taking his queue from his aide, Saeb Erakat, Arafat said he had issued orders for an investigation of the PBC's *Children's Club* program.

Last March, PBC network chair Abu Ayyash told the *Philadelphia Inquirer* that "I can't put love songs and dances on television when people are being killed...People sometimes make extreme statements, especially on our live shows," he conceded. "What I won't do, though, is become a branch of Radio-Television Israel. That is what [Benjamin] Netanyahu would like us to do and that is an occupier's mentality," Ayyash told the *Inquirer*.

"This is the Voice of Palestine. We have to reflect our own culture and our own history."

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Same battle, new battleground

September marks the approach of Rosh Hashanah, the end of summer, and the return of diplomats and other emissaries to the United Nations. The General Assembly reconvenes. A pride of lionesque ambassadors, representatives and heads of government, one by one, take their turns at the podium to advance their own causes or to hector the causes of others.

These words are being written on the eve of the anticipated appearance by Yasser Arafat at the dais of the General Assembly in New York. He is widely expected to use the occasion and the forum to launch a new diplomatic offensive against the Jewish state, the centrepiece of which will be a plea of support for his intention to declare an independent Palestinian state less than eight months from now, on May 4, 1999: an old battle, but on a new battleground.

Arafat knows his audience. And he knows that very few listeners, if any, will mutter resistance to his scheme. He has already floated the trial balloon of a unilateral declaration of independence in May 1999. Other than Israel, no country has expressed alarm; no country has attempted to shoot the balloon down. The European Union has expressed its support for Palestinian national independence, as has the Pope and the Kremlin. Nor has the United States explicitly rejected the idea.

Last week, at a meeting of the Arab League in Cairo, Arafat and his lieutenants, were firmly hanging on to the balloon's apogeic, upward flight.

He urged the Arab and Muslim leaders to support him, saying he feared military reprisal from Israel. "We intend to declare a Palestinian state and know that this announcement will be supported by the Arabs," Arafat said. The Palestinian leadership will take a series of measures to secure international support for an independent state...These measures will be internal and external but Israel has started to prepare ways to take over our territories and the army is training for that now," Arafat said.

Unlike the majority of the countries at the UN, Israel has rejected the idea of a unilateral Palestinian declaration of independence. Soon after Arafat addressed the Arab League, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu responded. He warned that Israel would take unilateral steps of its own if Arafat acted on this threat.

The prime minister told Israel media that unilateral action by the Palestinian Authority would render the Oslo agreements null and void. "It would essentially bring about the cancelation of the agreement. Every unilateral action on his part would immediately lead to unilateral action on our part," Netanyahu said.

In the present stagnant peace process between Palestinians and Israelis, there is a real danger that threats and counter-threats will ultimately author their own terrible truth.

Arafat's rhetoric before the Arab League was nothing if not a plea for a pan-Arab military front against Israel for war, the potential start of which he has personally placed on an explosive timer.

And indeed, he knows very well, that a unilateral declaration of independence without a resolution to the final status issues and the issues surrounding sovereignty, would unsettle Jordan as much as it would Israel. But that too is part of his game – to create as much short-to-mid term instability as possible in the hope that any ensuing vacuum would be filled by his authority.

The threat of unilateralism has proven again Arafat's essential inability to grab the beckoning moment of history. The relationship between the leaders, already bereft of any trust sinks deeper into distrust; but distrust carries its own momentum toward disaster. It poisons even further the toxic atmosphere between the two people and the flower of trust, which is the minimum condition for coexistence, withers even more.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Half repentance does not achieve even half its purpose."
Alcalay

Dry Bones

WE CALL IT THE DAY OF "ATONEMENT"
AND THE REASON THAT WE CALL IT THE DAY OF "ATONEMENT"
IS BECAUSE IT SOUNDS A LOT MORE SOLEMN THAN CALLING IT...
THE DAY OF SAYING WE'RE REALLY, REALLY SORRY.
RABBI
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Some tips for Montrealers in other cities

Re: "Can't break into closed Toronto scene," (*CJN*, Aug. 20).

Montrealers are not all left out in the communities they went to. In 1978, we left to go to Calgary and we were well received. Along with South African newcomers, we do very well in the Orthodox synagogues and schools.

I joined Hadassah and ORT and have made lots of contacts there. You can try inviting people to dinners, but that is not a solution. You can make better contacts working as a volunteer in the UJA, Jewish National Fund telethons.

Na'amat is a very friendly organization. All our organizations need new faces to help them. If you are in the 60s groups, go to the day-care centres. The Bloor Jewish Community Centre was very good to me when I was in Toronto, as a tourist for three weeks.

I found being a Jewish school bubbie got me to see how we survive.

Toronto is bigger than Calgary, but we are all one.

Esther Meyer
Calgary

Other shuls should offer free seats

When I read the ad from Beth Tzedec offering free tickets for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, I felt tears behind my eye lids.

At a meeting with high school students, a Jewish student said his parents could not afford the cost of attending a shul, and they were refused by the shuls when approached.

I, as the moderator, and my Jewish panelist on a panel of Canadian women discussing racism, were very upset. We could not solve his problem.

If all the synagogues do this we will save a lot of Jews and their children from feeling like outcasts and thus continuity would be served.

Filling the empty seats even from 2.30 to 4 p.m. is a mitzvah.

Mollie Posen
Toronto

Women should have right to pray alongside men

Your guest columnist Rabbi Avi Shafran ("The Balkanization of the Western Wall" (*CJN*, Sept. 10), asserts that for over 30 years the Kotel has been a place where Jews of all affiliations and persuasions have regularly prayed "side by side." Unfortunately that is only applicable to Jewish males.

Some traditions or laws are not valid or correct simply through long-standing usage, and should be tempered by the philosophy that "Right Must Be Done and Justice Prevail." To live up to that standard sometimes requires changes be made, in these circumstances, especially as it applies to Jewish women. Equal but separate is not equal.

A Jewish female is no less a Jew because of her gender. All who emanate from a Jewish mother are natural-born Jews. Is there really some necessity for a prohibition against Jewish women being recognized as equal to Jewish males in all respects – including the right to pray shoulder to shoulder with their male progeny?

Morley Wolfe
Toronto

"Women of the Wall" can learn from Lubavitch

It was interesting to note the comparison in your article, "Women of the Wall borrow Lubavitch tactic" (*CJN*, Sept. 10), of the outreach work the Women of the Wall do, to the outreach work of Lubavitch. In the article, Jessie Bonn, a member of the group, had confirmed that, indeed, their inspiration came from the Lubavitchers.

If the Women of the Wall find the work we do inspiring, that's wonderful. Spreading mitzvot to fellow Jews is extremely worthy. However, let them also take their cue from us and perhaps offer Shabbat candles to them instead. There are many mitzvot that are especially appropriate for the women whom they come in contact with, that they are not yet doing.

Mrs. Simcha Fine
Montreal

Says commissars no better to Jews than czars

Re, "No tears for czar Nicholas II" (*CJN*, Sept. 3).

The author should bear in mind the old Yiddish saying: "Men tor keinmol nit betn oif a naiem kaysse." (One should never pray for a new king to come).

When reading this article I had the feeling that the author was trying to imply that the Jews in Russia were better off under the commissars than under the czars. This is not so. The czars did not execute Yiddish poets because they did not like their poetry. The czars did not exile the Lubavitcher rebbe to Siberia, nor did they turn synagogues into stables. Also, under the czar's jurisprudence Mendel Beilis was found not guilty. We have yet to learn of anyone that had been found not guilty after being arrested and tried by the commissars.

Misha Allen
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Let us be 'good enough to be better'

By RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA

Common wisdom has it that the main feature of Yom Kippur is the full day (plus) fast; that all able-bodied adults refrain from food, drink and other bodily pleasures during Yom Kippur.

That common wisdom is incorrect. The main feature of Yom Kippur is tshuvah, repentance. We fast so that we can fully concentrate on repentance. And those who cannot fast because of life-threatening conditions making fasting forbidden, can still experience the essence of Yom Kippur, by engaging in repentance.

With repentance, we hope to attain kapparah (as in Yom Kippur) – atonement.

Repentance is a well-worn word, which to many is nothing more than a nice theoretical concept. But for Yom Kippur to have meaning, indeed for life to have meaning, it is essential to understand what repentance is, so that it does not merely remain a fancy theory, but is instead, put into practice.

We generally speak of repentance from something, from a wrong that was done or from a right not done. We may be puzzled, coming into Yom Kippur, as to what exactly we have done that demands repentance.

The concept of repentance is ineluctably tied to another concept, one with more shrilling overtones – the concept of guilt. We cannot repent unless we are guilty. But today, no one wants to feel guilty. Guilt is to be avoided.

It may therefore come as a shock to hear that we are all, by definition, guilty. The only way we can avoid being guilty is if we are perfect. But who among us is perfect? In truth, no one.

We tend to run away from guilt feelings. But the moment we realize that absence of guilt is justified only if we are perfect, we have an easier time accepting our guilt.

This is a guilt that is not necessarily related to any blatant wrongdoing, or to any tragic flaw in our character. It is a guilt rooted in the notion that however good we may be, however much good we have done, we could have still done better.

This notion of guilt is much easier to accept, and to integrate into our psyches. The moment we reject any thought that we could have done better, or that we could do better, at that moment we welcome arrogance as our defining characteristic. From there, it is all downhill.

In a sense, even if we had not been given a Yom Kippur, a day to repent, we would have had to invent it. For without repentance, and the guilt to which it is linked, we sink into an arrogance and haughtiness that breed trouble both personally and communally.

So, let us firstly make friends with guilt. Let us realize that guilt is necessary, that guilt is a friend, not an enemy, of our spiritual well-being.

Yes, we can be obsessive about guilt, as we can about almost everything, and in its obsessiveness guilt can debilitate. But that should not deter us from welcoming healthful, invigorating, uplifting guilt into our lives.

Guilt itself is related to another concept, the concept of responsibility. If we were not responsible beings, we could not ever be guilty. If we have no obligations, then of what can we be guilty?

Generally, the tendency is to avoid guilt as if it were some sort of a plague. In the process, we also do whatever possible to avoid blame, because after all, if we were to blame, then we would be (ouch!) guilty.

This brings to mind the story of a high government official who was escorted through a prison on a surprise visit. He encountered an inmate and asked – why are you here? The inmate responded – It is a case of mistaken identity. I am here for a crime committed by someone else.

A bit later the official passed another inmate, and asked the same question. This inmate responded – I was convicted of a crime by a racist jury. I really should not be here.

The official met another inmate, and posed that question. This inmate said that he had grown up in a harsh environment where criminality was normal, so it was not fair to be imprisoned when all he did was follow the crowd.

Finally the official chanced by an inmate who responded to the question with the following blunt response – I am here because I was caught in an armed robbery. I was convicted of the crime and am doing time as a penalty I justly deserve.

The official looked at the warden and said – let this man out of here. There is no room for a guilty person among all these innocent people!

And there is no room for improvement if we constantly place the blame for our fate onto other things or other people. We are thereby saying that were it for the others, we would be perfect, and it is they who are standing between us and perfection.

Enunciating these issues the way I have makes all this argumentation sound absurd, which is good. Because not only does it sound absurd; it is absurd. It is absurd to think we are perfect; it is absurd to think we are blameless; it is absurd to think we are guilt-free.

We are guilty because we are responsible, responsible to ourselves, responsible to our loved ones, responsible to the community, and yes, responsible to the world.

We are not responsible for the world, but we are responsible to the world. That responsibility is simply, within the constraints of our own best ability, to make the world a better place.

There are many ways to achieve this, starting with making ourselves into better people. How do we become better people? By being more aware of and carrying out our primary responsibilities, be they as parent, child, sibling, spouse, friend; by being more alert to others, by being more sensitive to the plight and circumstance of those not as fortunate as we, and by setting aside sacred time for all of the above.

Come Yom Kippur, and we will all be beating down on our torsos. We will go through the alphabet, the full Hebrew alphabet of wrongdoing, and knock on ourselves as if we are guilty of these crimes.

We will, on reflection, ask ourselves the very serious question: Did we really do all these horrible things, that we are expressing our guilt for them?

The answer is a loud no. But if that is the answer, then why do we declare ourselves guilty of robbery, treachery, rebelliousness, and destructiveness?

Because even if we have not robbed, or done some of the other things, we may not have always been perfectly honest or free of any tinge of rebellion or bad advice.

In other words, in all areas of human endeavor, we could do better. The irony of this is that precisely those people who are more alert to all these behavior components, who are much closer to being righteous, are the ones who recognize how much further they have to go to actually be righteous.

For them, attaining righteousness is a never ending struggle, but it is a struggle and challenge that they choose to tackle without slackening. They have no problem with expressing their guilt, because in sensitivity to their full human potential, they know how much is still left to achieve.

On the other hand, those who would like to live easily, without burden, and without challenge, will dismiss any thought of "having a way to go" as relevant to everyone else, but not to themselves.

Yom Kippur comes as an invasion of that protective space, as a rejection of the notion that things are good enough as they are, or that we are good enough as we are.

As far as people are concerned, good enough is never good enough, when it is possible to be better. And being better is always possible.

In Chapters of the Elders (Pirkei Avot) we are urged not to consider ourselves as bad (2:18). If we think of ourselves as bad, then we can subconsciously (and sometimes consciously) justify our faults and misbehaviors as deriving from our natural being.

In the feel-good generation, wherein we have overdosed on self-esteem, all this talk about how good we are, and avoidance of those terrible words like blame and guilt, have only entrenched us in the trap of constantly needing ego-stroking. But it has not made us better.

Judaism has a better way. We dare not brand ourselves as evil, but we equally dare not brand ourselves as good enough. We are best off branding ourselves as "good enough to be better," as responsible enough to be "worthy" of blame, and guilty enough to be motivated to improve.

All this we can do every day. But Yom Kippur is *the* day we should all be doing this, individually and collectively. That is the key to repentance. And repentance is the key to our becoming what we are capable of being.

Rabbi Bulka is the spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.

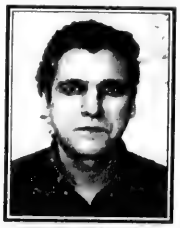
Traditional confessional prayers from the Tikun Erev Rosh Chodesh u'Tfilah le Erev Yom Kippur Katan, Amsterdam, 1723 [Courtesy of the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary]

A worshipper during Selichot at the Ohel Mo'ed Sephardic Synagogue in Tel Aviv, September 1960. [Fritz Cohen photo, courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

Opinions

Shedding some light on Israel

It is just past 5:30 p.m. and the lights are on. The afternoon has barely expired and already the Jerusalem sky has faded to a charcoal grey. This, despite the warm temperature outside, the date on my desk calendar and the time on the clock. All would seem to indicate that it's far too early for darkness at this hour.



By Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

I have to remind myself I'm in Israel, the land of Chelm, where logic and common sense are so often thrown to the wind. In but the latest example, evening comes early now to the Promised Land thanks to the ever-enlightened folks from Shas, the increasingly powerful ultra-Orthodox party, who rule over the Interior Ministry and well beyond.

Despite repeated surveys that show the overwhelming majority of Israelis are opposed, Interior Minister Eli Suissa recently pulled the plug on daylight saving time (DST) almost two months before Europe and North America. In recent years, it's become an all too familiar scenario. One that points to the sense of frustration and powerlessness many people feel in the face of decisions taken against their benefit and convenience.

There's little mystery to the DST story in Israel where DST could also stand for Disingenuous Shas Tactics. It largely boils down to: Shas gets what Shas wants, and the others be damned. Small wonder there's such growing animosity toward the ultra-Orthodox, especially Shas.

Suissa argues that the DST change is needed to facilitate the early morning slichot prayers of Sephardi Orthodox Jews, the main supporters of Shas.

Without pushing back the clock now, they insist, the Sephardi slichot-sayers would have to do this in the dark before going to work.

Foreigners could be forgiven for asking, 'What's the big deal? What's one measly hour of daylight among compatriots?' Admittedly in a country bedeviled by Palestinian terrorism, water shortages, homicidal drivers and missile threats from Arab neighbors, the issue of daylight saving time could seem a minor concern.

It's not. In Israel, where so much takes place outdoors, one less hour of daylight every afternoon is significant. Especially in the late summer and early fall when warm weather still prevails. DST becomes all the more significant when viewed as yet another basic part of daily life subjected to the dictates of the ultra-Orthodox.

Early this month, Suissa disregarded not only the will of most people but also the recommendations of a special committee studying the issue when he ordered that DST be halted on the first Saturday in September.

In reaction, an editorial in *Ha'aretz* entitled An Arbitrary Clock said, "Suissa's action takes into consideration a small part of the public that says the early morning slichot prayers, and ignored the vast majority of the public and its needs, causing substantial – and unnecessary – damage to the economy."

According to government figures, each month of DST saves Israel millions of dollars in energy conservation alone. Numerous studies have shown that starting work in the early morning hours when it is still cool, conserves electricity used for lighting and air conditioning, and increases work productivity. It also helps mitigate against traffic accidents more frequent in the intense heat.

For almost two months, people have to rise in the morning with the sun already high in the east and suffer its cruel heat and stronger radiation.

Canceling DST now also takes away some of the pleasure of late afternoons and early evenings during which children could otherwise have another hour to play outside in daylight.

Many observers say Shas's DST decision stems more from a desire to flex its political muscles than out of concern for the praying of some of its constituents. Through its action, Shas can remind secular and Askenazi-religious citizens who's calling the shots.

Within days after the clocks had been pushed back, everyone seemed reconciled to the early darkness. What's the choice? Take to the streets in angry protest against the cancellation of DST when so many other issues of greater consequence are boiling our blood? That's half the problem. There's so much debate here over more contentious, more existential questions that there's little time and energy left to fight for improving the more rudimentary aspects of daily life. As things stand now, the prospects for change look dim – as dim as today's prematurely dark sky.

Absolutophobia

I must admit right off that until several weeks ago I had never heard of the word that headlines this article. Invented by Prof. Robert Simon, who teaches at Hamilton College in New York, it means the unwillingness to say that some behavior is just plainly wrong.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

What led Prof. Simon to create this verbal monster? In his 20 years of teaching he had never found a student who denied that the Holocaust had happened. But, the professor learned, some 10 to 20 percent of his students did not think that killing millions of people was necessarily wrong. One student who held this opinion opined that he disliked the Nazis and added, "But who is to say they were morally wrong?"

The above information comes to me from an article by John Leo, writing in a publication by the Skirball Institute on American Values, which is an agency of the American-Jewish community.

According to the author, a non-judgmental attitude is growing in our educational institutions. Several articles in a leading educational magazine say "that some students are unwilling to oppose large moral horrors – including human sacrifice, ethnic cleansing, and slavery – because they think that no one has a right to criticize the moral views of another group or culture.

It is the prevailing opinion amongst the scholars who have written about this developing attitude that it has something to do with multiculturalism. They believe that while this otherwise admirable policy has produced a respect for others, it has done so to the degree that no moral judgments of any kind are allowed.

Basically, of course, such respect should be welcomed, especially when one belongs to a closely knit religious, ethnic or national group. Says Leo: "In the new multicultural canon, human sacrifice is hard to condemn because the Aztecs practised it. In fact, however, the non-judgmental stance is not held consistently. Japanese whaling and the genital cutting of girls in Africa are criticized all the time by white multiculturalists."

The extreme of this attitude is found in a growing number of people who believe that human beings have no right to lord it over animals. Values are therefore nothing more than personal preferences which are unsuited for criticism or argument – in the same fashion that we don't criticize others for loving pop culture, rock music – or classical music.

The High Holy Days teach, of course, something altogether different. They emphasize the basic fact that in our religion there is a dividing line between right and wrong, good and bad. To be sure, there may be special circumstances that lead to exceptions, but the basic idea remains: human life must be lived in accordance with some fundamental rules that do include respect for others. But that respect ceases when others offend against moral conduct, decency and plain humanity. Judaism is not a "maybe religion," which amounts to very little indeed. It is more than that – and the Holy Days give us time to deepen our thinking about it. Gemar chatimah tovah.

Simplicity that leads to more terror

The American attacks on Osama Bin Laden's base in Afghanistan and on the suspected chemical weapons plant in Sudan brought out a host of critics.

By Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

While many condemned the bombings of the U.S. embassies in Africa, many commentators chastised the American government for believing that "violence is the appropriate response to violence."

In this liberal view, the appropriate response to terrorism and murder is to "understand" the complaints of the terrorists and their supporters. A former CIA agent, sympathetic to the Arab view, wrote that "terrorism is a phenomenon that can be defeated only by better ideas, by persuasion and, most importantly, by amelioration of the conditions that inspire it." We were told that unless Washington's support for Israel and for the corrupt Arab regimes stops, the "fire in the bellies" of the terrorists will grow, and the plague of terrorism will intensify. The critics also argue that the cruise missile attacks against the terrorists would only lead to more rounds of bombings and retaliation.

This view is simplistic, and a sure recipe for unending terrorism and escalating violence. No government can stand by silently without responding to attacks on its citizens, and leaders who fail to fight back will be replaced. Passivity in the face of violence creates despondency and extremism, and invites even more terror. The immediate impact of retaliatory attacks may be uncertain, but leaders must be able to show that they are able to strike back at terrorists.

Indeed, a sustained military response can destroy the terrorists' infrastructure and deter supporters from providing logistical assistance.

In the 1950s, Palestinians used Jordan to prepare and launch terrorist campaigns against Israel. The intense Israeli military attacks in response were not always successful in the short term, but over many years, the terrorists were weakened and eventually were forced to leave Jordan. The wave of Palestinian terrorism after the 1967 war was also met with force, and in the end, the PLO lost support and was forced to acknowledge the existence of Israel. The threat of terrorism may not have ended, but Israel's policy of retaliation has slowly created a more secure environment.

At the same time, displays of understanding for murderers, and changes in policy to meet their demands bring disaster. Most terrorists are motivated by pure hatred, and will not hesitate to use violence, regardless of their political or economic conditions. Osama Bin Laden is a Saudi millionaire with a fanatical and obsessive hostility to the United States, Israel, and the West. No concessions, changes in policy, or negotiations will change this.

Americans are not the target of terrorism because of their support for Israel (in 1996, Bin Laden bombed the U.S. military base in Saudi Arabia, which was there to protect the Saudis against Iraqi attacks). Rather, the economic successes and political power of the United States and the West stands out against the failures, weakness, and corruption of most of the Arab world, just as the Israeli successes stand out in the Middle East. Jealousy and inarticulate frustration create the obsessions that are the sources of most terrorism, whether directed against the United States or Israel.

Under these conditions, the only actions that might satisfy terrorists and their supporters would reduce the successful states to the levels of the failures. If the United States lost its power and wealth, it would no longer draw the psychological attention of Libya's Muammar Khadafi, Saddam Hussein, the fanatics in Teheran, or Osama Bin Laden. Clearly, this is not an option.

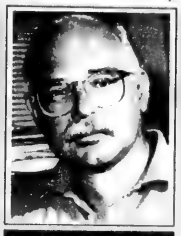
In contrast to the views of the critics, the United States has failed in its confrontation with terrorism by being too soft. The infrequent counter-attacks are generally too little, too late. Although Ronald Reagan's raid against Libya in 1988, following the bomb that destroyed Pan American flight 104, seemed to silence and isolate Khadafi for a number of years, Khadafi is still in power, the perpetrators go unpunished, and the isolation is eroding. The Americans have also failed to be consistent in fighting Saddam Hussein, and the Iraqi dictator is still in power, seven years after the Gulf War. The message is that if they wait long enough, America will forget the attacks, and the terrorists will escape punishment.

The same pattern seems to hold for the Islamic terror networks and facilities located in Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan, Iran, Syria, or Albania.

One or two indecisive cruise missile attacks ordered by a disgraced and weakened president will not end the terrorist attacks on the West. Unless the United States is prepared to launch a sustained series of attacks against terrorists in their bases around the world, as well as against their state sponsors and supporters, it faces escalating attacks and higher casualties.

The Kirshner File

Movies of Jewish interest at Toronto Film Festival



By Sheldon Kirshner

At last week's Toronto International Film Festival, I saw several films of Jewish interest. At least two will open in theatres across Canada shortly.

In *Fragments* Jerusalem*, a lyrical six-hour documentary, Ron Havilio draws an impressionistic portrait of the city. It is not a travelogue, nor a conventional film, either in form or content. Unfolding through the prism of his family's history, *Fragments* Jerusalem* fixes images, faces and stories in celluloid.

The Havilios were in Jerusalem long before Israel came into being. On his father's side, the first Havilio – a Sephardic Jew – arrived sometime around the 17th century, when Palestine was a backward Ottoman province. The Rosenthals, his mother's family, settled in Jerusalem in 1812, drawn from Vilna by messianic fervor. When Solomon, the first Rosenthal, set foot in Jerusalem, the city was at its lowest ebb, a sorrowful vista of abandoned houses and walls sprouting weeds.

The film, composed of early photographs and archival and modern footage, is narrated by Havilio. Divided into seven episodes, which conclude in 1947, it turns on the Mamila neighborhood, where Havilio was born and raised. Mamila is outside the Old City's walls, around Jaffa Gate, the former commercial centre.

Badly damaged during the War of Independence, much of Mamila lay between Israel and Jordan, in no man's land, until the Six Day War. In the mid-1970s, the last of the old buildings in Mamila were demolished to make way for a new urban centre. It is a development which Havilio, an ardent preservationist, regrets.

Moving easily between past and present, *Fragments* Jerusalem* often has the feel of a family album. When his father, Shlomo, a Mossad agent and then a diplomat, is posted to France, Turkey and Cameroon in succession in the 1950s and 1960s, quaint home movies of Paris, Istanbul and Yaounde flash across the screen.

No matter what the distance, Jerusalem is never far from Havilio's mind. In 1968, when he returns to Israel from Africa, the concrete walls separating eastern and western Jerusalem are torn down. As the film – which is dedicated to his three daughters – proceeds, Havilio explores the reclaimed Jewish Quarter, chronicles his army service in Jerusalem, and introduces us to his wife Jacqueline, whose Polish parents owe their lives to Oskar Schindler.

In the second episode, Havilio shows us how European diarists, painters, lithographers and photographers from the 16th century onward depicted Jerusalem. There are glimpses of the Wailing Wall (as it once was called), the Dome of the Rock, Mt. Zion cemetery and the Palestinian village of Silwan.

Jerusalem, Havilio observes, reached its nadir in the opening decade of the 19th century, when its population was less than 10,000 and its Jewish, Muslim and Christian residents were enveloped by poverty. One French traveller, Havilio notes, wrote of "Jews in rags" and of "dust in Zion."

In chapter three, Havilio focuses on his mother Haya's ancestors, Solomon and Isaac Rosenthal, both of whom were pious metal engravers.

Thanks to a letter he wrote to Sir Moses Montefiore, Isaac's place in Jerusalem's history is assured. Citing overcrowded conditions, Isaac urged the British philanthropist to buy land outside the old walls. Complying with his suggestion, Montefiore touched off a building boom that would forever change the face of Jerusalem.

The neighborhood he built was called Mamila.

From that point onward, for the next three hours, *Fragments*Jerusalem* develops a host of related themes dealing with, among other topics, his grandmother Sarina and the childhood memories and the coming of age of his father against the backdrop of political turmoil in Palestine.

By any yardstick, *Fragments* Jerusalem* is far too long. But even when its self-indulgence is taken into account, its poetic powers and its incredible factual completeness shine through.

***

Bryan Singer, a young, unknown director, catapulted to fame in 1995 with *The Usual Suspects*, a clever, Byzantine thriller with as many twists as a roller-coaster. When the news trickled out that he was working on *Apt Pupil*, a film about a Nazi war criminal who is unmasked, I was intrigued. Could he pull it off again?

Regrettably, he has not done so. Based on a novella by Stephen King, *Apt Pupil*, which opens at the Cineplex Odeon chain on Oct. 16, is a meandering mess, and certainly no *Schindler's List*.

The raw ingredients of a compelling movie about the nature of evil lurks somewhere in the script. But in the telling, *Apt Pupil* degenerates, ruining Singer's chance for a second consecutive hit.

Todd Bowden (Brad Renfro), a 16-year-old American high school student, develops what can only be described as a morbid fascination with the Holocaust. Long after his teacher has finished his week-long survey of the topic, Bowden immerses himself in the topic. No reason is given for his obsession, and a viewer is expected to accept it at face value. This gap is the first flaw in *Apt Pupil*, which begins with a chilling montage of Nazi Germany's leaders.

On a bus, Bowden recognizes an old man from a photograph, and he believes him to be Kurt Dussander (Ian McKellen), a former SS officer who lives quietly under the assumed name of Arthur Denker. A month later, Bowden knocks on Dussander's door, confronting him with his evidence. Bowden wants to hear his grisly stories of the concentration camps, of the gas chambers which consumed Jews with industrial efficiency.

Dussander is reluctant to cooperate, but relents when he realizes that the alternative is exposure and imprisonment in Israel. As their tense and bizarre relationship ripens, Bowden loses interest in the opposite sex and his grades fall precipitously. At this juncture, Dussander turns the tables on Bowden, and the pair become locked in a game of psychological warfare which runs amuck.

As the drama rises, the film is deflated by two silly and gratuitous scenes involving a cat with a primal sense of self-preservation and a nearly incoherent drifter whose apparent knowledge threatens Dussander.

Even without these useless segments, *Apt Pupil* wanders aimlessly, frittering away its dramatic tension, never really coming to grips with its broad philosophic theme and not fleshing out the main characters (who are competently portrayed by Renfro and McKellen). In short, it's eminently forgettable. A pity.

***

Is there mirth to be mined from the Holocaust? Judging by the Italian-language film, *Life is Beautiful*, there is levity in misery.

This gentle Chaplinesque fable, directed by Roberto Benigni, is about Guido (Benigni), a Jewish waiter who rebels against his destiny, albeit with a measure of laughter.

Guido appears nonplussed by the passage of anti-Semitic race laws in Italy and by the appearance of anti-Jewish signs over shops. And when he and his son, Joshua, are taken away to a concentration camp, Guido shields him from its harsh realities by convincing him that they are really playing an elaborate game.

Benigni's satire, sincere as it is, doesn't really work. You can't make light of the Holocaust. That's axiomatic.

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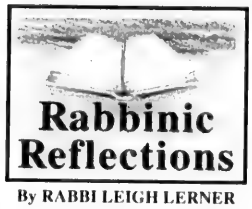

By RABBI LEIGH LERNER

Our standards are our true Bible code

The Bible Code by Michael Drosnin claims to predict events using a computer and a Bible.

Proof of Judaism's genius doesn't lie in secret codes. Jews understood long ago that the real Bible code's are not hidden in a computer. On Kol Nidrei night, we stake a claim on Jewishness by coming to synagogue; we assert the true Bible code, standards that define us as Jews.

One standard is belief. Before his death, Moses overlooked the Promised Land. Blessing Israel's 12 tribes, to one he said, "O, Naftali, satisfied with favor and full with the blessing of Adonai." Mystics interpreted it this way. "O, God-wrestler, be satisfied with desire and fullness."

Who are the God-wrestlers? You and I, to the extent that we struggle for the infinite in the midst of our finite lives on earth. We are the ones whom Moses blesses when we want more of Divine Presence, for our very wanting eventually satisfies that desire.

There's a second code – belonging. A Russian artist tells that the internal passport clerk offered a deal. "You look Armenian. Why put Jew in your passport? Put Armenian, and things will go easier." She thought about it and asked her father who said, "You decide."

Memories flooded back

Memories flooded back. She recalled her first day of school, when all students stood and told their nationality. They began: Russian, Russian, Russian, and she stood and said, Jewish. Did she need this history-inflicted deviation from the Soviet norm that would always cost her opportunity? She could change it with the stroke of a pen.

Then she decided. At the document centre she put in her credentials: "Yevrei," Jew. She belonged to Am Yisrael. We go to Kol Nidrei and we, too, belong.

The third code word is behavior. In the Torah (Deut. 1:41), B'nai Yisrael say to Moses, "We have sinned against God." They offer to fight as God commanded but the Holy One says no, *ki eineni bekirbechem*, for I am among you. But the Hebrew literally mean, "I am not inside of you." The Israelites' confession consisted of empty words. Their heart was not in it.

Our challenge on Yom Kippur is to modify our behavior by making a confession that we truly mean, and then acting upon its significance.

Bible codes? How about belief, belonging and behavior?

Rabbi Lerner is the spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom in Montreal.

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Chassidic music online

Last week, we looked at the vast chassidic storytelling resources that you can find on the World Wide Web. While stories teach Chassidim profound lessons about past leaders and future behavior, song uplifts their souls. Today, chassidic music on the Jewish Highway.

As a starting point, I highly recommend *Song in Chassidic Life* **[http://www.jewishmusic.com/articl02.htm]**. In this fascinating essay, Velvel Pasternak traces the role of music from the days of the Baal Shem Tov to the present. "Music for Chassidism is not only the accompanying motif of one's life but the companion of the Chassid's eternal journey."

Curiously, some of the most moving and distinctive chassidic songs have no words. Pasternak quotes the first Lubavitcher Rebbe "Melody is the outpouring of the soul, words interrupt the stream of emotions." A melody with text is limited in time, for with the conclusion of the words the melody, too, comes to an end. But a tune without words can be repeated endlessly. Although the rebbes created some of the most enduring songs, not all chassidic tunes are home grown. I was intrigued to learn that many Chassidim saw it as a holy duty to transform secular tunes for sacred purposes. However, attempts by Ger and Kotzk Chassidim to make use of the melodies of Schubert, Chopin and Verdi met limited success.

At the Collection of Chabad Niggunim **[http://www.utexas.edu/students/cjso/Chabad/audio/niggun.html]**, you can listen to everything from Darkecha Elokainu (from the Yom Kippur davening) to several tunes with no lyrics (except for ah-ya-ya-ya-eye-eye-eye) and a great deal of passion. Over at Music of Modzitz **[http://www.bayside.net/users/hershtaub/music.htm]**, you'll hear tunes like the *Modzitzer Waltz*, *Hamavdil* and *Mizmor L'David*. And over at the Chassidic Niggunim Series, you can listen to Rabbi Chaim Dalfin not only sing some chassidic classics but also explain the songs' history and religious significance **[http://www.613.org/speakers/dalfin.html]**.

Peninnah Schram is one of today's foremost Jewish storytellers. In *The Nigun*, she weaves story and music to tell the tale of Hayim. Hayim is given 100 rubles by his future father-in-law to buy cloth for a wedding suit. But he spends it on something much more important – music **[http://www.storypower.com/hasidic/stories/nigun.html]**. In an accompanying essay, Schram explains how through song, "one can attain salvation, get rid of evil and reach the ultimate communion with God.

"Thus the Chassidim treasure the human voice – the voice that can sing and tell stories."

Of course the influence of chassidic music has travelled much further than the rebbe's table. Andy Statman davens at a Modzitzer chassidic shul in Brooklyn. But he also swings in Manhattan. Statman is an Orthodox Jew who has married chassidic music with jazz in his new CD *Between Heaven and Earth: Music of the Jewish Mystics*. **[http://www.soundprint.org/~soundprt/this_week/statman.html]** You can listen to excerpts of *Der Rebbe*, *Kazatski* and several others at JewishMusic **[http://www.jewishmusic.com/astrall.htm]**. The importance of chassidic music continues. In future columns, I will look at the renaissance of klezmer music and at the remarkable impact of the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach.

But I would like to conclude with Rabbi Carlebach's *Niggun Shabbat Shuvah* as sung by Cantor Lorel Zar-Kessler of Congregation Beth El in Sudbury, Mass. **[http://bethelsudbury.org/prayer/nigdesc.htm]**.

The words are from the Haftorah reading of Shabbat Shuvah, the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, which falls in the 10 days of reflection, repentance and turning.

Rabbi Carlebach sings the words of the Prophet Hosea: "Take with you words, and return – turn to God."

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Jewish Life

Diplomatically Speaking

Looking back on the past Jewish year

By JEHUDI KINAR

As we are entering the year 5759, we should take a moment to reflect on the past year's events. As you know, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel, and commemorative events were held with enthusiasm and gusto across Canada. The peace process has not yet culminated in a second redeployment, and from time to time we are reminded of this when we have to bury new victims of this dangerous situation.

I think that the request for reciprocity, as expressed by Israel's prime minister and by his government, so that the Palestinian Authority will keep its part of the agreement, is not too much to ask.

One cannot escape the feeling that for some people the term "reciprocity" seems to be somehow tainted when applied to relations between Israel and the Palestinians. But is only reasonable to expect that in any bilateral agreement, both sides have to abide by the text of the agreement. It is difficult, therefore, to understand why in this instance, Israel is expected to keep its part of the deal or even more, while the Palestinians are not similarly required to fulfil these demands. There should be equal expectations from and of each side.

In the economic field, Israel's inflation has been curbed and we expect it to be between four and five percent this year. This figure is quite astonishing if we remember the much higher figures just five years ago. The economic regression which hit the whole world also touched Israel. The Tel Aviv Stock Market suffered badly during the last few weeks. What is particularly disturbing is the increased unemployment which is nearing the ten percent mark. Although this may in part be explained by the fact that Israel absorbed more than one million immigrants in the last eight years, this excuse does not help those who have not found work. The government will have to emphasize its efforts in this field.

On the other hand, we must consider what can be done to rectify the problem of foreign workers in Israel. The number of foreign workers now exceeds the number of unemployed. Of course, we are aware of the fact that some of the unemployed Israelis do not want to take upon themselves the work done by the foreign workers. Nevertheless, if they want a change in their status, they will have to change their attitude towards what constitutes suitable employment. The Israeli government is currently working on solutions to this problem.

While pointing to the most urgent economic problems, we should not omit the many success stories of the past year. A number of high-tech firms have been sold to American companies for prices which in some cases exceed $250 million and in one case a half billion U.S. dollars. The foreign interest shown in the Israeli high-tech is striking, and industries in countries like Japan have posted permanent representatives in Israel to look for lucrative investments.

On the cultural stage as well, Israel enjoyed a successful year. Israeli theatres and performers were applauded in Europe and North America, and the Eurovision song festival award was awarded to an Israeli singer for a third time.

I wish all the readers of *The CJN* and the klal Yisrael, a Shanah Tovah, and a happy, healthy new year.

High Holiday readings

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***Moments Of Transcendence.* Inspirational Readings for Rosh Hashanah. Edited by Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins (Jason Aronson Inc.).**

***Moments Of Transcendence.* Inspirational Readings for Yom Kippur. Edited by Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins (Jason Aronson Inc.).**

The meaning and themes of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are inexhaustible. In these two volumes, the author has culled from a surprising variety of sources – readings, poems, prayers, insights and aphorisms about the Days of Awe.

• There is something in the world that the Bible regards as a symbol of God – not a temple or a tree, not a statue or a star. The one symbol of God is a person, every person. God Himself created man, in His image. Human life is holy, holier even than the scrolls of the Torah. Reverence for God is shown in our reverence for man. Treat yourselves as a symbol of God. What is necessary is not to have a symbol, but to be a symbol.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

• The great Jewish humorist, Sam Levenson, in describing the Jewish American experience, once wrote, "My folks were immigrants and they fell under the spell of the American legend that the streets of America were paved with gold! When my father got here, though, he found out three things: First, he saw that the streets were not even paved, and last, but not least, he discovered that he was the one who was expected to do the paving." There are three precepts that the Jew must understand before beginning anything new... first, the dream of what ought to be; second, the reality of how it is; and last, but not least, what must be done to make life more livable for everyone. Perhaps that, above all, should be the Jewish watchword during this New Year.

• The Rabbi of Rymanov was asked, "Wherein lies the superiority of Yom Kippur, that it is called 'A Sabbath of Sabbaths?' Is not the weekly Sabbath also referred to as 'A Sabbath of Sabbaths unto the Lord' (Exodus 35:2)?" Replied the rabbi, "Read the Bible more carefully. Of the weekly Shabbat it says, 'A Sabbath of Sabbaths *unto the Lord*,' but of Yom Kippur it is written 'A Sabbath of Sabbaths *unto you*' (Leviticus 23:32)." This day is the most sacred in our calendar because it focuses attention on the individual, on the need of personal improvement and for ultimate human betterment.

Anonymous

• Modern Jewish thinkers have given their interpretations of the shofar. One of the finest of these is Milton Steinberg's exposition that the shofar is a call to man to hear the sound of weeping humanity, to feel what the poet calls the *Weltschmerz*, the unspeakable pain of the world, and to resolve to do battle against all those forces working for man's oppression and subjugation, to the end that the day might come when the tear is wiped from every cheek and the sigh from every lip.

Rabbi Louis Jacobs

• At this season, when we pray for life, it is sobering to realize how often we misjudge the purpose and meaning of life itself.

We bypass the lasting things for the latest things. We sacrifice health for wealth and then try in vain to undo a bad deal. We try to keep up to the minute, and our interests become momentary. We have accelerated our speed of travel and lost our sense of direction. We have confused the Pursuit of Happiness with running after pleasure. We have so many beautiful houses and an unprecedented number of broken homes. We have added knowledge, but we have not increased wisdom. We have overfed our bodies, and at the same time, starved our souls. We have become preoccupied with making a living and have paid little attention to making a life.

Author unknown

Shabbat Shuva Lecture

At Shaarei Shomayim Congregation with

Rabbi Moshe Shulman

"Jonah Takes on G-d"

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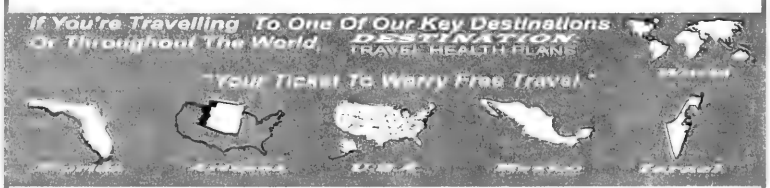
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3 Canadians join JDC programs

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Three young Canadians have embarked on year-long stints in international Jewish communal service with the New York-based American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. (JDC).

Adina Lakser of Winnipeg and Jill Borodin of Toronto are serving in India and Romania respectively, as part of the JDC Jewish Service Corps (JSC). Other countries that have had JSC volunteers include Morocco, Bulgaria, Poland, Italy and Tunisia.

Chaim Motzen, who was born in Israel and raised in Montreal, is currently at the JDC office in New York on the Ralph I. Goldman Fellowship in International Jewish Communal Service.

Adina Lakser

(The JDC is one of UIA Federations Canada's overseas beneficiary agencies, receiving approximately $400,000 annually.)

Lakser, a 22-year-old alumna of Winnipeg's Torah Academy, left at the end of August for Bombay. The Brandeis University graduate in comparative literature (English and Hebrew), has worked as a Hebrew school teacher, youth service director and youth activity leader for grades 6 to 8. Last summer she volunteered at a Jewish overnight camp in Hungary.

"I would really like to be a part of the [Indian Jewish] community," Lakser told *The CJN* by phone before leaving Canada. She is serving as a resource person to help the Bombay-area Jewish population with programming.

Jill Borodin

"Life is a little hectic here in India," Lakser wrote in a recent e-mail, "and everything is made more difficult by the fact that it is monsoon season and sometimes I think the whole city of Bombay will float away.

"The community, numbering just under 5,000, has been "wonderfully welcoming."

Lakser will soon begin teaching a class on Jewish literature and another on Parashat Hashavua. She has also spoken at some pre-High Holy Day seminars.

Borodin, 26, left for Romania after a summer working at Camp Ramah in the United States. A graduate of McGill University where she specialized in Middle Eastern and Jewish Studies, Borodin has completed four years of rabbinical school at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. She plans to complete her studies there after her year in Romania.

Borodin is based at the Federation of Romanian Jewish Communities in Bucharest and will spend about a third of her time travelling to Jewish communities in Transylvania.

Along with another volunteer and members of the local community, she is working on a myriad of programs aimed primarily at youth and young adults – among them Hebrew classes, a learners' minyan, a youth leadership conference, Jewish arts and crafts and cooking, basic Judaism, a Jewish parents' group and Shabbat and holiday programs.

Chaim Motzen

Romania's Jewish community, with a population of 14,000, is very well organized, especially in terms of social services, reports Borodin. There are a number of Jewish youth choirs and summer camps.

"I've always wanted to be able to work with the Jewish community overseas," she said.

Motzen, 24, began working at the JDC's New York office in early September. He expects to be sent abroad for his first assignment before the end of the year.

"This fellowship gives unbelievable opportunity to work with Jewish communities all over the world, and hopefully to contribute to them," he said.

Motzen has an undergraduate degree from Yeshiva University (YU) with a major in biology and a minor in art. He has also volunteered with the Jewish community in the former Soviet Union.

The son of Cantor Yaacov Motzen, he attended YU's rabbinical school and hopes to make a career of working with the Jewish community. "I don't think I could find something better to do with one year."

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MINYANIM IN THE GTA
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Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	6:55 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	7:00 & 7:45 AM	7:15 PM
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416)633-5500	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30& 8:00 AM	6:45 PM
Beth Radom (C)	18 Reiner Rd. (416)636-3451	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM-	8:00 AM-	7:00 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416)449-3880	6:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905)709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area.
The Toronto Board of Rabbis will periodically update the listings.
We hope to have information from the Vaad Harabonim about Orthodox synagogues in the very near future.

Shana

AS Jews everywhere strive for higher levels of concern and compassion during these High Holidays, so are we. OUR **Campaign for Fifty** to raise $50 million a year by 2001 will take our community to an unprecedented plateau on behalf of thousands in need. FOR Jews who are poor, frail, isolated and abused. FOR those who are strangers to Jewish life or in distress because they're Jewish. THIS New Year, join our community's **Campaign for Fifty** to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews in danger. HELP us provide a sweeter taste of life to people who cannot ask for themselves. BECAUSE no one gift changes more lives and no other **cause stands behind them all.**

Tova

UJA FEDERATION

No one gift changes more lives.

Community Matters

Reflections...

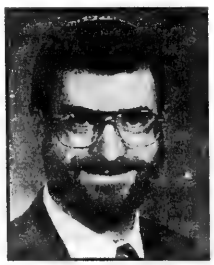
Repentance and Responsibility

By Rabbi Moshe Shulman

The following excerpt is from a recent sermon by Rabbi Moshe Shulman of Toronto's Shaarei Shomayim Congregation on the Torah portion Ki Tavo. Rabbi Shulman's thoughts are the first in a series of rabbinical contributions to Community Matters.

In this season of Repentance, when we think of *viduy* we think of confession. We think of admitting our shortcomings and our sins before G-d. But the word *viduy* itself doesn't always mean that. *Viduy* means acknowledgement, and sometimes that acknowledgement is not of our failures but of our successes; not of our transgressions but of our sincere and steadfast commitment to G-d and to Torah! That's precisely the type of *viduy* we read about this morning.

The Torah says that when you have finished tithing all the produce in the third year, *shenat ha'ma'aser*, you shall come before G-d and make the following *Viduy Ma'aser declaration:*



Rabbi Moshe Shulman

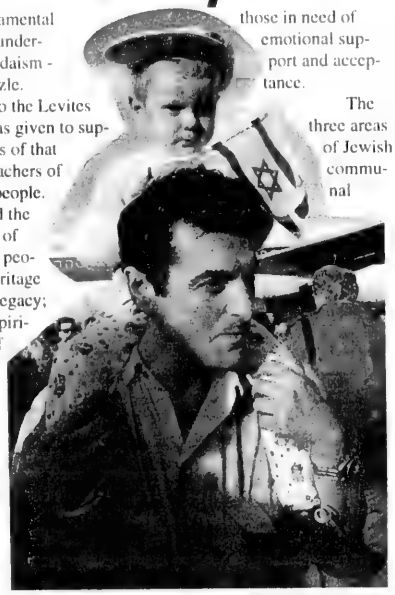
"I have [acted] according to whatever commandments You have commanded me. Lo Avarti mi'mitzvotecha ve'lo shachachti - I have not transgressed Your commandments, and I have not forgotten. Hashkifa mime'on Kodshecha min hashamayim - Now gaze down from Your holy abode, from the heavens. Uvarech et amcha Yisrael - and bless Your people Israel, and the ground that You gave us, as You swore to our forefathers, a Land flowing with milk and honey..." (Deut. 26:13-15)...

We know there are three separate tithes given over three years:

- *Ma'aser Rishon* - given to the Levites - in all three years.
- *Ma'aser Sheni* - eaten by the owners themselves, but only in Jerusalem - in years 1 & 2.
- *Ma'aser Oni* - a tithe given to the poor - in year 3.

But the Torah says: **"When you complete the tithing in the third year, shenat ha'ma'ser - the year of the tithe!"....** Were the other years not years of tithes? Why is only the third year called *Shenat hama'aser?*

The 9th century scholar/philosopher R. Sa'adya Gaon explains this cryptically by saying: **"Shenat gemar hama'srot - the year in which the tithes are completed."** I believe this to mean the year of the coming together of all the Ma'asrot to complete one unified picture of Jewish communal responsibility. Each of these tithes expresses a different fundamental aspect of our understanding of Judaism - 1/3 of the puzzle.



The tithe to the Levites and Priests was given to support the efforts of that tribe as the teachers of Torah to our people. They assumed the responsibility of educating our people in their heritage and spiritual legacy; of being the spiritual leaders of our people. **"For the lips of the priest shall guard the law, and Torah shall be sought from their mouths."** (Michah 3). *Ma'aser Rishon* was a tithe for the support of Jewish education amongst our people.

Ma'aser Sheni was a tithe brought to Jerusalem and eaten there. Its purpose was to instill in our people an acute awareness of the centrality and pivotal importance that Israel and Jerusalem play in the life of our people.

Finally, *Ma'aser Oni*, the tithe given to the poor, was an expression of support and help, not only to the poor and less fortunate, but for the "stranger," often alone, and oppressed; "the orphan and the widow" and all those in need of emotional support and acceptance.

The three areas of Jewish communal responsibility represented by these three tithes - Jewish education, Israel and Jerusalem, and the needy amongst our people - unite together to give us *Shenat Hama'aser* - The year of the tithe.

In the last few weeks, this community has embarked on its annual UJA Federation campaign, with an ambitious new target of raising $50 million annually by 2001.

They have heightened the target by $13 million because they want to increase funds to Jewish day schools, and to programs of Jewish identity; to help strengthen Jewish commitment and Torah education.

They have lifted the target in order to increase funds to help speed up the rescue of Jews from poverty, anti-Semitism and fear in the countries of the former Soviet Union; to help bring Jewish immigrants to Israel, and to help build Israel as the strong central force in Jewish history that it is, and must remain.

They have raised their target because they want to increase funds to assist the poor with food, housing and child-care; to provide more counseling and crisis intervention for victims of family violence and their children; to help the frail and elderly; the sick and needy.

UJA Federation has specifically earmarked these three areas because they recognize that, together, they encompass the totality of our responsibilities as Jews:

- Responsibility to G-d and to Torah, to Jewish education, and to Jewish identity - *Ma'aser Rishon.*
- Responsibility to Israel, to our history, and to our future - *Ma'aser Sheni.*
- And responsibility to our Jewish needy all over the world - *Ma'aser Oni.*

Lo avarti mi'mitzvotech ve'lo shachachti - I have not transgressed, nor have I forgotten. Shama'ati be'kol Hashem Elokai, asiti kechol asher tzivitani - I have hearkened unto the voice of Hashem, my G-d.

Voices From the Heart

A Magical Moment...

The following is an edited excerpt, the second in a series, from ***Voices from the Heart: A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel,*** *edited by Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, published by McClelland & Stewart inc. The book, a collection of personal reflections by Canadians about their experiences in Israel, was produced as part of Toronto's Israel at 50 celebrations.*

By George Cohon

In the final stages of the Yom Kippur War, I was on a bus with a group of about twenty other civilians heading from the Suez back to an Israeli airfield, where the plan was for us to catch a flight to Tel Aviv. Suddenly we went over a big rock in the dirt road. The bus cracked down hard, and oil was going everywhere. We, on the other hand, were going nowhere.

So there we sat with armies all around us, helicopters and transports flying overhead. Earlier that day we had stood by the Suez Canal and looked across its waters toward smouldering Egyptian tanks that had been abandoned during the battle of China Field. It had been an unforgettable sight.

We were rescued eventually by Israeli soldiers and put on a military transport plane. And on that plane an extraordinary thing happened.... Every soldier sat on the floor with his legs around the man in front of him. They were all tired and dusty and battle-weary. We, the civilians, sat among them.

The war had been a stunning victory for Israel, and now, on the Hercules, everyone was talking - about the war, about going home, about friends and family. But for a second there was a lull in the hubbub, so that one voice - that of a young soldier at the front of the plane - stood out from the rest. Then there was a shout from an older man, also a soldier, from the rear: "Josie!"

The older soldier and Josie were father and son - neither had known the other was on the plane. In fact, neither had known the other was even alive until that moment. But there was no way they could move, for there wasn't an inch of space. So the soldiers at the back hoisted the father over their shoulders, and the shoulders at the front did the same with the son. It was a magical moment.

- excerpted from To Russia with Fries *(Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1997).*

To order *Voices from the Heart* a uniquely touching collection of personal reflections about Israel, call UJA Federation at (416) 631-5685.

Community Matters*, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

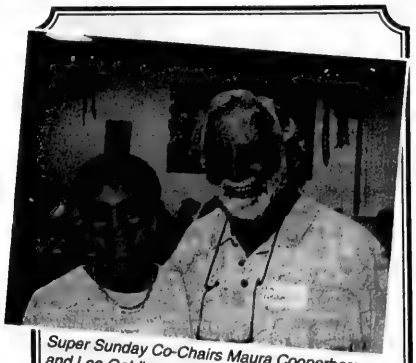
SUPER SUNDAY

TOPS $2 MILLION

Twelve hours plus over 600 volunteers equal $2.1 million. That's how things added up on what turned out to be a record UJA Federation Super Sunday, September 13. Phones were scarce at UJA Federation's largest one- day fundraising telethon - but volunteers weren't. An unprecedented number of Super Sunday campaigners called thousands of community members last week, raising close to $ 3 million during Super Week telethons, September 14 – 17, moving UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty closer to its goal of $50 million by 2001. Many community groups, schools and organizations, participated in the telethons, which will continue until the campaign winds down in December. Maura Cooperberg and Leo Goldhar co-chaired this year's Super Sunday and Super Week activities.

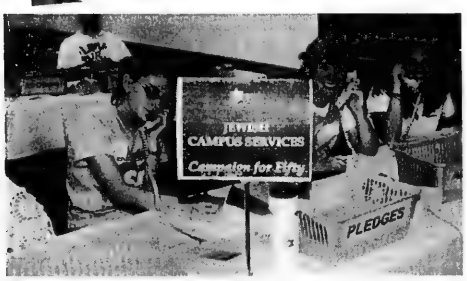
The following snapshots, taken by Stephen Epstein, highlight the record-breaking week and the volunteers who made it happen.

Campaign for Fifty Co-Chair Larry Tanenbaum with CHAT students.



Super Sunday Co-Chairs Maura Cooperberg and Leo Goldhar.

Campaign for Fifty Co-Chair Brent Belzberg and his son Zack.



Hey... What a Day!!

"It's amazing how many supporters are here."

Brent Belzberg, Campaign for Fifty Co-Chair with Larry Tanenbaum.

"It's very encouraging to see people playing a role in helping to meet the needs of our community."

Glennie Lindenberg, Vice-Chair, UJA Federation Campaign for Fifty.

"Everyone has been very receptive to helping us meet increased community needs."

Howard Price, Campaign for Fifty Vice - Chair.

"It feels really good to be a part of the big picture."

Carol Seidman , Vice-President Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation.

"This turnout, especially all the young people, speaks to how well UJA Federation is thought of in our community."

Kathleen Crook, National President of ORT.

"I just feel good doing this."

Evan Goldenthal, grade 9 CHAT student.

Community Matters, *a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

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Economics conference set in honor of retiring professor

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A conference honoring professor emeritus Samuel Hollander, a specialist in classical economics who recently retired from the University of Toronto (U of T) economics department, will take place Sept. 27 and 28.

Economists from Europe, New Zealand and Japan, as well as the United States and Canada, will attend the conference, whose theme is Reflecting on the Canon.

Speakers at the conference, to be held at U of T., will include international scholars from universities around the world.

In his autobiography titled, *It's An Ill Wind...: A Memoir*, Hollander reflects on his life, particularly his religious thoughts and beliefs. An observant Jew, he candidly tells of his early years and his academic activities.

Hollander's memoir tells of the mild anti-Semitism he faced in his education, the prejudice shown against him as an observant Jew by other Jews, and the scholars who influenced his thinking.

Describing himself as a workaholic and an insomniac, Hollander says, "The Sabbath day has protected me from some of the effects of my workaholism – and my insomnia has afflicted me on all nights except Friday."

Hollander, who was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 1976, has received academic honors, awards and research funding.

Hollander's specialty is the history of economic thought, but his doctoral dissertation was on technological changes in the Dupont rayon industry. "I believe that this brief but intensive expedition into the real world of industry, and my encounter with entrepreneurs, served me well in my later academic endeavors," he says.

"His research has had an immense impact on the profession of economics," says Prof. Sandra Peart, a former graduate student of Hollander's and a co-organizer of the conference.

"His greatest contribution has been to younger economists and historians of economic thought, who have come from around the world to study with him. No historian of economics in this century has attracted as many disciples or [caused] as much controversy as Sam," says Peart.

Hollander was born in London, England. He graduated from the University of London and received his PhD at Princeton University. He came to Canada in 1963 as assistant professor in the department of political economy at U of T and in 1984, he was named a university professor, one of only 20 to have attained this highest academic rank. He became a professor emeritus this year. He has been a guest lecturer at universities throughout the world.

A banquet to honor Hollander will be held on Sunday evening, Sept. 27.

Tory fundraising dinner planned for Yom Kippur

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Ontario's Tories say the scheduling of a big fundraising dinner for Yom Kippur was not intended to slight Jews.

"We work with a limited number of days," said Don Weiss, director of the provincial Progressive Conservative party's Ontario Fund, which is organizing next Wednesday's dinner. "That day is on."

Weiss said the choice of Sept. 30 "was not directed at the Jewish community." He said the annual dinner is aimed at members of the building trades and draws a large number of Italian supports.

Permier Mike Harris and some 1,100 party supporters are expected to attend the dinner in Concord, where each plate will cost $300 or $400, Weiss said.

He said he had "nothing to add" to previously quoted statements, in which he said "no disrespect was ever intended" to members of the Jewish community.

But for Vaughan Ward 5 councillor Susan Kadis, the choice of Yom Kippur is insulting.

"They had so many days to choose from," Kadis said. "They don't need to choose the holiest day on the Jewish calendar."

She noted that Vaughan, where the dinner will take place, is home to a high concentration of Jewish residents – and voters.

"Not a lot of thought went into this. A little consideration would have avoided it."

She said this is "another example of this government's insensitivity."

Keith Landy, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, played down the matter.

"The PC party is a private organization that has the right to target projects where and when it chooses," he said. "We have no issue here."

Notice to Visitors to Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Arrangements have been made by Pardes Shalom to provide transportation to the cemetery before Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, for those without transportation.

Bus service will be provided on the following 3 days: Sunday, September 13; Sunday, September 20; and Sunday, September 27.

On each of these days a bus, identified by a sign "**PARDES SHALOM**" will depart from the front entrance of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, at 10:00 a.m. for Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

The bus will make a stop at the parking lot of Betel Centre, located on Steeles Ave. W., at 10:30, to pick up passengers before proceeding to the cemetery.

The bus will leave the cemetery at 12:30 p.m. for return to the Betel Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information, and to register, please call the cemetery office (416) 635-2883, extension 211 - Trudy, or extension 224 - Dina.

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On Campus

JCS aiming to boost presence in schools

The staff of Jewish Campus Services, seen at a recent meeting, are: (standing, from left) Zac Kaye, Jason Soloway, Lance Davis, Pearl Gropper Berman, Jordie Caplan, Stephanie Wener; (seated, from left) Michelle Lackie, Tammy Pascal, Tamara Kochberg and Tamar Kagan. [Frances Kraft photo]

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto is aiming to raise $1 million in order to increase its presence in schools across the city, its executive director said recently at the agency's first annual meeting.

Zac Kaye said that they are about to sign a lease with University of Toronto, and will then begin to seek funding in order to build a facility at the the corner of Harbord and Huron streets. "Without a significant presence in such a large university, and without shouting Jewish pride, then we are not doing our job," he said.

As well, the agency plans to spend money refurbishing its facility at York University and increase its programs at community colleges. "Jewish students today do not just come to us; we have to go to them and respond to their diverse needs. Pluralism is something that we practise. Students relate to us in that we are open and welcoming and do not impose our views."

Post-secondary schools across the city have a large number of Jewish students, said Kaye, "and we need to respond to those numbers. There are also many commuter students [whose needs are different from those who live on campus.] We have to create a dual track, working on campus and also building strong city-wide programs.We have to create a smorgasbord of opportunities by putting out a broad table from which students can dip."

Kaye said that reaching out to the many unconnected students is a mammoth task. "If we're serious, then we must engage synagogues and other institutions in this work in order to ensure that young people have a stake in this community.

"If we do not do this, the consequences will be dire. Intermarriage rates are increasing and people are becoming more unaffiliated. We must respond in a myriad of ways. Young adults deserve the best programs possible, and campuses must be seen as a priority."

Jack Zarek, who was named president of the agency at the meeting, said that some of the highlights of the past year include the Jewish Campus Arts Festival, which resulted in a grant from the Zukerman Foundation, and the launching of a student discount card. "Our goal is to raise money to hire more staff who will reach more students, especially those who are debating about Judaism."

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Shana Tova

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Dr. Ellen Greenblatt
University of Toronto IVF Program, Toronto Hospital
Toronto Centre for Advanced Reproductive Technology

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Topic 2:
Rhonda Levy, BA, BCL, LLB
Private Infertility Consultant

Location:	Women's College Hospital Auditorium (1st Floor, East Wing) 76 Grenville St., Toronto (North of College, West of Bay)
Time:	Monday, September 28th, 1998, 7:00 p.m
Register:	As seating is limited, registration in advance is recommended To register call Rhonda Levy at (905) 764-1130
Cost	$15 per individual, $25 per couple (Pay at the door)

All net proceeds to be donated to the Infertility Network, a not for profit organization which provides support and information to infertile people

From coast to coast

New group fights for survivors' compensation

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Two local women have formed an organization to fight for compensation for Canadian Holocaust survivors who have fallen through the cracks.

Klara Belkin and Shiela Smith were spurred into action when they heard a speech made by Edgar Bronfman at a Canadian Club luncheon in March 1997. "We heard it on the radio," says Belkin's daughter Lisa. "Mr. Bronfman vowed to see to it personally that every Holocaust survivor, no matter how rich or poor, received restitution."

Belkin, a survivor of Bergen Belsen, wrote to Bronfman welcoming his offer of help. She told him that her inquiries to other restitution organizations indicated that she would have to be "a beggar or on welfare to be eligible for restitution despite the fact that I am a survivor.

"It is absurd that after 53 years since the Holocaust ended, some survivors are still having great difficulty receiving restitution, even when there are funds set up for this.

"These funds were set up for all survivors who lived through the unimagineable. My question is, where is all the money going? It seems strange to me that most of the survivors I know have not been successful in getting restitution."

In a follow-up phone call to the World Jewish Congress (WJC) office, Belkin was told by Elan Steinberg, WJC executive director, that "Mr. Bronfman does not respond to such questions."

She then wrote a letter to the editor of Winnipeg's *Jewish Post and News* which attracted the attention of Smith, who was in Israel last winter contacting Holocaust restitution organizations.

"We had a talk with United Restitution Organization (URO). We were told that [my husband Walter] isn't eligible for compensation because he earns more than $16,000 a year. They only deal in hardship cases."

Smith and Belkin are looking for answers but they don't know where to turn. "We are being denied on the flimsiest of technicalities," says Lisa Belkin. "I wrote to Moshe Ronen at the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC). An official called back to say the CJC has nothing to do with URO other than providing office space."

Smith says that URO officials virtually called her a liar when she said that her husband wasn't aware until 1957 that restitution was available.

"We know of several other survivors in Winnipeg who have never received any compensation," Lisa Belkin says. "We suspect there are a lot more across the country. Other countries have set up restitution funds for Holocaust survivors. Not so in Canada. We are being victimized by our own organizations."

Smith and Belkin ran an ad in *The Canadian Jewish News* on Sept. 3, which is already eliciting responses.

"Jewish organizations in Canada should be doing everything they can to contact the few survivors left," says Smith. "Why should we still have to be fighting for compensation 53 years later?

"My husband survived the Warsaw Ghetto," says Smith. "He lost part of a leg. He was too busy in those years struggling to survive in Canada. He doesn't have any fight left in him now. I have to fight for him. Lots of money was distributed to Holocaust survivors in the 1970s and 1980s. Neither Klara nor my husband were ever sought out or contacted."

Enrolment drops 10 percent in Winnipeg Jewish school

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education's (WBJE) Gray Academy has had a 10 percent drop in enrolment in its second year at the Asper Jewish Community Campus.

Student numbers have declined from 850 last year to 760 this fall.

The Gray Academy is divided into three levels: The Simkin Early Years program (junior kindergarten through Grade 4); Shore Middle Years School (grades 5-8); and Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate.

WBJE business manager Jack Cipilinsky says that the decline is uniform throughout all grade levels, and that the lower junior kindergarten enrolment is due to changing demographics.

Some people feel that the drop in junior kindergarten registration may be due to north Winnipeg parents keeping their kids north for junior kindergarten, and to the opening of a religiously oriented ·nior kindergarten in the south end where the Gray Academy is located.

In the higher grades, the WBJE is competing with the University of Winnipeg which has added a Grade 10 program, and St. John's Ravenscourt, a private school, which is welcoming girls at the Grade 7 level for the first time this year.

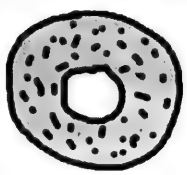
"Our enrolment was much higher than anticipated last year," Cipilinsky says. "There were a lot of growing pains. Some people decided that this wasn't for them. Maybe it is one of those cycles. We hope it will pick up again next year."

The two public school elementary Hebrew bilingual programs registered little change in their enrolments this year. Brock-Corydon in south Winnipeg has 175 students registered – almost the same number as the last two years, and the north Winnipeg program at Margaret Park School has a registration of 109 this year, an increase of five over last year, and about the same as were enrolled two years ago.

AFTERWORD'S ADDRESS

In last week's article about the Jewish student publication *Afterword*, there was no contact number given for the new national paper. Its e-mail address is [71562.400@compuserve.com].

ST. URBAIN BAGEL



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From coast to coast

Israeli doctor helps identify Swissair crash victims

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Dr. Jay Levinson has spent a very difficult week in Halifax.

Levinson, who works with the Israel police division of identification and forensic science, was called on to assist in identifying Jewish victims of the Swissair Flight 111 disaster.

Twenty Jewish victims were identified as of mid-September, a figure compiled from family identification of persons who took the flight and from names that appeared to be Jewish.

While most of the 229 victims were obliterated in the crash off Peggy's Cove near Halifax, there were some small parts of bodies that have led to identification.

"We called all families involved who declared themselves Jewish or [who might be Jewish] from the names, and asked the questions," said Levinson. "For the first time, we're going to have to use DNA as a primary basis of identification, though."

He said analysing DNA is a relatively new procedure, developed in the mid-1980s. It was used in the TWA crash off New York, where all the bodies were recovered and most were essentially intact. Recovery problems there were not as extensive as here, he said.

The Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC) offered its services to assist families within hours of the Sept. 2 crash, calling rabbinical advisors worldwide for procedural advice.

"We talked with rabbis all over the world, spoke with Rabbi Donner in London; Rabbi Moshe Tendler in New York, who is a professor of microbiology and understands both Jewish law and DNA; Rabbi Shlomo Adler in Manchester, England; and Rabbi Gedaliah Schwartz, of Chicago, head of the beit din of the Rabbincal Council of America. We sought their help in identifying Jewish bodies and the proper procedures to follow in burial," said Victor Goldberg, president of the AJC.

Levinson has attended air disasters at Lockerbie, Amsterdam, Strasbourg, Katmandu, Nigeria and many within Israel.

A Newark, N.J. native, he holds three degrees from New York University including a doctorate in Mideastern studies. He immigrated to Israel in 1985 after serving 10 years with the Central Intelligence Agency.

In Halifax, Levinson worked closely with Dr. John Butt, Nova Scotia's chief medical examiner. "I spoke to him for about 20 minutes from Israel before I came here," he said, "and he welcomed me with open arms. When I arrived, he asked me to brief his staff on Jewish requirements so they would understand our needs. But I also helped identify bodies other than those of Jewish victims.

"It wasn't my place to tell them what to do, but to tell them what's been done through my experience and to apply that to their situation."

Levinson emphasized he has the advantage of being a policeman "so I understand what the police want. And I'm a religious Jew who knows Jewish requirements."

He said working with families of victims created relatively few problems. "Some were extremely cooperative in supplying dental records, DNA samples, fingerprints, X-rays and even details on unique scars. Others held back and unfortunately, their relatives may never be identified. Basically, I want to make sure identifications are acceptable by Jewish law, which in effect means there are no [identification] mistakes."

Some passports found

Some passports were found, clearly identifying people on the plane, said Levinson.

He said when nothing is found of the victim, as will be the case with many because of the impact of this crash, it must be proven positively that the person was on the plane.

"We need personal testimony from someone who saw the person enter the plane. We have a letter from Butt that no one survived the crash. When the time comes, that letter can be brought to a Jewish court. If a question comes up later, they will have that certification."

He said a body is not necessary to prevent a woman from becoming an agunah. It must be proven the husband is dead, but if there is no body, proof he went on the plane is sufficient.

Levinson stressed the caring nature of the Halifax Jewish community. "In many other Jewish communities, the leaders were friendly. But here all the people offered to help."

Goldberg added, "Our Jewish community rallied together. We worked as one."

Levinson admitted the job is difficult emotionally. "One of the hardest sights was in the property room where I saw dolls, toys, kids' shoes. That was harder for me than seeing body parts. It rips out your heart that these little children had such short lives."

Yet, he said, he gets the most strength from doing a mitzvah.

"There is satisfaction that I've helped people, by speeding the process even by five minutes, that a family can have identification and suffer for five minutes less."

But his main thrust, he said, was not to force anyone to do anything, but to make sure things were done acceptably by Jewish law.

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Kol Nidre in Auschwitz

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

The little red-headed girl was amazed that anyone still wanted to pray in Auschwitz. "You crazy Hungarian Jews," she exclaimed. "You still believe in this? You still want to do this?"

Well, we did.

So, we got one candle, and one siddur. We were about 800 women jam-packed in one barrack. Everybody was there: the atheists, the believers, the Orthodox women without their sheitls, because, of course, we were all bald; women of every description and of every background. We all were there whether we believed or not.

Someone lit the candle.

The kapos only gave us 10 minutes because they were afraid the SS might come in.

Each of the kapos guarded an entrance to the barracks to watch out for the SS.

And then – I can still see this scene – a woman sitting with the candle started to read Kol Nidre.

All of this happened in the place where we felt it was appropriate that instead of our asking forgiveness from God, God should be asking for forgiveness from us.

And yet, everybody wanted to gather around the woman with the candle near the siddur.

She recited Kol Nidre very, very slowly, so that we could all repeat the words if we wanted to. But we didn't.

The 800 women did nothing but cry. Our prayer was the sound of 800 women crying in unison.

And yet it gave solace to everybody. Remembering Yom Kippur was somehow a reminder of people's homes, because as you know, Yom Kippur was observed even in the most non-practising homes.

Something happened to the 800 women. It was almost as if our hearts burst. I never heard so much loud crying out of 800 women.

Even though no one believed the prayer would change our situation, that God would suddenly intervene, it released something in us.

It helped us to feel better. Joining in something that reminded us of normal life alleviated our misery, even for the littlest while, in some unexplainable way.

Even today, every time I go to Kol Nidre, I think of that Kol Nidre in Auschwitz. I can't shake it. That's the Kol Nidre that I always remember.

Based on a speech delivered by Judy Weissenberg Cohen at Krakow's Temple Synagogue, Monday, May 5, 1997, during the Anguish to Hope/March of the Living Student Mission. Together with her family, Judy Weissenberg Cohen was deported at 15½ years of age in June 1944 from Hungary to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Most of her family perished there.

Yiddish Corner

יידיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

ערב יום-כיפור 1943

(זכרונות פון די מלחמה־יאָרן)

פון שלום הערשקאָפ

גאָט׳ס צאָרן האָט זיך אויסגעגאָסן אויף דער ערד. זינט די וועלט עקזיסטירט, זיינען נישט פאָרגעקומען אַזעלכע שחיטות, ווי אין די לעצטע יאָרן פון דער מלחמה. די מערסטע קרבנות זיינען געווען יידן. צענדליקער טויזנטער האָבן געשמאָכט אין דייטשע לאַגערן אונטער די ערגסטע באַדינגונגען. איך האָב זיך צו יענער צייט גע-פונען אין אַ גיהנום, וואָס איז געווען אַן אַמוניציע פאַבריק: „סקאַר-זשיסקאָ ווערק צע״. איך בין געוואָרן צוגעטיילט צום טראַנספאָרט — אויסלאָדענען אין לאָדענען באַך־וואַגאָנען.

אַ נעבעכדיקע גרופע זיינען געווען די מענטשן, וואָס האָבן גע-אַרבעט ביים טראַנספאָרט. איבער זיבעציק אַרבעטער, אַן איבער-בלייבעכץ פון הונדערטער אָדער טויזנטער, וואָס זיינען פאַרשלעפט געוואָרן דאָ אַהער. געווען צווישן זיי יונגע און עלטערע, פשוטע און אינטעליגענטע, אַרבעטער און סוחרים. איצט האָט זיי פאַר-בונדן איין גורל. אויף יעדן איז געלעגן דער חותם פון „ווערק צע״. אויסגעהונגערט, אויסגעמוטשעט און פאַרביטערט. די בעסערע בגדים האָט מען שוין לאַנג אויסגעטוישט אויף אַ שטיקל ברויט אָדער אַ ביסל זופ. די קליידער, וואָס מען האָט געטראָגן, זיינען זיך צעפאַלן פון טראָגן זיי טאָג און נאַכט. נישט געוואַשן, איינגעהילט אין שמאַטעס, אַרומגעגאַרטלט מיט אַ פאַפירענעם שטריק, פון וועלכן עס האָט נאָכגעהאָנגען אַ כלי צום עסן.

טראַנספאָרט איז אַ שווערע פיזישע אַרבעט, וואָס פאַרלאַנגט שטאַרקע מענטשן. מיר זיינען דאָס נישט געווען. צוליב די קלעפ, די אוממענטשלעכע באַדינגונגען און שטענדיקן הונגער, איז נישט געווען קיין וואונדער, אַז לאַנג האָט מען נישט געקענט אויסהאַלטן. די פאַבריק אַרבעטער האָבן געאַרבעט אין צוויי שיכטן צו צוועלף שעה. מיר, אין טראַנספאָרט, האָבן געאַרבעט זיבן טעג אַ וואָך. אַרויס צו דער אַרבעט איז מען גאַנץ פרי, גלייך מיט אַלע גרופעס. געענדיקט דעמאָלט ווען די לעצטע וואַגאָנען זיינען געוואָרן אויס-געלאָדנט, מערסטנס שפעט אין אָוונט. ס׳האָט אויך געטראָפן, אַז מען האָט אונדז פאַרהאַלטן אַ גאַנצע נאַכט. צומאָרגנס איז ווידער געווען אַן אַרבעטס־טאָג, האָט מען געאַרבעט זעקס און דרייסיק שעה אָן איבעררייס.

ס׳איז געווען ערב יום־כיפור 1943. אויף די פראָנטן האָט גע-ברענט אַ פייער, וואָס די מענטשלעכע פאַנטאַזיע האָט זיך קוים געקענט פאָרשטעלן. די דייטשע אַרמיי האָט יעדן טאָג פאַרנוצט זייער אַ סך אַמוניציע. האָבן מיר יעדן טאָג געאַרבעט ביז שפעט אין דער נאַכט צו לאָדענען די וואַגאָנען. געוויינלעך, ווען מען איז גע-קומען אין באַראַק נאָך אַ טאָג אַרבעט, האָט מען פאַרטיילט דאָס ברויט — אַ שוואַרץ קלעפיק ברויטל פאַר צען מענטשן. דעם אָוונט האָט מען באַשלאָסן, אַזוי ווי עס איז כל־נדרי נאַכט, וועט מען נישט עסן דאָס ברויט, איבערלאָזן עס אויף מאָרגן.

עס האָט זיך אָפּגעפונען אַ יונגערמאַן, וועלכער האָט געדענקט געוויסע תפילות אויף אויסנוויניק. קיין מחזור אָדער סידור איז נישט געווען. אַפילו ווען ס׳איז יאָ דאָ, האָט מען סיי־ווי־סיי נישט געקענט מאַכן ליכטיק אין באַראַק. די מערדערישע אוקראַינישע „ווערקשרץ״ (לאַגער וועכטער) האָבן זיך געדרייט אין דרויסן און נאָר געזוכט אַזעלכע געלעגנהייטן.

דער בעל־תפילה האָט אָנגעהויבן „כל נדרי״ מיט אַ טרויערי-קער שטימע. אין באַראַק איז אויסגעבראָכן אַ קלאָגעריי. מען האָט זיך דערמאָנט אין יום־כיפור אין דער היים. מען האָט באַוויינט אונ-דזערע נאָענטסטע און טייערסטע, פון וועלכע מיר זיינען אַזוי ברוטאַל אַוועקגענומען געוואָרן. מען האָט באַוויינט די היימישע יידישע שטעטלעך, פון וועלכע עס איז נישט געבליבן קיין זכר. מען האָט באַוויינט די אייגענע יאָרן, די אויסזיכטלאָזע לאַגע אין וועל-כער מיר געפינען זיך. אַפילו די פאַרגרעבטסטע צווישן אונדז, וואָס עס האָט זיך קוים געגלויבט, אַז ביי זיי איז פאַרבליבן אַ מענטשלע-כער פונק, האָבן זיך אַרומגענומען און געבעטן מחילה.

דאָס נישט פאַרטיילטע ברויט איז געלעגן נישט ווייט. וואו עס צו באַהאַלטן אָדער פאַרשליסן איז נישט געווען. אין אַנדערע צייטן וואָלט נישט געווען דער כוח, אַז עס זאָל זיך ווער נישט פרובירן אונטער׳גנב׳ענען און כאַפּן אַ שטיקל, אַפילו ווען ער ווייסט, אַז ס׳וועט אים קאָסטן זיין לעבן. אָבער נישט אין דער יום־כיפור נאַכט. פאַרטאָג, ווען די יידישע פאָליציי האָט גענומען געוואַל-דעווען, קלאָפּן אין די טירן און טרייבן צו דער אַרבעט, האָט זיך פאַר אונדז געשטעלט אַ געוויינלעכער אַרבעטס־טאָג. קיין איינער פון אונדז האָט דעמאָלט נישט געגלויבט, אַז מיר וועלן נאָך דער-לעבן צו פייערן אַ יום־כיפור ווי פרייע יידן.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Sept. 28, is deadline for Oct. 8 issue; Wednesday, Oct. 7, is deadline for Oct. 15 issue; Wednesday, Oct. 14, is deadline for Oct. 22 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Sept. 24

MEDINA THEATRE

Medina Theatre Ensemble annual general meeting, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Reading of scenes from the play, *There Comes a Time* by **Fran Elliot** and **Roselle Stone.**

Saturday, Sept. 26

SHABBAT SHUVAH DRASHA

Rabbi Moshe Stern delivers the Shabbat Shuvah Drasha on the topic An Analysis of the Book of Jonah, 5:15 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue. Men and women invited.

Sunday, Sept. 27

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Memorial Service at Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, Earl Bales Park, 2 p.m. All organizations, schools, synagogues and landmanshafts invited. 785-1333.

BREAKFAST AND LECTURE

Beth Tzedec Men's Club and State of Israel Bonds breakfast and lecture features **Stanley Hart,** chair of Salomon Smith Barney Canada Inc., speaking on Canadian and Israeli Economies – in a state of flux. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30 (nominal charge), lecture at 10.

REMEMBRANCE PARADE

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, Remembrance Parade and Service for the comrades who fell in active duty during the wars, 10:30 a.m., Canadian Jewish War Veterans' Cenotaph at Mount Sinai Cemetery. 782-5024.

MEMORIAL DEDICATION

Chevra Kadisha of B'nai Jacob Congregation, Niagara Falls, Ont., Dedication of the Holocaust Memorial, 1 p.m., Lundy's Lane Cemetery, 7467 Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls. Refreshments following ceremony at the synagogue, 5328 Ferry St.

SUKKOT AND LULAV

The Laws of Sukkot and Lulav with **Rabbi Mordechai Cohen**, 9 a.m., Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. Purchase your lulav and etrog.

CUMMER LODGE

High Holy Day service at Cummer Lodge for residents and next-of-kin, 2:30 p.m., conducted by **Para-Chaplain Carl Rees**, spiritual leader of Kehilat Beit Avot of Cummer Lodge. **Cantor Ephraim Sapir** of Beth Tikvah Synagogue sings the liturgy and sounds the shofar.

YIDDISHLAND CAFE

Workmen's Circle Yiddishland Cafe evening, Walk Together Children: Jewish and Black Music from the Roots Up, performers **Denise Williams**, **Ben Stein** and **Martin Van de Ven** 7:30 p.m., 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $12 in advance, $15 at door. 787-2081.

A MODEL FOR TSHUVAH

Rabbi Benjamin Hollander lectures on Jacob Becomes Israel: A Model for Tshuvah (repentance) 8 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

GARAGE SALE

ELI-Canada Israel Society for Child Protection charity garage sale 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 35 Ames Circle (Leslie/York Mills area).

OPEN HOUSE

Toronto UJPO open house-bagel reception to share information about the secular, humanist Jewish community – Sunday school, Folk Choir, social activist projects, social and cultural events, secular holiday celebrations, summer camp. 10:30 a.m. Winchevsky Centre. 789-5502.

Monday, Sept. 28

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m.,

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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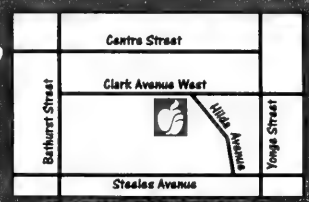

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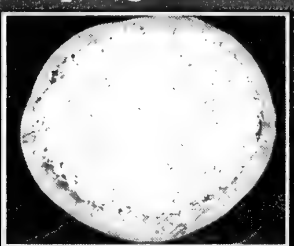

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111.

CYSTITIS SUPPORT GROUP
Interstitial Cystitis sufferers meeting, 7:30 p.m., Central Park Lodge, 1145 Albion Rd. (near Islington), main floor. **Lisa** 447-2246.

And What Else Is New

CASINO RAMA
Jewish Women International, Orah chapter's trip to Casino Rama, Sunday, Oct. 18. Bus leaves Promenade Shopping Mall 9:30 a.m., departs Casino Rama 4 p.m. $6 includes lunch. Reserve. **Rhonda** 905-889-0432 or **Gloria** 739-6595.

CHAI DANCERS
Performing dance group 55+, has openings for dancers. Some dance experience required. Rehearsals Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Teme** 636-1880, ext. 364, Bathurst Jewish Centre.

TRADITIONAL MINYAN
Shomer Israel Congregation traditional heimish minyan welcomes all non-affiliated. No dues. Shabbat 9 a.m. Shabbat Minchah study class with **Rabbi Sheldon Schwartz.** Sunday morning minyan 8:30 a.m. 60 Rockford Rd. (behind Rockford School) **David** 256-1600.

BOOK DISCUSSION
Captain Corelli's Mandolin by **Louis de Bernieres** will be discussed at the Feminist Book Discussion group, North York chapter, Older Women's Network, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

DANCE CLASSES
Dance classes sponsored by Bathurst Jewish Centre, held at the Studio Theatre of the Leah Posluns Theatre. 636-1880, Dance Centre ext. 359 or **Teme** ext. 364.

Beginners class in Israeli folkdancing with **Teme Kernerman** starts Thursday, Oct, 8, 8-9:30 p.m.

International folkdancing with **Sandy** started Wednesday, Sept. 23, 8-10 p.m.

BETH TIKVAH SINGLES
Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles (35-55) Brunch N'Mingle, Sunday, Oct. 25, 11:30 a.m. Speaker **Andrea Moses**. $20 prepaid by Oct. 20. RSVP **Ellen** 905-731-7348 or **Lynne** 223-5262.

ART CLASSES
Drawing and painting, all levels, Thursdays 1-3 p.m., Oct. 8-Nov. 12, at Beth Sholom Synagogue. $48 for six sessions, $10 per session. Call **Terri** (instructor) to register.

PARENTS-PRESCHOOLERS
The Parent and Preschooler program of the Toronto District School Board begins the week of Oct. 5 and ends the week of Dec. 7. Information/registration, Fairmeadow Centre 395-5042.

VENDORS NEEDED
Boutiques for Tuesday, Oct. 20, at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. **Phyllis** 223-5934.

SINGLES SCENE
Singles events, 25-36 and 36-55, under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Call for upcoming events. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 or **Mitchel** 223-8244.

Group 25-36 monthly meeting, bagels and updates Sunday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m. at Beth Emeth.

Monthly meeting for Group 36-55 Monday, Sept. 28, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth.

Sunday, Oct. 4, Rattlesnake Point hike and apple picking. RSVP by Oct. 1. Both groups welcome.

Wednesday, Oct. 7, Sukkah/Cafe Nite, 36-55 group, 7:30-10 p.m. $2.

Saturday, Oct. 24, Singles Shabbat community-wide service. Luncheon, speaker, $10. Tickets on sale Oct. 1 at synagogue office, 633-3838.

HEBREW CLASSES
Richmond Hill Judaica Centre conversational Hebrew and reading classes start Monday, Oct. 19, 8 p.m. Register. **Lillian Benlolo** 905-770-1082.

BOWLING LEAGUE
Ladies 10-pin bowling league is looking for bowlers for Wednesday evenings at 9:30 at Newtonbrook Plaza. **Charlene** 221-9328.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups; Pat Lieberman 638-7800, ext. 215

Bereavement Groups for people who have recently lost a spouse begin Oct. 21; Parenting When Your Child Has An Eating Disorder begins Oct. 29; The Self-Confident Woman begins Oct. 28; Living With teens begins Oct. 21.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Oct. 15 and 28; Shaw Festival (members only) *You Can't Take It With You* Oct. 22 and *Lady Windermere's Fan* Oct. 29; Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel Nov. 22-25. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip Nov. 22-Dec. 9, nine full days of touring including entertainment. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Lamiado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Simchat Torah dance Oct. 10. Reserve. **Malka Colla** 661-4689. For general information **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Association of Jewish Seniors yom tov dinner Sunday, Sept. 27, 5:30 p.m., Bernard Betel Centre. $18. Reserve. **Goldie** 635-2860.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Discussion of Sukkot Thursday, Oct. 1, and of Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah Thursday, Oct. 8, 11 a.m. to noon, with Jewish Studies teacher **Penina Steiner**.

The movie, *When Harry Met Sally* Sunday, Sept. 27, 2:30 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Closed Sept. 29. **Anna.**

BATHURST JC

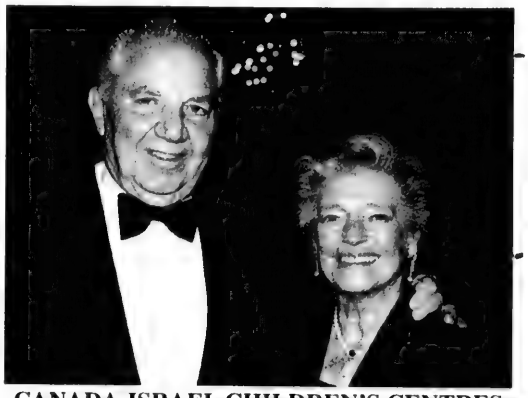
Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services courses starting the week of Oct. 5: Bridge-Intermediate starts Wednesday, Oct. 7, 1-3 p.m.; Tai Chi-Beginners starts Thursday, Oct. 8, 2-3:30 p.m.; Yoga starts Thursday, Oct. 8, noon-1:30 p.m.; Tai Chi-Intermediate/Advanced starts Friday, Oct. 9, 9:30-11 a.m. Register at first class. These courses are co-sponsored by Toronto District Board of Education and the BJC. **Teme** ext. 364 or **Yvonne** ext. 259.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Senior's Club screens *Overture to Glory* with **Moishe Oysher** (in Yiddish with English subtitles) Thursday, Sept. 24, 2 p.m. **Judy**.



CANADA-ISRAEL CHILDREN'S CENTRES
Reuben and Sybil Kunin recently received the Children's Peace Prize from the Canada-Israel Children's Centres in recognition of their outstanding involvement with and support for Israeli children. The organization also bestowed its highest award, a sculpture created by artist Al Green, to 19 other extraordinary couples who together have helped over 300,000 Israeli children.

BETH JACOB PRESENTATION
Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz synagogue executive presents the proceeds of their Yizkor Appeal to a representative of the Association for the Soldiers of Israel (ASI). From left are Sam Faivish, chair of the Appeal; Jack Muskat of the ASI; Rabbi Jay Kelman and Rabbi Moses Burak, spiritual leaders of the synagogue; and Joseph Joseph, synagogue chair. Not present, Joseph Rosenthal, treasurer.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

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From coast to coast

Oberlander downplays role in killing squad

BY PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

KITCHENER, Ont. — A former interpreter in a Nazi killing squad claims his role in the unit consisted mainly of polishing officers' boots, scrounging for food, obtaining supplies and making notes of Soviet radio broadcasts.

Helmut Oberlander said he was unwillingly "taken away into the German forces" in February or March 1942 following a visit to his family home by a police officer who was recruiting ethnic Germans (Volksdeutsch) living in German-occupied Soviet territory.

Oberlander said he was fluent in German and Russian, and that he served as an interpreter for Einsatzkommando 10A – but he denied outright that he was ever involved, in the interrogation of prisoners or the execution of civilians. Instead, he said he was involved in mundane tasks necessary for the unit's daily functioning. Later, he acknowledged that at some point in his career, he was given a pistol and a submachine-gun, and that he participated in anti-partisan raids.

Although the unit was part of the SD (the security arm of the SS), he denied he was a member of either organization. Oberlander also denied that he misled or lied to Canadian immigration officials about his wartime activities. He said he was never asked to describe what he did during the war – although that was a standard question asked of everyone immigrating to Canada.

Oberlander, a 74-year-old retired developer, is facing loss of citizenship and deportation for allegedly lying about his role in Einsatzkommando 10A, a killing squad that followed the German army into the southern Soviet Union and murdered tens of thousands of Jews and communists.

Oberlander's testimony is being tested in cross-examination by Justice Department lawyer Peter Vita, but even before he faced tough questioning, his story contained numerous gaps and claims that stretched belief:

• Oberlander said he spent about two years in the unit before it was merged with other forces but he claimed he didn't learn it was called Einsatzkommando 10A until 1970 when he was called upon to provide an affidavit in a West German war crimes trial;

• He said he considered himself an interpreter who worked for the SD. The SD's task was "to dismantle the Stalin regime, administer the territory occupied by German forces and administer justice, or something," he said.

In fact, the SD was given the primary task early in the war for the destruction of the Jews;

• Oberlander claimed he joined the unit involuntarily, though an expert witness testified the unit was staffed with volunteers;

• Oberlander said he believed that if he disobeyed orders, he would be shot. But the same witness testified that did not take place;

In cross-examination, Oberlander testified that German forces "liberated" the ethnic Germans in his hometown of Halbstadt, who had been gathered for almost two weeks in a field alongside a railway station, waiting to be deported to Siberia. A few days later, a regulation appeared ordering Germans to register themselves or be shot, Oberlander testified.

That statement prompted Vita to ask why German forces would threaten to shoot Germans when they claimed they were in the Soviet Union to protect the Volksdeutsch?

"It doesn't sound right... but that's the way it was," Oberlander responded.

Vita also questioned Oberlander's claim that he was forced to join Einsatzkommando 10A. Vita pointed out that in October 1941, Oberlander volunteered to help the newly arrived German SS register Volksdeutsch in Halbstadt, and that a German police officer showed up at his home later to recruit him into the unit. Afterwards, SD and SS men drove him and other recruits for four to five hours to a camp where he was put to work cleaning boots and clothes.

Didn't they have locals for that? Vita asked.

They did, Oberlander acknowledged, but "they needed an interpreter to tell them what to do," he said.

Oberlander's cross-examination continued as *The CJN* went to press.

Nazi collaborator applies for status as a refugee

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto man linked to Nazi war crimes has applied for refugee status, putting into abeyance a deportation order against him.

Wasily Bogutin was given a conditional deportation order by an Immigration adjudicator after his lawyers announced they would be making a refugee claim on his behalf.

The move was condemned as a stalling tactic by Canadian Jewish Congress. "It is an absurd abuse of the process and a travesty in that many Jews fleeing the Nazis more than 50 years ago were denied entry into Canada," said Moshe Ronen, national president of Canadian Jewish Congress.

Bogutin, 89, will be ordered deported if the refugee claim is rejected by the refugee board. Last February, Federal Court Judge William McKeown found that Bogutin was a member of a Ukrainian auxiliary police force that collaborated with German forces and was personally and directly involved in the roundup of young people for forced labor in Germany. The court also found that Bogutin lied about his wartime activities to Canadian authorities.

Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, said the department is considering whether to intervene to oppose Bogutin's refugee claim. Canada's Immigration Act was amended in the late 1980s to exclude as refugees people suspected of involvement in war crimes, he said.

If he is deported, Bogutin will become one of only a handful of Nazi war criminals forced to leave the country.

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From coast to coast

Dershowitz helps launch Vancouver CJA campaign

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Judaism today faces serious challenges said Harvard University professor Alan Dershowitz.

With falling birth rates and more intermarriage and assimilation, he told the audience he was not sure whether Judaism in its present form can survive. He was speaking at the opening of Greater Vancouver's 1998 Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) campaign at Temple Sholom.

"It has been predicted that five generations from now, most Jews in the United States will be Haredim and Chassidim," Dershowitz said.

Such a situation could result, he said, if religious Jews keep multiplying, and the number of secular Jews keeps falling. "In 1936, Jews constituted four percent of the population of the United States. Today, it is just two percent.

"We're full of secular learning, but for most of us, Jewish learning ends at the bar or bat mitzvah. We must persuade our young people of the importance of learning Jewish traditions and culture."

On a positive note Dershowitz said there is much less anti-Semitism today than at any time in the past. "Anti-Semitism no longer comes from the Roman Catholic Church, the government, universities, major corporations or the United Nations, he said. "It's not that there isn't anti-Semitism, but today it comes from the bottom of society, not the top."

He said that the emergence of women as "equal partners" in the Jewish community is "the best thing that's happened in Judaism in 2,000 years."

Judaism, he said, needs to develop new attitudes in order to deal with the changes of the "post-persecution era. The Jewish religion has never been a static religion. It has always been a religion of change. It's part of our tradition."

Dershowitz said Jewish divorce laws need to be made more liberal. "Jewish women shouldn't be made to live in chains because their spouses refuse to give them a divorce."

Judaism faces serious challenges

He added that non-Jewish spouses need to be encouraged to convert to Judaism.

"Judaism has always been diverse and full of division," he said. "Every Jew thinks he or she knows what every other Jew should think and feel – and that everyone else is wrong.

"Jews need to stick together and support their local community agencies and Israel. Don't deprive your institutions of what they're entitled to just because you may be angry about a policy of the Israeli government. If you disagree, you should double your contribution."

CJA campaign chair Sondi Ritter said, "Vancouver is the fastest growing Jewish community in Canada, with rapidly expanding needs to meet this growth. If we expect our burgeoning community to sustain a vital Jewish life, we must support it. However, we cannot meet the extraordinary needs at home at the expense of those in Israel. We have no choice but to do both."

Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver president Dr. Jonathan Berkowitz called the 1998 campaign kickoff "a time for togetherness and unity" and a "celebration of the year ending and the year about to begin."

Last year's CJA campaign raised just over $4 million.

CLARIFICATION

The photograph of Toronto Police Chief David Boothby, Norman Gardner, Charles Harnick and Keith Landy that appeared in last week's issue of *The CJN* omitted to give credit to the photographer. The photo was taken by Stephen Epstein.

CJA walk held in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The organizers were not expecting large numbers of people out for the Combined Jewish Appeal's (CJA) first Walk for Israel, but it was nevertheless a moderate success.

"We thought our expectations were reasonable," says Elliott Katz, co-chair of the organizing committee for the walk, which was held on Aug. 30 at the Asper Jewish Community Campus.

"It was the last weekend of the summer and the day before school started. Our principal goal was to get the idea out before the public. We were pleased with the turnout that we did get, and with the results."

The idea to hold the Walk for Israel was proposed last spring by CJA executive director Gerry Koffman who was familiar with similar walks that are held annually in Ottawa and Vancouver.

"We scheduled it for Aug. 30 because we wanted to coordinate it with Israel's 50th anniversary," Katz explains. "We had a good number of volunteers and very few glitches. We will schedule the second walkathon for next May, which is a better time for families."

The walkathon and sale of T-shirts did raise about $1,500 for the Travel Israel program. The funds will be used to provide scholarships for Winnipeg Jewish students who want to study in Israel.

From coast to coast

Ottawa marks end of an era as old JCC closes

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Amidst all the excitement and planning around the community's upcoming move to a new JCC facility, it seemed fitting to have some sort of event in the old centre to mark the end of an era.

About six months ago, co-chairs Phyllis Leith and Carolyn Katz came up with the idea to hold an old-fashioned Sunday afternoon dance like the ones they remember so fondly from their teenage years.

"Everyone we mentioned it to wanted to be on the committee," says Katz. "It seemed everyone we spoke to was so excited about it. Some even came in from Montreal to be at our meetings."

Beth Shalom Synagogue, which shared the building with the JCC, agreed to co-sponsor the dance, and plans moved along. Door prizes were donated, a band and DJ were booked, refreshments were ordered and advertisements placed.

On Sept. 6, the doors opened one last time to the sounds of the '50s and '60s provided by Bruce and the Burgers. A crowd of nostalgic Ottawans and former Ottawans streamed into the auditorium to dance, mingle, reminisce and nosh on the familiar hot dogs and cokes from the good old days.

Bernie Farber, executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, returned to his roots for the event.

"I started off here. This is where I cut my Jewish teeth," he recalled. "I started as a day camp counsellor, a cub leader, switchboard operator, then day camp director and program director...this building has so many memories."

Many of those attending the dance had fond memories of a romantic nature. Carolyn Katz met her husband Sid at one of the Sunday afternoon dances nearly 40 years ago. George Caplan met his wife, Rhoda at the JCC as well.

"I was playing basketball for the JCC league. My wife was working at the centre at the time and I asked her to go for coffee," Caplan said. They married and raised four daughters and are still involved with the JCC.

Heni Honigman came from Montreal to visit a cousin in Ottawa 44 years ago, went to a dance at the JCC and met her future husband, Lou, there.

Sue Bronsther met her husband, Phil, at an AZA dance at the JCC and they both kept coming back.

"It was a place to see and be seen, the only place for Jewish people to go. I have fabulous memories. Phil and I both worked here on Sunday Fundays, day camp and Brownies."

In their capacity as caterers for this event, Sue added with a chuckle, "back then we were eating the hot dogs; now we're making them."

In a Passing Over ceremony to mark the transition from the past to the future, JCC president Jeff Gould noted that "as time moves on, so do our community needs... We are saying goodbye today to a building, which for many years, has been a part of our lives."

Remembering the JCC's first director, the late Hy Hochberg, Gould said that "now, over 40 years later, Hy and Pauline's niece, Linda Hochberg Kerzner has taken over the reigns of the JCC." Pauline Hochberg and her family then symbolically presented a key to Linda.

On a lighter note, Kerzner was then given several gifts to take to her new office, including the original curtains from the teen lounge, an old chair, a mezuzah from the door of the old snack bar and a piece of plaster from the ceiling.

Halifax lawyer helps launch endowment fund for AJC

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Jack Prince apologized, but he shouldn't have.

His leadership has led to the formation of the The Legacy of Life, a bequest and endowment fund that will aid Atlantic Jewish Canadians for years to come.

"I was negligent in not establishing this fund decades ago," the veteran Halifax lawyer told 40 business and community leaders at a luncheon to introduce the concept. "The income...will enhance the quality of Jewish traditions regardless of the size of the community."

The fund will enable Atlantic Jewish Canadians to contribute, with tax credits and income development, to charitable organizations that will benefit smaller communities in the region.

Prince, co-chair of the Atlantic Jewish Council's (AJC) Bequest and Endowment Fund, welcomed Halifax-area accountants and lawyers and introduced them to accountant Robert Kleinman, executive director of the Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal and director of financial resource development for FEDERATION CJA. Kleinman spent a valuable hour outlining various endowment and bequest plans.

"Canadians are neophytes in planned giving compared to Americans who have developed so many products to meet the needs of donors," said Kleinman, who had 18 years' experience as a taxman with Ernst & Young prior to moving to the Montreal Foundation.

"Some Canadian Jewish centres, such as Toronto and Vancouver, have moved profitably into planned giving while others, like Calgary Edmonton and Halifax, are just starting," he said.

Kleinman presented the seminar with copies of the *National Jewish Gift Planning Handbook*, which he authored under the auspices of United Israel Appeal of Canada, the Council of Jewish Federations of Canada, FEDERATION CJA and the Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal.

The 23-chapter volume, including appendices, deals with various types of bequests, such as life insurance, capital property, marketable securities, real estate, private company shares and art.

"As financial planners, there's a place for you to deal with your clients," he told the professionals. "If you can't bring them these ideas, not forcing them to do charity but showing them how, you're not giving them all the opportunities from a financial point of view.

"You also make charity happen, which is such a major part of Jewish life," he said. "Even if you charge your fees, you've done your part."

Jim Spatz, co-chair of the AJC's Bequest and Endowment Fund, said the fund has been underway for a few months, although it was only officially announced recently. He said the intent is to enhance Jewish life in Atlantic Canada.

Gifts totalling more than $250,000 were announced at the luncheon, including a $214,000 bequest from the estate of the late Rebecca Cohn.

"For a beginning, it's not a bad start," said Prince. "These gifts came unattached. There is no legal direction for use, but they will aid the poor Jewish people in the region."

Spatz, a medical doctor and real estate developer, was impressed with Kleinman's knowledge and ability to present it in lay terms. "He's an expert in the field and today, he was teaching experts new things."

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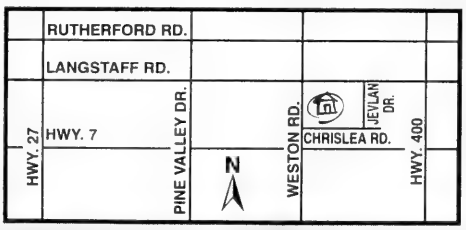

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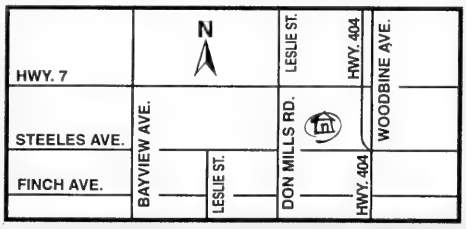

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Israel seals territories amid terror threats

By AMOS HAREL and SAMI SOCKOL
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The IDF last Friday again placed a blanket closure on the territories until the end of Rosh Hashanah.

Israeli forces also remained on high alert because of warning signs of Hamas plans to abduct IDF soldiers and set off car bombs in a large Israeli city.

Tension, already running high since Israeli forces killed two Hamas military leaders, increased after a Jewish settler killed a 17-year-old Palestinian, identified as Iyad Rawhi Karabseh of Bitunia. The high school student was shot last week, apparently after he hurled stones at the settler's car.

Another youth, 15-year-old Aisa Jabarin, was injured in the shooting and was reported in serious condition.

The 35-year-old settler, whose identity was not made public, was not hurt in the incident. He reported the shooting to police only seven hours after it took place, after it had been reported in the media. He said he was confronted by a group of high school students who stoned his car as he drove to Jerusalem.

The IDF closure of the territories was to be in force until this Wednesday morning. During that time, no Palestinian workers would be allowed to go to jobs in Israel, with the exception of hospital workers, journalists and those travelling for "humanitarian reasons."

Some 17,000 workers and 3,000 businesspeople who had been gradually allowed into Israel last week would not be allowed back to work in Israel until after the holiday.

Defence authorities had not yet decided whether to impose a partial closure on the territories after the holiday.

The military would continue to remain on high alert throughout the holiday, bracing for a revenge attack by Hamas for the killing last week of Imad and Adel Awadallah, two leaders of the Palestinian group's military wing. Military sources said the warnings this time were "unprecedented in how widespread they were."

According to information in defence circles, the Hamas leadership had decided (as several of its leaders have openly vowed) to respond swiftly to the killing of the Awadallah brothers. Hamas planned to abduct several soldiers, perhaps simultaneously, and negotiate their release, under the assumption that such a situation would paralyze the country during the holiday season.

The IDF beefed up its watch on soldier hitchhiking posts, and its guard on organized transports for soldiers to reduce the risk of abductions. At the same time, soldiers in large numbers were given rules to follow for safe travel, particularly while hitchhiking. Military police have been carrying out a special operation to catch and court martial soldiers who do not follow the rules on safe travel.

Other warnings concerned the possibility that Hamas would try to drive a booby-trapped car into a major Israeli city or set off a car bomb in a settlement.

Last week, there were several incidents of Palestinians throwing stones at cars with Israeli licence plates in the West Bank. IDF sources said Fatah groups, as well as Hamas, were involved in the incidents.

Israel's population estimated at 5.9M

By MOTI BASSOK
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — On the eve of Rosh Hashanah, the population of Israel was estimated at 5,993,000 people, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced.

Of this number, 4,702,000 (79.4 percent) are Jews and 887,000 (14.8 percent) are Muslim. The rest belong to Christian, Druze or other communities.

The population increased by 133,000, or 2.2 percent, over the previous year, when the population increased by 2.6 percent.

The growth rate for last year was 1.7 percent, compared with two percent two years ago.

The Jewish population increased by 79,600 last year. Of that number, 68 percent was due to natural increase and the remainder to immigration. The contribution of immigration to population growth decreased slightly, from 37 percent two years ago to 31 percent last year.

Last year 58,000 immigrants arrived in Israel. Nearly 80 percent of the immigrants were from countries of the former Soviet Union.

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Finish work, panel urged

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — One month after Switzerland's two largest banks agreed to pay $1.25 billion (US) to settle Holocaust-era claims, a panel conducting a sweeping audit of Swiss banks is coming under pressure to wrap up its work.

So far, auditors have discovered just over $50 million in dormant accounts belonging to Holocaust victims, but some sources say that amount could double by the time the process is complete.

Determining the value of those accounts is considered a critical part of the settlement reached last month between the banks and Holocaust survivors, which brings resolution to all Holocaust-era claims against Switzerland, with the exception of insurance claims.

As part of the settlement, the banks agreed to pay out all dormant accounts, deducting the amount from the $1.25 billion sum.

But some Swiss bank officials complain that the process is not moving quickly enough and that as it drags on, they continue to foot the bill.

Paul Volcker, the former U.S. Federal Reserve chair who is heading the panel adjudicating claims, has defended the exhaustive search, now in its second year, saying that as the panel continues its work, it undoubtedly will come up with more accounts.

"The process is complicated, and efforts are being made to speed it up," Volcker, who chairs the board of trustees of the Claims Resolution Foundation, said at an open meeting of the panel in New York last week.

Last year, the Volcker commission published the names of the holders of 5,570 bank accounts worth $51.6 million. Since then, 9,500 claims have been filed against 2,377 of those accounts. About 3,300 of those have been accepted as valid, and the rest have undergone an initial assessment and review by independent arbitrators.

The work of matching up claimants to accounts, undertaken by more than 200 auditors from international accounting firms, has been complicated by the fact that claims have been received from 27 countries in 20 languages.

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The Week in Israel

Sept. 14

• The Cabinet approved next year's proposed $53-billion (US) budget, which includes the first real increase in defence spending in 10 years. The budget must be approved by the full Knesset.

Sept. 15

• Israel partially lifted a closure it imposed on the West Bank and Gaza Strip after Hamas threatened retaliation for the killings by Israeli security forces last week of two of its leading operatives.

• Israel denied a claim by the widow of Baruch Goldstein to receive government compensation for his death.

• Israel's Arrow-2 missile destroyed a simulated target during the first comprehensive test of the missile's launch, radar and firing systems. The missile was developed with American co-funding.

Sept. 16

• The Histadrut Clerks Union called off its municipal workers strike, after a two-day walkout, citing "substantial progress in talks with treasury officials.

• The casino built with Austrian and Palestinian funding opened in Jericho.

Sept. 17

• Military officials reported that Hamas militants are planning large-scale bombing attacks against Israeli targets as well as efforts to kidnap Israelis soldiers.

• An IDF soldier lost a foot in a mine blast during a routine patrol with his unit in the eastern sector of the south Lebanon security zone.

Sept. 18

• Israel posted ads in a Turkish newspaper offering rewards of up to $300,000 (US) for information regarding the Dakar submarine that disappeared with a crew of 69 in 1968.

• Officials issued a report detailing instances of anti-Semitism they said "permeate the official Egyptian media." The report underscored the frigidity of relations between the two countries.

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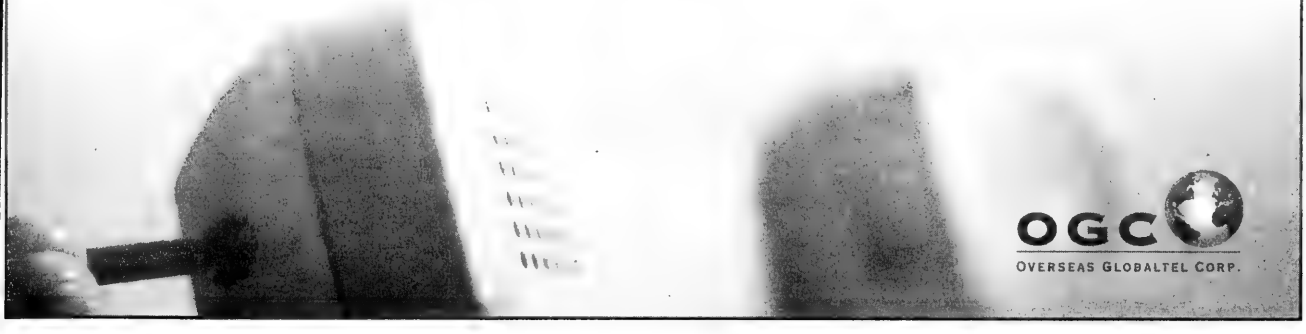

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Netanyahu talks to *The CJN*

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The Oslo accord was a very flawed deal. We said so at the time and nothing has changed our view. We also said we would keep this agreement under the principle of the continuity of contracts, providing the other side keeps their part of it. This is why we have been insisting on reciprocity, why we have codified it, and why we now insist on seeing it implemented. When the Palestinians implement their obligations under the Oslo and Hebron accords, then we shall carry out our obligations.

We are not dealing with declarations any more, we want to see concrete fulfilment. If they carry out their commitments we will withdraw from additional territory.

CJN: *If the Oslo Accord is, as you say, so flawed, why continue?*

PM: Because we made a commitment to continue the process to its conclusion. The conclusion, by the way, is fulfilling the interim agreement and negotiating a final settlement. There is no road map in Oslo for the shape of a final settlement. The Oslo process and its stipulations lead you up to the final status negotiations, but leave the nature and outcome of these negotiations open-ended.

It is a big achievement for Israel to have been able to carry out its obligations and minimize the damage to the country. Obviously this is a far, far cry from what the Palestinians had expected to get from the previous government. The vast majority of Israelis want to have progress with the Palestinians based on the principles that we stand for – security and reciprocity – and minimizing the damage.

CJN: *Dennis Ross was here again. How close are you to an agreement on the second stage?*

PM: We were closer a month ago because we worked out discreet negotiations between Arafat's representatives and mine on the nature of the disengagement, including the concept of nature reserves. These are questions that are part of our security considerations. However the Palestinians backtracked on this agreement when it was very close to being finalized.

What has been holding up the agreement for some time now is not Israel; it is the persistent Palestinian refusal to honor their obligations under the Oslo agreements and carry out their promises to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorists and to jail terrorists – to stop hostile propaganda, annul the [PLO] covenant and extradite the murderers.

CJN: *Do the Americans understand that?*

PM: The Americans understand perfectly what is going on.

CJN: *Last May in Washington you stated that you would not accept the concept of a double digit withdrawal. What made you change your mind?*

PM: The Americans came up with a very interesting and creative bridging solution that essentially said they understood our concern with security problems with a more than 10 percent withdrawal. They came up with an idea for the additional three percent, of which Israel would retain the necessary conditions for security. We thought we had an understanding with the Palestinians to that effect, but it turns out that we were wrong because they backed away from it.

CJN: *You are going to the United States later this month. What do you feel are the chances of success in signing an agreement?*

PM: There is a 100 percent chance of success if the Palestinians have the political will to live up to their obligations. Zero if they don't. Between these two poles, take your pick.

Free market systems

CJN: *Do close military ties between Israel and Turkey indicate the development of a strong regional bilateral force which might, if required, come to each other's assistance in the event of hostilities, for instance, in a conflict erupting between Syria and Israel or a conflict between Turkey and Greece. Is there not a danger that such ties could, in certain circumstances, become a danger to Israel? One scenario that I have in mind is a change in government in Turkey that could be fundamentalist-based and represent a serious threat to Israel's integrity.*

PM: It is highly important that we have developed such a close relationship with a Muslim country. Turkey has the same concerns that we have – peace and stability in a volatile area. This is the nature of the relationship we have. It is not against anyone.

The other aspect is the burgeoning economic relationship that exceeds a billion dollars in annual trade. There is room for much joint venture. These are the two democracies in the Middle East. We both have free market systems.

Concerning your implication that we should be concerned that Turkey could be overtaken by fanatical forces, I agree with you. It is a concern that is shared in many other lands. I am sure that the international community would do well, and I direct my comments primarily to western Europe, to consider how important it is that such countries remain in the western orbit.

CJN: *Are you concerned that Yevgeny Primakov has been appointed the new Russian prime minister, in view of the fact that he has a reputation as a well known Arabist?*

PM: I am not concerned at all, because Mr Primakov was the foreign minister in the previous a ministration, shaping foreign polic I don't think foreign policy is abo to change.

It is our hope that we can co tinue to cement the bilateral ti between Russia and Israel. We ha an excellent relationship, except f one problem. We have been ver frank under Mr. Chernomyrdin an now I am being frank under Mr. Pr makov. I sent Mr. Primakov a co gratulatory note and I said that w expect him to take action against th leakage of Russian technology, bo ballistic and nuclear, to Iran an other such regimes.

I am not concerned with reputa tions; I am concerned with facts The facts are that Israel and Russi have a common interest in seein the development of peace in ou region. We also have an objectiv interest in preventing the threaten ing of peace to our two countries b irresponsible regimes who can hur ballistic missiles with equal profi ciency to Moscow and to Jerusalem

I hope, therefore, that we ca build on these common interest that we share.

With regard to the situation tha is developing in Russia, we obvi ously wish Russia well and hop that it will stabilize its economy an its society. We also view this as development that may result i massive aliyah, renewed large scal immigration of Jews from th former Soviet Union. Therefore, i our budget decision, we made on critical decision to propose pro grams for encouraging, not jus preparing, in case there is an aliyah

Programs to induce and promot aliyah will receive all the funding they require, budget constraints notwithstanding. The reason i simple. Having renewed Jewish sovereignty in the land of the Jews to bring in, to gather in the exiles That's what we are here for – t bring Jews to Eretz Yisrael.

CJN: *What do you feel are th chances that within the next 1 months there will be new elections Are you prepared for elections?*

PM: I don't think they will take place. I think the backbone of the coalition is now very strong. If we don't reach an agreement with the Palestinians, it is because they refuse to do their part. If we do secure Palestinian compliance and have an agreement, I don't believe the members of our coalition will bring down the government, for the simple reason that the redeployment would be a fait accompli. There would be far fewer concessions than a government of the left was pre pared to offer. I believe the coalition will hold nicely.

CJN: *What is your resolution for the New Year?*

PM: Number one, get some rest. Two, work hard for the well-being and the security of the peace for the people of Israel and the State of Israel. Three, that we should all achieve our private and collective goals, which I am sure we all share. Shanah Tovah.

Israel & the Jewish World

Israel attempts to block PLO at United Nations

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Israel will seek U.S. help in an effort to thwart a Palestinian plan to focus on the goal of statehood during the United Nations General Assembly session, said Yitzhak Leor, the Foreign Ministry's deputy-director general for international organizations.

The plan was outlined in a "priorities paper" recently released by the PLO in New York. "The Palestinian leadership has repeatedly announced its intention to reaffirm the declaration of independence of the State of Palestine in May 1999, the end of the five-year transitional period, in accordance with the existing Palestinian-Israeli agreements," the paper says.

The theme of statehood is expected to be stressed during Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's address to the General Assembly session. The UN secretariat has assured Israel that Arafat will not be treated as a head of state, but rather as head of the PLO.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will leave immediately after Rosh Hashanah for the UN, where he will address the General Assembly.

The Palestinian paper also reiterates themes such as seeking to win General Assembly approval to limit the acceptance of Israeli credentials during the annual formal presentation of credentials to the UN. They also seek to convene a conference of all the signatories to the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, which limits the authority of occupying powers.

While the status of the Palestinians at the UN was upgraded this year, they did not win acceptance on the credentials and Fourth Geneva Convention issues, due to efforts made by Israel with the United States and European countries.

Another issue of concern for Israel is the continuing European resistance to having Israel temporarily join the regional bloc Western Europe and Others Group (WEOG). Without being a member of a regional bloc, Israel remains the only country in the world that is not eligible to join the Security Council or other prestigious bodies. This lack of affiliation also blocks the nomination of Israelis to key UN positions.

"The Europeans tell us there is linkage between even a deliberation on WEOG and progress on peace," Leor said.

During his visit to the UN, Netanyahu will meet with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Indian Prime Minister Atal Vajpayee, and a host of foreign ministers. He is not scheduled to meet President Bill Clinton, since the president will not be at the UN when Netanyahu arrives. But the prime minister will be meeting with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Hopes for a three-way meeting in New York involving Clinton, Netanyahu and Arafat are tied to progress on the peace process. "If the situation remains as it is now, meaning that if Netanyahu shows no willingness to agree to the American initiative, then there will be no summit," said Arafat's spokesperson Nabil Abourdeneh.

Diaspora declining

By MICA SCHNEIDER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — More Jews could be living in Israel than in America in 10 years, according to a new World Jewish Congress study.

The annual pre-Rosh Hashanah survey of the world's 13.5 million Jews found that a growing rate of immigration to Israel, and high assimilation rates among Diaspora Jews will cause Israel's population of about 4.9 million Jews to exceed America's, which has been the world's highest since World War II.

At the same time, according to the report, the alarmingly high assimilation rates among Diaspora Jews could cause its population to fall by half in a generation.

The study, conducted during the past three months, also found that reported cases of anti-Semitism worldwide are down.

Avi Becker, director of the Jerusalem-based Institute of the World Jewish Congress, said that Jewish success was "good for Jews, but bad for Judaism" because it can lead to assimilation.

Jews are residing in more than 100 countries, but outside of Israel there has been no natural growth in most of these Jewish communities, the report said.

Becker attributed the shrinking population to a rising divorce rate, an increased number of Jews who prefer to remain single and low birth rates.

Jewish communities in Canada and Brazil are growing as immigration there rises. Germany also has a large Jewish immigrant community, mostly from the former Soviet Union. More than half of the 71,000 Jews in Germany are immigrants.

Rapid growth worldwide has taken place only in the fervently Orthodox communities, which have increased more than 20 percent during the past decade. Becker attributes this increase both to a high birth rate and the "return to religion" phenomenon in the West.

Some one million of the world's Jews are Orthodox, the report found.

America is home to more than 5.6 million Jews. French Jews make up the world's third-largest Jewish population with 600,000, according to the study.

More than 250 people and organizations contributed statistics to the study. Most of the data came from Jewish community records and academic studies.

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Gary, Louise & Josh
Uli, Tamara & Odeyah Sara Friedman
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours here and in Jerusalem a happy and healthy New Year.

Dorit, Simone, David & Emma Najgoldberg
and Tola Marchewka
Wish their relatives and friends a happy, and healthy New Year.

LORI & SAM MERSON
Wish their family and friends a happy, healthy & prosperous New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel
Anjie, Richard & Avery Tarek-Kaminker

Travel, Arts & Business

Former purchasing director moves into glass art

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After 17 years in business as purchasing director for the Oshawa Group, Judd Shemesh opted for a total career change.

Like other family members – his sister sculpts and paints, his mother and brother are clothing designers – he felt the need to express himself creatively.

He chose glass as his medium because, he says, it is "timeless."

What did he know about the artistry, the techniques, involved?

"You can learn anything you want in a library," he affirms, and his Glassique collection, which lights up his Thornhill studio/home testifies to that.

Born in Iraq, raised in Israel, living in Canada since 1973, Shemesh infuses his pieces with distinctive pattern and color, and gives them a spiritual quality.

He is not formally observant, but his background and his gut feeling as a Jew emerge in the mezuzah covers, chanukiyot, menorot and Shabbat candlesticks that comprise much of his collection. Though contemporary, geometric in form, they arise from an ancient heritage.

Confident in his mastery of these traditionally based works, Shemesh is exploring new concepts. He spends innumerable hours intricately crafting "reverse pictures" in which he works from the back, almost as in a mirror image, painstakingly carving in various depths to render them three dimensional, and intricately painting every facet.

Shemesh concedes that he cannot draw. Each reverse picture is done in cooperation with an artist, who, in consultation with him, outlines the design on paper affixed to a rubber mat on the back. Then, Shemesh starts to cut through the mat into the glass.

His *Autumn Leaves* (artist John Taw) is a hand-carved drift of falling maple leaves, twisting, turning, even lying curled and broken on the ground, painted in muted gold against an earthy background. The whole is set off by a self-frame etched and painted deep green.

Shemesh notes that Steve Stavro, chairman of the board of the Toronto Maple Leaf Hockey Club, is interested in seeing *Autumn Leaves* with a view to displaying it in the new Air Canada Centre, which will be home to the Maple Leafs and the Raptors.

For his most recent reverse picture, *Jerusalem, the Old City*, Shemesh looked for a Jewish artist who could understand what he wanted to say. Arik Bendelman, originally from Russia, who also lived for a time in Israel, was his choice. The resulting scene comes alive and the stones are almost palpable.

Judd Shemesh

Now Shemesh is exploring in an extraordinary direction. Three years ago in his Miami studio (he winters in Florida), he was experimenting with a cross when a Catholic client, his interest piqued by a Jew who would craft such a symbol, put him in touch with John C. Favarola, archbishop of Miami. Archbishop Favarola bought the cross.

When it was learned that Pope John Paul II plans to celebrate the beginning of the millennium with a New Year's Eve mass in Bethlehem, the Miami archbishop asked Shemesh to submit a fitting gift that would be presented to the Pope as a memento of the occasion.

Shemesh designed a model for an inscribed glass cross which will be reproduced in the desired size. To his knowledge, this is the first free-standing cross to be created as an object of art. "They are usually set against walls or worn on the body," he observes.

He regards the cross that he is making for the Pope quite simply as an artwork in keeping with the Israeli government's policy of bringing people together.

Shemesh's Glassique pieces are available in the Toronto area at such shops as Ashley's, Goodman's, Matana Judaica and Israel's, as well as across Canada and in Israel, the United States and South America.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

As we turn the page into the New Year of 5759, Eye On Arts presents its annual survey of what some people in the literary community are reading.

* * *

Matt Cohen, whose last novel *Last Seen* will soon be published in Dutch, is reading Robert Stone's *Damascus Gate* – "a very interesting novel about Jewish millenarianism. One of its themes is the tendency for some people to desire to rescue themselves from the present by believing the apocalypse will arrive. It presents a very different and fascinating portrait of Jerusalem, and an interesting interpretation of what drives Israeli politics."

Cohen is also reading *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara* by David Kertzer (Vintage), a nonfiction tale about how Catholics kidnapped a 6-year-old Italian Jewish boy in 1858 after the family maid covertly baptised him. "*Like Damascus Gate*, it combines research and narrative skill in a very interesting way," says Cohen.

* * *

Montreal poet and short-story writer **Robyn Sarah** is reading A. B. Yehoshuah's *The Lover* (E.P. Dutton softbound), which "presents a really good portrait of the complexity of Israeli society."

Sarah says she particularly admires Yehoshuah's trademark use of multiple first-person narratives. "He makes a real effort to try to see from a variety of different perspectives. His technique of monologues means that you're always seeing from the inside, and you get to see different people's perspectives of the same event. It's a very good method for describing an extremely complex society.

"What I profoundly admire about him is that even though he has things to say that are political and sociological, his characters are completely real and well-rounded. They're never just mouthpieces. His characterization is what amazes me."

* * *

Philip Roth "is the writer on this earth whom I most admire," says Toronto lawyer-novelist **Morley Torgov**, who recently finished Roth's latest novel, *American Pastoral* (Houghton Mifflin). "I'll go so far as to say, I really think all of us novelists should retire from the field and leave it to Roth. He just gets better by the book. There's so much depth to his writing, he's got such incredible skill...if he doesn't win the Nobel Prize one day, I'm going to quit writing in protest."

According to Torgov, *American Pastoral* focuses on an affluent, well-educated New Jersey family where "everything on the surface just looks wonderful – except that the daughter, as a teenager, kills four people with bombs as a protest against the Viet Nam war. And then the dysfunction comes out of the woodwork."

Torgov's latest novel, *The War to End All Wars*, is due from Malcolm Lester Books in October.

* * *

Publisher **Malcolm Lester** is currently reading *Remembering Mr. Shawn at the New Yorker: The Invisible Art of Editing*, by Ved Mehta (Overlook Press), which he calls "terrific – I love Mehta's style, a very expansive, generous style of writing. Also, the subject matter is fascinating: how the New Yorker worked in the 1960s and 1970s and how it bore the imprint of one man, William Shawn.

Lester is also reading *Explaining Hitler* by Ron Rosenbaum (Random House), which he describes as "an attempt to understand how Hitler the man became Hitler the paragon of evil."

* * *

Ellen Seligman, senior fiction editor at McClelland and Stewart in Toronto, has been turning the pages of Jamaica Kincaid's *My Brother* (Farrar Strauss Giroux), which describes the death of her brother from AIDS in the Caribbean.

"It's one of the most brutally honest, magnificently written books – very powerful," says Seligman. "It's a completely unsentimental exploration of loss; the rhythm of the prose is hypnotic. I think it's an extraordinarily important book. It's a very personal book but it clearly has a lot of universal resonance."

* * *

Toronto novelist **Cary Fagan** has just finished reading *Buying On Time* by Antanas Sileika (Porcupine's Quill), a collection of linked stories of eastern European immigrants in the Toronto suburb of Weston in the early 1950s. "It's very much a book about a patriarchal father and his relationship with his sons," says Fagan.

Fagan is also reading *The Bull Is Not Killed*, a first novel by Toronto writer Sarah Dearing (Stoddart). "It's a pure pleasure to read," he says. He describes it as a combination adventure story, political story and romantic story set in Portugal at the end of the Portuguese dictatorship in the 1970s.

Fagan's first children's book, *Gogol's Coat*, is due in bookstores in October and his next novel, *Felix Roth*, is scheduled for publication in the spring.

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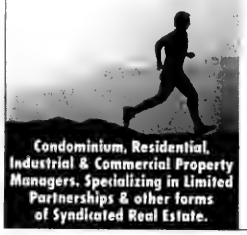

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Daniel Rubinoff showcases saxaphone's Jewish soul

BY ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Saxophonist Daniel Rubinoff wants to breathe some new life into classical music.

Following his 1997 gold medal-winning performance at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, for which he received the highest score of all orchestral instruments in diploma recital, Rubinoff has taken the next step with his current CD *The Old Castle*.

Self-released last November on his label Carnival Records, the album showcases the classical but less familiar side of the saxophone.

"I want to expose people to the timeless beauty of the classical saxophone," Rubinoff says. "It parallels the development of jazz. The joy of the performance is not just in revisiting the music, but in opening it to reinterpretation. Many of the classical pieces for saxophone come from the last century, but are intended to be infused with new life by current artists, complementing the style of the day."

Featuring solo compositions intended for traditional orchestral instruments and original concert pieces written specifically for the sax, Rubinoff says the album reflects the modern evolution of the music, tied closely to the contributions of Jewish Canadians.

Inspired by the works of renowned musicians Paul Brodie, his personal mentor, and composer Srul Irving Glick, both recipients of the Order of Canada, Rubinoff says the two have provided a strong foundation that he and others can build on, as well as helping him develop a style that is "particularly Jewish."

"Glick is important for so many saxophonists because he is a late 20th-century composer who has written original music intended for the classical saxophone," he says.

Daniel Rubinoff

"Brodie is a contemporary of Glick, and the first to champion his work. Glick combines a traditional western style with a distinctively Jewish character. For me as a Jewish Canadian concert saxophonist, it is an honor to perform the work of a fellow countryman who has enriched our culture."

'It is an honor to perform...'

Glick, who received the Order for his contribution to Canadian and Canadian Jewish music, composed the album tracks *Lullaby* and *Lament with Cantorial Chant*.

For *Lament*, Rubinoff says he drew on cantorial and introductory Torah experiences from his teen years as a singer at Beth Israel Synagogue in Peterborough, Ont. He says the early religious exposure gave him an appreciation of its integration with Jewish arts and culture.

Rubinoff brings a number of Jewish influences to *The Old Castle*. He composed a classical interpretation of *Tango*, which he says possesses a subtle Sephardi quality. This Cuban-Spanish genre could well have Jewish roots, a theory currently gaining recognition, he adds.

Other prominent Jewish musicians as Itzhak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman have been role models for his technical performance and musical methodology, he says.

Of his recent award, the 31-year-old Torontonian says the achievement is a culmination of academic and professional pursuits in the performing arts starting at age 16.

After finishing his music degree at the University of Waterloo in 1990 and then receiving a bachelor of education at the University of Toronto in 1993, Rubinoff became an artist-in-residence at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta. He then went on to perform as a soloist and chamber musician in France and the United States, as well as across Canada.

While eager to learn and perform, Rubinoff has become equally eager to teach. Now an affiliate teacher at the Royal Conservatory and in private studio, Rubinoff is instructing saxophone students from primary to post-secondary levels in the Greater Toronto Area.

In Rubinoff's next next album, *The Music of Daniel Rubinoff*, he will not only be featured as a performer but also as a composer. Currently in pre-production, the album will explore jazz and other popular forms of the saxophone.

Rubinoff is also planning a recital tour of Jewish music for the saxophone for the 1999-2000 performance season.

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Travel, Arts & Business

City slickers can experience B.C.'s wilderness areas

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Hikers are advised to make plenty of noise as they walk through the bush!

SOOKE, B.C. — At the southernmost tip of Vancouver Island, far from any coffeeshops and beyond the takeout range of the provinces' countless sushi bars, lies the pristine wilderness surrounding Port Renfrew.

Not yet touched by the trendy coffee bars that can be found on practically every corner of Vancouver, Port Renfrew is a small town at the western end of Highway 14 that serves as the jumping-off place for outdoorsmen getting away from it all. It's a misty area studded with towering evergreen trees, craggy beaches and a shoreline that offers spectacular views of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the narrow passage that separates Vancouver Island from the State of Washington to the south.

In the morning, seals can be seen perched on the rocky shoreline while birds of prey soar overhead. The area offers access to a user-friendly provincial park with well-groomed trails of easy grade. Despite its high volume of traffic, it remains wild country with numerous posted notices warning of black bears and cougars.

The big cats are relatively few in number and they tend to avoid human visitors. Black bears are another matter. More plentiful and bolder, they have been known to cause concern to campers and hikers alike. Hikers are advised to make plenty of noise as they walk through the bush, letting the bears know two-legged intruders are on the way. Campers are constantly warned not to store food in their tents. Attesting to the bears' presence in the park was a bear trap – resembling a big dog house on a trailer – placed near the shoreline.

Although the park's trails are geared for city slickers who like their nature in small, manageable doses, more serious hikers and campers can head for the West Coast Trail, which begins just outside Port Renfrew. The trail meanders into dense bush where camping takes on its original, backwoods nature. At a public house just outside town, where hikers stop for a cool, refreshing beverage before and after their woodland adventures, a conversation among the plaid-shirted, hiking boot set can be overheard:

"If something happens, you're three days from help," says one.

"The hike wasn't too difficult except for the ladders on the trail," said another.

"We saw one cougar, but he was a long way off," said a third.

For city folk whose idea of roughing it is getting to the restaurant before closing time, the town of Sooke and its satellite bed and breakfast (B & B) facilities are nearby. About an hour drive west of Victoria on highway 14, Sooke is a small town that has become well know in the Lower Mainland as a romantic getaway that has all the luxuries of a downtown hotel set in the rugged wilderness of the Pacific Rainforest.

Our B & B, the Lighthouse Retreat, like others in the area was located in the woods just off the highway, overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Rooms offered a spectacular view and could accommodate either couples or families. Breakfast at the lodge provided more than the recommended daily requirements of roughage, consisting of fresh fruit salad and freshly baked items (still hot) like oatmeal cookies, scones, banana bread and croissants. In keeping with the area's reputation for nature-loving, tie-dyed-wearing tree-huggers, all the food was organic, free of pesticides and herbicides.

•••

A three-hour drive north of Sooke, past Nanaimo but not quite as far as Comox or Courtney, is Buckley Bay, notable only as a ferry port for Denman and Hornby Islands, two popular vacation destinations in Georgia Strait.

Although Hornby's population grows by leaps and bounds in the summer, the locals maintain their unique, alternative lifestyle. An institution on Hornby is the organic farm run by a British-accented, middle-aged farmer who appears like a refugee from the '60s. With his scraggly, untamed beard, he could be mistaken for the bass player in ZZ Top.

Produce from his farm, like cucumbers, tomatoes, beans and onions are tasty and reasonably priced. Sums are totalled on a chalk board, another throwback to the days before supermarkets and electronic cash registers. Bigger ticket items can be purchased at the island's one co-op grocery store.

The summer fair is another island highlight while a visit to sculptor Wayne Ngan's studio is recommended.

Hornby's popularity can be attributed in large measure to its sandy beaches, something unique in British Columbia, which is known for its rocky and stone-strewn beachfront.

The beach at Tribune Bay is as enticing as any this side of the Atlantic. The water is shallow, resulting in relatively warm temperatures (compared to the rest of the West Coast) for swimmers and frolicking kids.

Helliwell Provincial Park offers a spectacular hiking trail that includes a walk on the bluffs overlooking Georgia Strait. It is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful jogging trails anywhere. Blackberry bushes are everywhere along the roads, which are a cyclist's delight. Far from city lights, watching the stars in all their glory is another favorite Hornby pastime.

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3	Dragon Centre (Hong Kong Bank)	9:45AM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	10:15AM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	10:30AM	5:00PM
4	Commerce Gate (505 Hwy 7 Second Cup)		10:15AM		Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)	10:45AM	6:00PM
5	Bathurst & Steeles N. W. Corner (Mac's Milk)	9:45AM	Miss. Golden Sq. Ctr. (Rear Entrance of Fuji Optical)	10:15AM	Miss. Chinese Ctr. (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	10:45AM	6:00PM
	AFTERNOON						
6	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					2:15PM	9:00PM
7	Kennedy & Steeles N.E. Corner (Tripmate Tours)					2:15PM	10:00PM
8	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)		2:15PM		Mississauga Chinese Centre (Rear Entrance of HK Bank)	2:45PM	11:00PM
9	Kennedy & Steeles	4:15PM	Broadview & Gerrard	4:45PM	Chinatown Centre	5:15PM	1:00AM
	MIDNIGHT						
10	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					7:45PM	3:00AM
11	Kennedy & Steeles	8:45PM	Yorkdale Subway (Bus Lane 13)	9:15PM	Jane/Wilson (Coffee Time)	9:30PM	4:00AM
12	Spadina Chinatown Centre (Furama Bakery)					10:30PM	5:00AM

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New drug helps fight against breast cancer

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An international study has shown that arimidex, a new hormonal agent, not only increases the life span of women with advanced breast cancer, but also causes minimal side effects.

The findings were announced last week at a press conference in downtown Toronto by Kathleen Pritchard, head of the division of clinical trials and epidemiology at Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre and co-chair of Breast Cancer Site Group, National Cancer Institute of Canada, Clinical Trials Group.

Calling the new drug "good news," she said that it allows women "a brave and beautiful survival."

Arimidex is now considered the second line drug of choice for stage 4 breast cancer. Once the cancer has spread beyond the original location, and surgery, radiation therapy, and finally tamoxifen have proven ineffective, those given arimidex were 22 percent more likely to be alive after two years than those treated with megestrol acetate (megase), which until now has been used in these cases.

Megase also has serious side effects, most particularly continuing weight gain, which Pritchard noted has led to a loss of self-esteem and a poorer quality of life.

The significance of the study can be seen in the brutally objective statistics: breast cancer is the most frequent type of cancer in Canada, the United States and other western countries, the second most frequent cause of cancer death.

Two-thirds of the cases of breast cancer occur in postmenopausal women. Pritchard explained that estrogen feeds and sustains tumors. Before menopause, estrogen comes mainly from the ovaries. Even after menopause, there is still a substantial level in the body, because of an enzyme called aromatase.

Arimidex is an aromatase inhibitor. The effect of the drug is to lower the estrogen levels to almost unmeasurable levels.

Jean-Marc Nabholtz, chair of the Northern Alberta Breast Cancer Program and Breast Cancer International Research Group, Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton, said that 764 patients with metastasized breast cancer in 127 centres in North America, Europe, South Africa and Australia took part in the study between March 1993 and September 1994.

The participants were assigned randomly ("this is the strictest, most reliable research model") to one of three groups. One group received megase, one took a 1 mg dose of arimidex and the third a 10 mg dose.

Pritchard told *The CJN* that the study showed no difference in results with the two different strengths of the drug, and so, in accord with the policy of using the lowest quantity of drug that is effective, the suggested dose is 1 mg.

"We are not used to seeing survivors," Nabholtz said, noting that 56 percent of the women were still alive after the two year study, as compared to only 46.3 percent on megase.

The results are considered highly reliable, Nabholtz said, because the research was done according to very strict guidelines.

The fact that there are so few side effects is important, because it directly impacts on the patient's quality of life.

A reporter in the audience asked a participant in the study, Ottawa freelance artist Betty Graham, why one would be concerned with weight gain when one has a terminal illness.

Graham joked first that "You obviously don't understand women," and then noted that in a society where physical attractiveness is highly valued, serious weight gain is extremely upsetting to women who have already had mastectomies, and are under tremendous emotional strain.

Pritchard explained that because all drugs eventually become ineffective, it is possible "to use lines of therapy." Tamoxifen is still considered highly effective as a first line drug when the cancer has spread, and also as a preventative.

"[After mastectomy and radiation], tamoxifen is usually effective for five years.'

Research is currently being carried out comparing arimidex to tamoxifen, both in staving off recurrences of breast cancers and in halting the progression of the disease.

Pritchard suggested that it is possible that some combination of the two drugs might be the most effective treatment.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. When I am trying to diet, I often turn to jujubes for a sugar fix because I understand they are fat free. Is this true?

A. It is true that jujubes are low in calories and virtually fat free; 3.5 ounces of jujubes contain 79 calories and 0.2 grams of fat.

Q. I am wondering what the appropriate age is to introduce infant cereal?

A. This is something that can vary depending on your child and on your pediatrician. You should discuss this with your child's doctor. Usually infant cereals are first introduced at approximately four months of age.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
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525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME? FOR PROVEN RESULTS CALL

Larry Wronzberg
Sales Representative
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FREE HOME WARRANTY*

JUST LISTED

54 THORNBURY CIRCLE
- 3 Bedrooms, Springfarm Concord model
- New Kitchen
- Location! Location! Location!

$274,900

19 YORKHILL BLVD.
- 4 Bedrooms
- Finished Basement
- Family Room

$287,900

347 YORKHILL BLVD.
- 4 Bedrooms
- Main Floor Laundry Room
- South Exposure

$339,900

60 PALMERSTON DR.
- Westmount Home
- 3,600 sq. ft.
- 5 Bedrooms

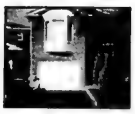
$484,900

* SOME CONDITIONS APPLY
* NOT INTENDED TO SOLICIT PROPERTIES CURRENTLY LISTED FOR SALE

ALAN NEWTON

NEW LISTINGS
by
LENNA LANGER- GROSS

16 Rejane Crescent $224,900
Lowest priced brick home on east side of Bathurst near private schools & shuls. 3 bdrms., parquet flrs., gas fireplace, central vac., alarm, 5 appls., 2 tier deck, Jacuzzi, fenced yard. Carries like rent or great investment - better than the stock market!



36 White Boulevard $257,900
You won't want to miss this one! Oak floors, Family Room & finished bsmt., recent roof, central air, ceramics, 6 appliances, central vac., fireplace, move-in condition, 4 washrooms, playground equipment, just painted. On quiet street.

Executive home "WESTMOUNT" area
5 bdrms., study with built-ins, oak floors, ceramics, stunning staircase - a foyer with a statement! LR & DR Combo, 5 appls., alarm, designer paint finishes, shutters, landscaped, best schools, quiet street. This is a home meant for entertaining!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (905) 764-7200
Lenna Langer-Gross, *sales representative*

Faithe Sversky, B.A.
Associate Broker
Vice President

would like to wish her family, friends and clients a Happy & Healthy New Year

Thank you all for your support.

HK
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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Listen to CHIN radio 1540 AM Sunday Mornings at 9:35 a.m. and 10:7 FM Thursday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for the Toronto Women's Hadassah-Wizo Report. Proudly sponsored by Harvey Kalles Real Estate Ltd.

HIT A HOME RUN! LARGE CONDO!
Yonge/Sheppard - 1600 sq. ft., 12th flr., hrdwd. flrs., 2 car pkg., huge locker, Low price! Must Sell! B. Abramson*

PRIME "CEDARVALE" REDUCED!
$399,000 Charming 3 bdrm., 2 sty., large rms., fin. bsmt., private drive/garage. Mature lot. Ellie Parker*

N. OF WILSON, W. OF BATHURST
Remodel or build new on 40'x125' lot, 3 bdrm., has bsmt. kit. & 2 rooms & double gar. Take a look. Jeffrey Joseph**

A HARD FIND CONDO! 2600 SQ. FT.
Magnificent "Tridel" unit. West panoramic view is breathtaking. Luxury sub-penthouse w/2 lrg. balconies. B. Abramson*

AVENUE/LAWRENCE/BATHURST/GLENCAIRN
$468,000 Large 8 rm. & fin. bsmt. on very quiet st. Add $100K to renovate - potential $625K value. Jeffrey Joseph**

UPPER FOREST HILL VILLAGE
$729,000 10 yrs. young, 4 bdrm. & fam. rm. off eat-in kit. Nanny's qrts., dbl. gar. Feb. closing. Jeffrey Joseph**

FOREST HILL VILLAGE RAVINE
$1,300,000 - Very pretty renovated 5 bdrm. home on quiet cres. Mn. fam. rm., super master. Exquisite lot. Jeffrey Joseph**

YORK MILLS GARDENS - DREAM HOME!
$1,600,000 - Classic example of taste & quality. 6000 sq. ft. & fin. lower, walk-out. Michele Noar**

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

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Presently for sale
Prime Thornhill townhome - $269,000 3 bdrm. Family rm. Frpl Main floor 2 piece. Fabulous master, renovated throughout Central air & more
• • •
Bathurst/St. Clair area -$259,900 Wonderful 3 sty semi. Orig. charm combined with reno kit & bathrooms. Marble entranceway. Fully finished basement. Great street

EXCLUSIVE FOREST HILL!!!
Detached, 2-storey, 4 bedrooms, 2 kitchens, 2 car garage, main floor family room, walk-up from basement, minutes to Eglinton/Allen/shops. Asking $359,000.
Call **Josie Dinardo**
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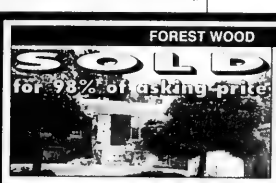
(24 hr. pager)

FAYWOOD & CLANTON PARK
$299,000. 3 bedrooms, large principal rooms, sep. ent. to finished basement
MARSHA GOLDSTEIN
(416) 229-4454
Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

BATHURST-CHABAD GATE
Reduced to $249,999. 3 bedroom detached, family room, fireplace, bsmt. with hot tub, jacuzzi, 4 baths, great condition! Look! Buy!
SALLY ROSEN, Sale Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

FOREST WOOD



Spacious 3 bedroom ranch bungalow on 59 ft. lot, gleaming hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
SOLD

AVENUE ROAD / GLENCAIRN — DEEP CORNER LOT!

Charming 3 bedroom home on gorgeous 175-foot-deep corner lot. Hot location! New carpets, gleaming hardwood floors, and much more! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE — NEW LISTING!
Desirable area! 55 ft. lot North of Lawrence, East side of Bathurst — only $299,000. **ACT FAST!** Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.
• • •
NEAR CASA LOMA — REDUCED!
Det. 3 storey facing park! Original charm: leaded glass, gumwood +++, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, large principal rooms, fireplaces, hardwood floors, only $429,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.
• • •
HILLMOUNT — MAGNIFICENT CUSTOM EXEC. HOME!
Indoor pool! 5 + 1 bdrms., 6 baths, fam. room, oak library, spectacular 32 x 16 ft. indoor pool, 50 x 140 ft. lot, loaded with upgrades, only $749,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

לשנה טובה תכתבו

NEW RELEASE!
10 CUSTOM HOMES AT BATHURST & GLENCAIRN

Magnificent craftsmanship by New Century Homes in an enclave of **TEN LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED FULLY DETACHED HOMES.** Each 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom home offers options galore including gleaming hardwood floors, main floor family room, basement in-law suite, dream maple kitchen, separate Passover kitchen, fireplace, and much more! Choose your finishes now and take advantage of **PRE-CONSTRUCTION PRICES** starting at $459,000. Model homes available for viewing now. **Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.**

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Detached bungalow on 40 x 133 ft. lot, fin. bsmt., close to all amenities, only $244,990. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
• • •
BATHURST / BAYCREST — SPACIOUS 3 + 1 BDRM. RANCH!
55 x 132 ft. lot, shows well! Large eat-in kitchen, custom built-ins, only $279,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
• • •
BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — REDUCED TO SELL!
4 + 2 bdrms., 5 baths, parquet floors, 55 x 122 ft. lot, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $329,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
• • •
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — TOTAL RENOVATION / ADDI-
8 years new! Quality craftsmanship, 4 + 1 bdrms., family room, library, bird's-eye maple kitchen, loaded with upgrades, only $599,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME!

4 + 3 bdrms., 6 baths, family room, gas fireplace, gleaming hardwood & parquet floors, huge finished bsmt., w/o to deck from modern kitchen, priced for immediate sale at only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

List with us and appear on our Website: www.foresthill.ca

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

NEW PRICE - LOWER VILLAGE!
Charming fam. home, 6 bdrms., 4 baths. F. Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD! 144 GOULDING AVE! $389,900!
Yonge N/Finch, reno 4+2 br., 4 bath, exec. split lev! Nanny ste! Carefree 50'x132'! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BATHURST/DREWRY - NEW LISTING
Reno'd 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt. Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BRIDLEPATH/LAWRENCE - JUST REDUCED!
Gorg. reno'd home, 109'x113', 4 bdrms. F. Sversky** 488-2875

REDUCED FURTHER - VENDOR SAYS SELL!
Unbeatable value in York Mills @ $465K! Huge lot, upgraded 4 br. exec. Hurry! Rena Bader* 488-2875

EDWARDS GARDENS GEM! NOW $439,000!
Unbelievable 4+2 br., mn. fam., nanny ste! Fab. 90'x146' landscaped lot! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

130 LISA CRESCENT R. BATHURST
3 bdrm., 4 baths, 2 kit., nr. synagogue. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

150 NEPTUNE
1300 sq. ft., 3 bdrm condo. Low floor. Close to shul & all amenities, parking, $159,900. Won't last! Rose Simon* 226-1987

FOREST HILL CO-OWN BACHELOR APT.
$59,500 Great Value! Bonnie Singer** 226-1987

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY $1,100,000
Fully occupied bldg., lic. bar, sound studio in bsmt. Head office & 10 apts. Mark Cowan* 226-1987

TRENDY LITTLE ITALY
Great invest.in downtown Toronto, close to university. Great tenants. Gary Pollock* 226-1987

** Associate Broker * Sales Representative

YONGE/16TH AVENUE $224,500
3 bed, 3 baths, across from park. Large kit. overlooks fam. rm. with wall to ceiling fireplace, parquet floor, fin. bsmnt.

YONGE/CLARKE $169,888
Elegant & exquisite layout, Bathurst/Carrville $900/month. Modern, new and gorgeous apt. separate entrance, backs on park.

LONI FROMMER, *Sales Representative*
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SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

WILMINGTON FINCH
3 bdrm., 3 bths., fam. rm., good size liv. & din., fin. bsmnt., dble. garage.

• • •

ALLEN RD. SUBWAY
4 bdrm., 4 bths., fam rm., fireplace, liv. SOLD comb., fin. bsmnt., garage.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR
A-1 buy, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., mod. kit., appls., fin. bsmnt., gar, move-in condition.

• • •

BATHURST SHEPPARD
3 bdrms., 2 SOLD -shape liv.& din., fin. bsmt.

• • •

TRI-PLEX . . BATHURST WILSON
Fully rented 2-3 bdrms + 1-1 bdrm, balcs., garages, steps to all!

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

BATHURST/ CENTRE
"Rosedale North" 3000 sq. ft.+ fin. rec. rm., near all amenities $419,995

YONGE/ HWY. 7
"Hunter's Pt." fab. 4200 sq. ft., loaded! $479,000.

GABBY GOLDRING
UNGERMAN ASSOCIATES
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

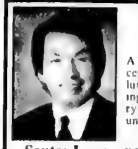
Avenue/Lawrence. Lovely det. 4 bdr., 2 bth., 2 stry., fin. bsmt., 34 x 106, $390K. 416-784-4157

Bath./Steeles - 3 bdrm., det., fin. bsmnt., f/p in den, ren'd. kit. & bth. $267,000. 416-588-2894. **A MUST SEE!!!**

HOUSES FOR SALE

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

SANTEE REALTY INC. (416) 441-2003



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80 ANTIBES DRIVE 3 bdrms., 2 baths, all appliances, high floor, immediately! Call **Saul Goldkind,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **416-739-7200.**

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2 bd. lg. apt., spotless, excellent expos., move-in cond..
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G. BARON, Rltr.

3000 Bathurst - 24 hr. sec., 3 bdr., sun rm., lge. liv./din. area, prky. flrs, 5 appl., 2 pkg., locker, avail. immed. Message at 905-709-2912 or 905-889-4576.

Bath./Steeles - 11 Townsgate, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., sol., balc., private, $240K. No agents. Sam, 905-763-0898 or 905-886-5522.

Yonge/Steeles - 205 Hilda, 3 bdrm. condo w/upgrades, CA, pkg., $165K. 416-635-5031.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Male 43 seeks shared accommodation off Bathurst (Steeles to Lawrence) . 905-669-6570.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bathurst/Fairlawn - 2 bdrm. townhouse to share w/female, furn., must like animals. $625 inclusive. 416-783-8516.

Female seeks same to share home at Bathurst/Clark. Private full bath, indoor pkg. $700/mo. 416-720-7494.

Healthy old lady needs live-in help. 416-489-9415.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Clark - Bsmt. apt. w/sep. entr. avail Oct. 1. 905-886-5491

Bath/Sheppard, 2 bdrm, 1 bth., bright, clean, pkg. $896/mo. Avail Nov. 1. 416-635-5031.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

I COVER THE WATERFRONT
LAKE SIMCOE
"COTTAGES TO CASTLES"
45 min. drive from Toronto

LAKE SIMCOE - MAJOR ESTATE $1,699,000
One-of-the-finest on Lake Simcoe's south shore of Kempenfelt Bay. High timber beam ceiling, pine flrs., open plan, 9 bdrms with ens., pool, tennis crt., hot tub, 8000 s.f. Like your own resort!! Sunsets

LAKE SIMCOE - BIG BAY PT. $885,000
Award winning New England sea side arch., spac. array of openness warmed by wide pine/oak flrs., glass, multi w/o dominated by big stone f.p. & Muskoka rm. A masterpiece! Sunsets

LAKE SIMCOE - BIG BAY PT. $511,000
Compare this!! Escape to 1 acre paradise, lamplit dr., beautiful - like new with nothing left to do! Glass, Mexican tile flrs. throughtout, big decks, 2f.p., gorg. kit & baths, pool, boat hs., gr

LAKE SIMCOE - BELLE EWART $274,900
Lovely 4 bdrm., nicely renovated! Lrg. guest cott. L-shaped perm pier

LAKE SIMCOE - EIGHT MILE PT. $565,000
A beauty on 150'x550' lot, extremely well done!! Big decks & dock

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Bernice Whelan
BERNICE WHELAN RLTY INC.
(705) 739-8000

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
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$799.00 + PARKING
- CLEAN, WELL MAINTAINED BUILDING
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- CLOSE TO CONVENIENCES

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DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
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(Bathurst & Glencairn)
Call (416) 449-9090
for an appointment

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NEWLY DECORATED
SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

125 Neptune Dr.
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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aquarius - Hallandale, lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., newly furn. condo on ocean, exc. view. Avail. Jan. 4 for 12 weeks. $2000/mo US. 416-223-1606, weekdays only.

Arlen House East, 1 bdrm. conv., min. 4 mos. 636-6470.

Boca, Century Village, Guildford, 3rd flr., 2 bdr., 1 1/2 bth., lake view, dishwasher, elevator, Jan. 9 - Apr. 8. 416-932-3303.

Century Village,Boca Raton, spotless 1 bdrm, 1 bth, mn flr, fully furn & equip. 905-625-3189

Lauderdale Lakes - Somerset 1+1condo w/encl., Florida rm. Newly reno'd. Fully furnished. 2nd flr. Elev. Pool. Clubhouse. Asking $1200/mo. U.S. 3 mo. min. Call Shelly, 905-737-9937

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on the ocean, 1 bdrm conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. 416-488-9819.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. Avail. 1998/99 season. 905-731-0609.

Indian Spring, Boynton Beach, condo, seasonal, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., 2nd flr., overlooks canal and golf course, full golf membership incl. 508-993-8045.

Miami Beach, Mimosa Bldg., 2 bdrm., 2 bth., new decor., close to shul, Shabbos elevator, all season. Call 905-889-6802.

North Miami Beach, on the intercostal, 1 bdrm., min. 3 mos. rental. $1200/mo US. 638-2120.

Singer Island, 2 bdrm. apt., appl., avail. Jan, Feb, March. Joe at 249-0762, 905-833-1974

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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Palm Aire - Cypress Bend
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Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

Boca Raton, Century Village, lge. 1 bdrm. condo. Call between 1pm -11pm. 782-7086.

Ft. Lauderdale, 2 bdrm. condo, reasonable. 905-731-0076.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

2 bdr. condo, fully furn., Jan., Feb. Hallandale or vicinity, must be exceptionally clean, close to Orthodox shul, Kosher restaurants etc. 905-731-9664.

Small apt. in Palm Aire wanted for rent. Call 416-496-0355.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY**. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ASHKENAZ FESTIVAL seeks dynamic project Coord/Executive Ass't. Computer literate, familiar w/Jewish TO, arts admin, fundraising. 703-6892, fax: 703-5489. ashkenaz@echo-on.net

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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247 DAY CARE

Day Care in my home. Clean, non - smoking mom. Hot lunches. References available. Infants welcome. Bathurst/Steeles area. Call Bev at 905-738-8125.

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

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Cleaning lady available with refs. Call Barbara at 253-0523.

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Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
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Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

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Prof. male, 50's, with many interests, including sports, theatre, travel & just socializing, would like to meet similar female. CJN Box # 7094.

330 OBITUARIES

PEARLSTONE, Nathan - on Sept. 6, 1998, late of 10 Senlac Rd.

MARCOVICI, Milian - on Sept. 8, 1998, late of 22 Shallmar Blvd., #408.

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

330 OBITUARIES

POSEN, Aaron - on Aug. 31, 1998, late of 2000 Bathurst St.

ABEL, Robbie - on Sept. 3, 1998, late of 133 Torresdale Ave.

KONTRIENT, Faiga - on Sept. 5, 1998, late of 20 Shallmar Blvd.

MANNER, Roy - on Sept. 5, 1998.

IZMAILOV, Raisa - on Sept. 6, 1998, late of 1810 John St.

CHOTIMASKY, Roza - on Sept. 9, 1998, late of 61 Carnival Crt.

SHARGORODSKY, Khava - on Sept. 9, 1998.

KAFTAL, Louis - on Sept. 10, 1998, late of 35 Via Italia.

ABRAMOVITZ (Abrams), Mary - on Sept. 11, 1998, late of 14 Invermay Ave.

1998.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

ELEK, Elisabeth - on Sept. 4, 1998, late of 18 Lower Village Gate, #709

RUBY, Frances - on Sept. 4, 1998, late of 605 Finch Ave W., #116.

ISENBERG, Tillie - on Sept. 5, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.

LENDE, Stephen - on Sept. 5, 1998, late of 5444 Yonge St., #1010

LITTLE, Alan - on Sept. 5, 1998, late of 21 Tichester Rd., #204

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

HOFFMAN, Lauraine - on Sept. 6, 1998, late of 3 Castle Crt.

SCHILLER, Jennie - on Sept. 6, 1998, late of 2045 Finch Ave. W.

STARR, George - on Sept. 6, 1998, late of 80 Crimson Millway.

BROWN, Belle - on Sept. 7, 1998, late of 3705 Bathurst St.

LIPTON, Harry - on Sept. 7, 1998, late of 195 St. Patrick St., #402.

WEINER, Sophie - on Sept. 7, 1998, late of 21 Mayfair Ave.

KOLBE, Irving - on Sept. 9, 1998, late of 474 Brownsline Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

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LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP

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SPUNKY LADY

Single Jewish female, 49, aerobic instructor, spunky, fit, people person terrific smile, enjoy gardening, reading skiing, roller-blading, dining & dancing Seeking a male, tall, Jewish, 45-55, honest kind, adventurous, generous at heart AD#1622

LASTING RELATIONSHIP

Single female, intelligent, attractive, traditional, kind, easy going, strong sense of humour Seeking a male, 40-50, with same qualities AD#1360

NIFTY 50'S

Divorced female, 55, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks Seeking a male with strong sense of humour, caring, sincere AD#1507

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Single Jewish female, attractive, fun to be with, enjoys movies, travelling, swimming Seeking a male, 36+, with strong sense of humour, kind, sincere, intelligent AD# 1602

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LET'S TAKE A CHANCE

Single Jewish male, professional, 38 Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship AD#1523

LIVELY

Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests AD#1527

OPEN MINDED

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LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER

Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-faceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tete-a tetes, lots of T.L.C. to give Seeking a slim, elegant non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre" AD#1504

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

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ROMANTIC & LOYAL

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GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER

Single attractive male, 58, 5'11", slim, brown hair & blue eyes, great sense of humour, caring, enjoy going away for the winter to Florida, Australia, or California Seeking a female, attractive, well kept, good personality, great sense of humour AD#1519

JEWISH DOCTOR

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SHY AT FIRST

Single Jewish male, 41, no dependents brown hair & eyes, handsome, sincere, caring, enjoy dining & dancing, travelling, music, not a pet lover Seeking a single lady, non-smoker, 32-40, up to 5'3", sincere, no head games pls AD#1525

ROMANTIC AT HEART

Single Jewish male, early 60's, 5'9" 160lbs, fit, enjoy arts, sports, good conversation, good sense of humour Seeking an elegant, slim, non-smoker, proud of her heritage lady AD#1504

COMPANION NEEDED

Single male, handsome, slim Seeking a companion to share expenses for winter trip to Florida for 3 months Pls call AD#1506

SENSITIVE & FIT

Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile AD#1485

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ROMANTIC AT HEART

Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth. Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship AD#1469

NIFTY 50'S

Single white male, 56, self-employed, caring and sincere, enjoys travelling, movies, quiet romantic evenings. Seeks a compassionate, loving, sensitive lady AD# 1480

BUSINESS DEGREE

Single male, 45, with a business degree, conservative looking, enjoys dancing, has good sense of humour Seeking a female, doesn't have to be slim, children are OK AD#1405

SHARE LIFE'S BEAUTIES

Single male 55, tall, attractive, European, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, affectionate, enjoys dancing, singing Seeking a petite attractive female with similar interests to share life's beauties AD#1458

KIND & HONEST

Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere Ad# 1364

ATHLETIC ROMANTIC

Tall single male, 54, attractive, non-smoker, easy going, athletic, self-employed Enjoys quiet evenings, sports, movies music Seeking a single Jewish female 38+, non-smoker, attractive with similar values AD#1453

LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

Gentleman, 39, 5'7", enjoys music movies, sports, good sense of humour seeks that special lady for romantic times, loves to cuddle AD#1462

INCURABLE ROMANTIC

Single Jewish male, 39, 5'7", enjoy music movies, dining, dancing, seeking cuddly lady to enjoy the finer things in life AD# 1433

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BRINDEL BRUDNER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
B'nai Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument in loving memory of the late
MARTIN DAVID ELY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Workmen's Circle Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MICHAEL FINKELMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 10:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
KELLY KLERER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 4th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Blue Star Lodge Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
TED POSNER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 12:00 noon
Dawes Road Cemetery
(St. Clair & Pharmacy)
Drikzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM POSNER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 4th, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JOSEPH LEVY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RUTH (ANHANG) SCHNEIDER ז"ל
wife of Dr. Samuel Schneider
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 9:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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will take place
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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PLEASE NOTE:

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

OCTOBER 8 th

Deadline

Monday, September 28, 4:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 15 th

Deadline

Monday, October 2, 1:00 p.m.

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:

Wednesday, September 30th

Monday, October 5th & Tuesday October 6th and

Monday, October 12th & Tuesday October 13th

Israeli election rules leave no middle ground

By ORIT SHOCHAT
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Opinion

Benjamin Netanyahu's victory in the next elections is already guaranteed. It is very important to read the polls correctly because one can glean from them that even if the left-wing candidates for prime minister – Ehud Barak and Roni Milo – together garner most of the votes, the right will benefit from the split on the left.

Under the old election method, it would have been possible to combine Barak and Milo's constituents and form a government. The current method of electing a prime minister does not accumulate votes, but tosses out the loser's votes. It is likely that in the first round of voting Netanyahu will receive 39 percent of the vote, while Barak and Milo get 61 percent, and nonetheless, in the second round, Netanyahu will win. The promise of the first-round loser endorsing the second-round candidate closest to his own views is a false one.

Roni Milo

From experience accumulated over the years in other countries, says professor and Labor MK Shevach Weiss, one can learn that in the second round, voters do not usually adopt the recommendations of the first-round loser. If Milo comes in third, perhaps he may (or may not) advise his constituents to vote for Barak in the second round, but the endorsement will have only limited influence.

Effectively, the cards will be reshuffled. Remember that the second round will immediately follow the first round of campaigning in which every candidate will do the maximum to defame the candidate he may later endorse. In the second round it will be tough to tell voters to forget everything they heard.

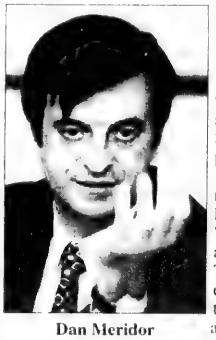
All those now pondering a run for prime minister, be it as the Arab or secularist candidate, the candidate of the new centre or the sane centre or the true centre, must take into account that in the new system, whoever drops out of the first round no longer exists. Therefore all those people circulating and searching for a political platform that perfectly suits them and their cronies should align themselves with one of the two camps. Milo, for example, can form a centrist secular party, but if he wants to see Netanyahu go, he has to give up his campaign to be prime minister and support Barak.

If Amnon Shahak, Matan Vilnai, Yehuda Harel, Milo and Dan Meridor were to stop searching for perfection and give a boost to Barak, whose positions they barely disagree with, Barak too would finally take off.

Why didn't Milo join the Labor party? Why did Shahak not announce, as Uri Saguy did before him, that the Labor party is the natural place for him? What political goods is Vilnai actually selling? Vilnai wants to get out of Hebron, but not leave Ba'al Hazor. Is that a reason to form a new party? Or maybe Vilnai just wants to know where Shahak is going so that they do not both crowd into the same party? After all, everyone searches for the place where he will stand out and his weight will be relatively significant.

Milo, it seems, dreams of being a senior minister in the government of whoever wins. Vilnai certainly dreams more than anyone else of being defence minister over Shaul Mofaz, but in the meantime he is embellishing himself with phrases like "armed peace" instead of "peace now," just as Harel is dreaming of forming "a new centrist party." It seems that all these seekers of the centre are essentially searching for a non-party party.

They seek something fresh, with no pitfalls, no past, perhaps even no politics. They all want to be wherever the most desirable star is – Dan Meridor. Meridor, who abandoned the Greater Land of Israel idea after the Oslo agreements, is today closer to Barak and even to Yossi Beilin than he is to his childhood friend Benny Begin. However, Meridor cannot cross the lines because of historical reasons. When he says "the Likud is my home," he is using emotional explanations that are amazingly similar to those given by Sephardi Jews for their opposition to the Labor party.


Dan Meridor

Meridor also has bad memories of the historical Mapai (Land of Israel Workers' party), but they are irrelevant and irrational. The more talk there is of elections, the more filled the newspaper supplements and talk shows will be with wavering voters. Each one will explain his not joining one of the existing camps by saying he is unwilling to compromise. Except that in politics, refusing to compromise is not an advantage. Those who chose the white ballot in the 1996 elections, because Shimon Peres was not what they hoped he would be, today are hiding in shame.

Every person now looking for the true centre must realize that the concept of "the centre" is an election time fiction. A minute after the vote, it becomes clear that there are only winners and losers – there is nothing in the middle.

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JCC Maccabi team finishes with fewer medals

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Toronto's JCC Maccabi team faced stiffer competition in Detroit than it did at last year's Hartford games, and returned home with substantially fewer medals, said Toronto co-delegation head Grant Smith.

After a first place finish in Hartford last year, with a team record 101 medals including 52 golds, this year's squad finished out of the top three, but in the top 10, at a much larger competition, Smith said.

But the extent of the disappointment will not be known for "several months," when full results, including final medal counts, become available, said Michele Tarrance, the athletic coordinator of the Detroit games.

She said the delay is a result of meet staff's having dispersed after the Aug. 16 to 23 games, before official results could be tabulated.

"Under normal circumstances," results would already be compiled, Tarrance said. "This isn't normal circumstances."

One of the biggest letdowns for the Toronto squad was that the boys 15-16-year-old basketball team lost to the St. Paul's team in the first round of the playoffs. St. Paul's was beaten in the next round.

Smith said the boys, who he thought would win a medal, "were not expecting a strong team" from the St. Paul's delegation and "just lost their game.

"It was very disappointing," he said. "There were a lot of tears shed on the court."

The girls team, by contrast, made the quarter-finals amidst lower expectations, Smith said.

"[The girls] really came together as a team and played above what we thought their capabilities were, which was just to make the playoffs, which they did, and they won one more game," he said.

This year's squad of 70 boys and 28 girls aged 13 to 16 went to the larger of two JCC Maccabi events. Over 2,500 athletes competed in Detroit, compared to about 1,000 at the smaller games a week earlier in Charlotte, N.C.

Most of the largest North American Jewish communities sent teams to Seattle last year, while about 1,000 athletes competed in Hartford.

For that reason, the Toronto team faced "more competition this year," said Smith, making it hard to compare one year to another. "Last year's games weren't as strong."

However, "we did the best of any Canadian city," Smith said.

In Detroit, Toronto competed against Canadian teams from Montreal, Hamilton and Ottawa, as well as teams from Los Angeles, Dallas and New York, and national teams from Great Britain, Israel and Mexico.

But for the athletes, there was more to the games than competition, Smith said, since many of the Toronto athletes have "little Jewish identity."

"For our kids, this was the best games, the best Jewish experience they've ever had," Smith said. "Some of the kids said this was the best thing that's ever happened to them...and they made friends forever."

Another disappointment came in boys 15-16 soccer, which lost on a shootout in the quarter finals to the South Jersey team.

"For every soccer player, losing in a shootout is always disappointing," Smith said.

Other medal highlights for the Toronto squad included:

• a gold for one of two beach volleyball teams,with the other team making the tournament quarter finals.

• a gold in boys 13-14 singles tennis for Bryan Weinberg and a doubles silver for Weinberg and partner Adam Wexler.

• a gold in girls 15-16 doubles tennis for Melissa Cutler and Ora Wexler. Cutler also won a singles bronze.

• a gold in girls 15-16 high jump for Jody Naiberg, who also won a silver in the long jump and a bronze in the shot put.

• a gold in boys 15-16 sprint medley 4 x 100 metre relay.

• a gold for David Albertyn and silver for Michael Small in the boys 15-16 4 x 400 metre orphan relay. Albertyn also won gold in both the sprint medley orphan relay and the co-ed 4 x 400 metre orphan relay.

• a swimming gold in girls 200 metre breast stroke for Aliza Goodman.

• a silver in boys 15-16 baseball, losing 12-2 to the Los Angeles team, their only loss of the tournament.

• a silver in boys 13-14 4 x 200 metre orphan relay for Eitan Waldman.

• a swimming silver in the boys 15-16 400 metre free relay.

• a swimming bronze in the boys 15-16 200 metre butterfly for Jordan Chittley.

• a bronze in boys 15-16 doubles tennis for Tomir Wolfson and Evan Weinzberg.

• a bronze for Mark Eade in boys 15-16 4 x 200 metre orphan relay.

• a bronze in both the boys 15-16 1,600 and 3,200 metres for David Albertyn.

• a bronze for Brett Gorenstein in boys 15-16 "Texas Scramble" (or best ball) golf.

• a bronze in boys 15-16 sprint medley orphan relay for Michael Small.

* * *

HAMILTON — Hamilton-area athletes won 13 medals at the recently concluded JCC Maccabi Youth in Detroit.

David Waxman was the big winner, collecting one gold, two silver and a bronze in track and field while Bob Tuite was close behind with one gold and two bronze, also in track and field.

In table tennis, Beckie Katz won a silver and a bronze. Ashley Ricketts came home with a silver.

Aubrey Levy, Michael Dressler and Simon Wolpert each won a bronze medal in the Games' golf tournament.

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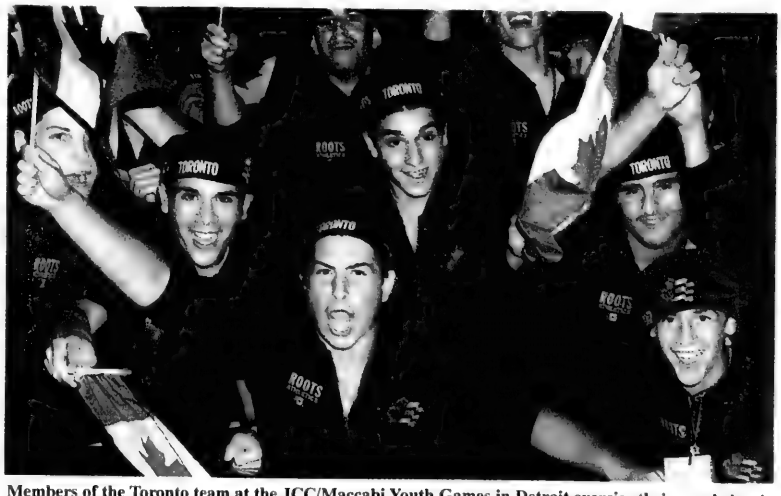

Members of the Toronto team at the JCC/Maccabi Youth Games in Detroit exercise their vocal chords during the recently concluded competition. [Irv Nadel photo]

The Inside Back

Seinfeld wouldn't enjoy this Israeli law

As far as I can remember, the Seinfeld gang never visited Israel. Judging by the last episode in the series, when they got in trouble with the law for not helping somebody, and in light of a law passed by the Knesset on June 22 this year, they won't want to, either.

The name of the law is The Do Not Stand Idly by Your Neighbor's Blood Law, 5758-1998, the name of the biblical commandment (Leviticus 19:16) according to which one may not simply stand by and not help when another is in danger.

Such laws, often known as Good Samaritan laws, are controversial in legal literature. Among other things, questions have been raised about the moral basis on which the state requires one to endanger oneself or even merely go out of one's way in order to help others. While it is clear that the penal code is justified in forbidding us to harm others, requiring a positive act of help is quite a different matter.

The new Israeli law creates an obligation to provide assistance to a person standing nearby ("the beneficiary") who, due to a sudden occurrence, is in immediate and severe danger to his or her life, personal safety or health, as long as one can do so without endangering oneself or others. Calling the police, the Red Magen David, the fire fighters or someone else who can help is considered providing assistance. Anybody who violates the law may be subject to a monetary fine.

When this law was first proposed by Hanan Porat of the National Religious Party in March 1995, the rationale given was that the Knesset should anchor in legislation the moral and social value of saving another's life, as expressed in Leviticus. The explanation illustrates that sometimes laws are meant to influence people's thinking and behavior without actually being enforced (although the original punishment proposed was six months imprisonment, not simply a fine).

Even before this new law was passed, you could be reimbursed if you spent money to help someone when you had no legal obligation to do so. The new law applies this entitlement to situations where the law requires one to save another. In addition, the court may force the person who caused the danger to reimburse the Good Samaritan for any amounts spent.

Western societies generally hesitate to place such moral obligations on people. The liberal ethos has always allowed one to go about one's business, as long as others are not harmed. Good Samaritan laws legislate what has been traditionally seen as a moral choice, one which the state is not in a position to require.

At the same time, the Jewish tradition in this regard goes back to the Bible, and under Jewish law one is not free from such moral requirements.

In this way, the new law might be seen as further influence of Jewish law in the general legal system. Whether this is desirable or not depends largely on one's philosophical perspective.

Another aspect of the law, as mentioned above, is the right to collect costs from the person who caused the situation. This may provide the legal basis (lacking up to now) to charge people who need to be rescued when on hikes, swimming, etc. Such rescues are common in Israel, e.g. when hikers get lost in the desert or swimmers get caught in streams, and cost the state significant amounts of money. The state may now be in a position to charge people for the cost of the rescue, which might in turn create an incentive to be more careful.

I personally doubt that we will now see a wave of convictions of people whose crime was that they did not help others. At the same time, the new law may have a beneficial effect on people's behavior. Whether we will ever be able to truly know that is another question.

Jonathan Shiff practices law in Israel.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
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LOVELY LENTIL SOUP
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3 tblsp margarine (or oil)	3 pints water
1 large onion, chopped	1 marrow bone, cracked
1 celery stalk with leaves, chopped	salt & pepper to taste
1 carrot, chopped	juice of 1/2-1 lemon
3/4 lb. lentils, washed	1 tsp cumin

Melt margarine (heat oil) and soften the onion, celery and carrot. Add lentils, water and bone and bring to a boil. Skim. Simmer gently, covered, until lentils are very soft, between 3/4-1 1/2 hrs. until lentils are no longer whole. When done, season with salt and pepper, add lemon juice and cumin. Simmer a few minutes longer and remove bone. Put in a blender to make a smooth puree. Return soup to pot and boil again. You can add a bit more water if you want a lighter soup, or evaporate by simmering a little longer to reduce and thicken it.

About Life

Dear Ella,

When I was growing up, my family always belonged to an Orthodox synagogue. Although throughout my younger years I experienced many changes as far as the degree of observance that was practised in my home, I have always been very comfortable praying in an Orthodox shul.

I am married now and have a 4-year-old daughter. Although I am not observant anymore, I am still traditional and try to bring Judaism into our home by celebrating all the holidays in some way. My husband, who rarely goes to synagogue, suggested we go together this year for a High Holy Day service. However, he wants to sit together so we can experience our first time in shul sitting on either side of our daughter.

I was very excited about his proposition and bought tickets to a service where we could all sit together and enjoy the prayers both in language and in meaning.

Here is the catch. I have never been to a Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur service that wasn't Orthodox and I'm not sure I am comfortable with this arrangement. What do you think?

Reforming My Life

Dear Reforming My Life,

Congratulations on creating a home for your family in which you were able to bring your husband's way of thinking around by celebrating all the Jewish holidays.

You obviously brought enough Yiddishkeit into the lives of your family for him to want to take the step of adding prayer and meaning to why you are celebrating all these different holidays.

In my opinion I don't feel you have made a mistake. You have been given an opportunity to enjoy going to shul with your whole family. What a special experience.

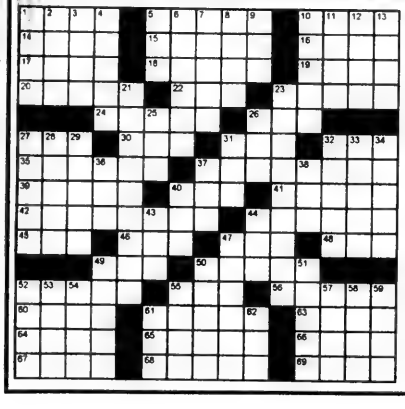
I can understand how moving from the familiarity of an Orthodox shul can be unnerving for you. You probably feel as if you are almost betraying what you were taught to follow your whole life, but think of this as a major step in bringing your family together in a new way the three of you have yet to experience.

When the shofar sounds so loud and powerful on the holidays, you get goose bumps regardless of where you hear it.

Shanah Tovah.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Father (Heb.)
5. Diving at Eilat
10. Kunstler account
14. Mezuzah holder
15. Desert cool spots
16. Ribicoff and Geiger
17. Palestinian
18. Noah was the first
19. Jump
20. Saul's oldest daughter
22. Title for Golda
23. Poetess Sachs
24. Land of Milk and __
26. Man of great faith
27. Alphabet run
30. Chanukah miracle
31. __ Kochba revolt
32. Cleo killer
35. Producer Mel
37. Israel city
39. Plague
40. Schmooz (Eng.)
41. Torah portion
42. Buber conception (3 wds.)
44. UJA word
45. Cantor and Goldman
46. Three strikes for Rosen
47. Ended 1,997 years ago
48. Faint
49. Supply with Uzis
50. Reform theologian
52. Hebrew letter
55. Hebrew letter
56. Shanah __ (Heb.)
60. Royal title
61. Pre-adult
63. Not on Shabbat
64. Holocaust voice
65. Comedian lack
66. Oy Vey!
67. "__ Trek", Nimoy's show
68. Made aliyah
69. Name on towel

Down

1. Eve's squeeze?
2. Drill
3. High tref
4. Four (Hebrew)
5. Grass
6. Israeli mountain
7. Moneylending?
8. Goodman and Shahn
9. Imitate the four sons?
10. Scout
11. Adam's son
12. Crest
13. View
21. Brentano biz
23. Dangerfield's line (2 wds)
25. Israeli coin
26. Barney Ross move
27. Yippie Hoffman
28. Wide
29. Gelt
31. Baby's cover
32. Gave Tzedakah
33. Sarah once
34. King David's specialty
36. Methuselah
37. Zeta Beta __, fraternity
38. Shiva clothes
40. Received
43. Purr
44. Canasta card
47. Sticks for Bernstein
49. JPSA founder, Cyrus
50. Sculptor
51. Rebel against Moses
52. Tets (Eng.)
53. Lot's wife?
54. Solo for Bubbles
55. Layer
57. Depraved
58. Purim month
59. Myra, pianist
61. Business degree
62. Reuben on __

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut.
(Last week's answers are on page 36.)

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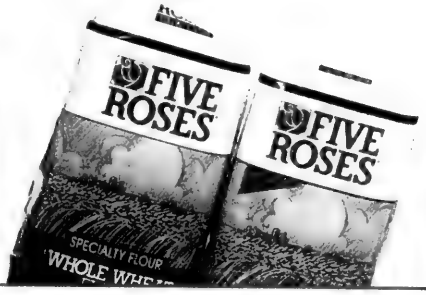

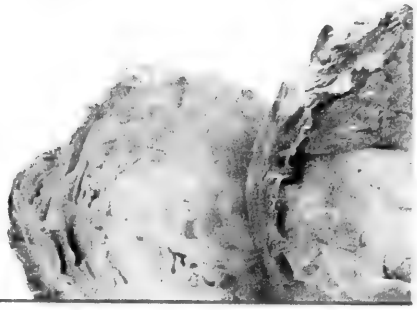

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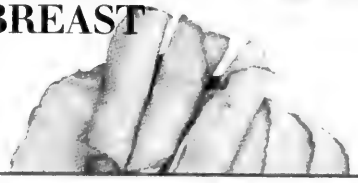

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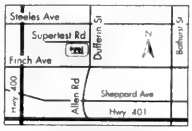

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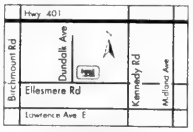

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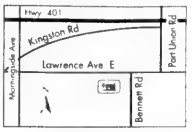

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This Week

National

Jewish sailor fails in bias claim against navy. *Page 3*

Canadian Jews differ from American cousins, Irving Abella says. *Page 6*

Orthodox conversion is the only acceptable process, rabbi says. *Page 19*

On Campus

Jewish student leaders attend first conference of student leaders. *Page 23*

Business

Heather Reisman's bookstore has much "interface" with Jewish community. *Profile.* *Page 36*

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Shabbat: Ha'azinu
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Tishrei 12, 5759
Havdalah: 7:45

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El Al expands service

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel' s national air carrier will add at least one, perhaps two, non-stop flights from Toronto to Israel beginning in April 1999.

The confirmed flight will leave Toronto on Sundays, while the second projected flight will depart on Thursdays, said Moshe Shamai, El Al's Canadian manager.

Currently, El Al flies from Toronto to Israel three times a week, however, the flights are routed through Montreal or New York. El Al's major competitor, Air Canada, offers non-stop flights to Israel from Toronto, and the Canadian airline has made considerable inroads into El Al's Canadian market.

Shamai said El Al is able to offer the non-stop flights thanks to the purchase from Air France of a long distance version of the Boeing 767 aircraft. The 767 has the range and the passenger capacity to serve the Toronto market. An earlier attempt to fly non-stop to Israel using a 747 proved unsuccessful because "it's too large for this route," Shamai said.

If the new flights prove successful, Toronto will be served by four weekly departures to Israel – two non-stop and two via Montreal, he added.

El Al is taking other steps to make it more attractive to Canadian passengers flying to the Holy Land. Among them:

• a "bar mitzvah" program in which children approximately 13 years of age who travel to Israel with both parents will be given a 50 percent ticket discount;

• a 20 percent discount for parents who fly to Israel to visit their children who are in the Holy Land on an educational or other program. The child must also hold an El Al ticket with a return date indicating a lengthy stay in Israel;

Continued on page 28

STARTING THE NEW YEAR WITHOUT SINS

This group of worshipers stood on the shores of the Mediterranean last week on Rosh Hashanah to perform tashlich, in which they emptied their pockets of all crumbs and symbolically cast their sins into the blue waters. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Mandela attends simcha

By LINDA LEWIS
Special to The CJN

At 13, many kids are already jaded and cynical, knowing that the platitudes adults dish out to kids – like "dreams can come true" – are often false.

Not my nephew Craig. Two years ago, when Craig decided to invite his idol, Nelson Mandela, to his "barmie" in Johannesburg, everyone thought it was ridiculous, an adolescent whim. But he had a dream, and if a man who'd endured 27 years of imprisonment could become president of the nation and lead his country to freedom, surely anything was possible.

Craig's parents at first laughed, then rolled their eyes, then shooed him away, as they listened to their son's meshugene plan. But Craig, like his hero, persisted.

Finally, a month before the bar mitzvah, he persuaded his Grampa Lionel – used to indulging his grandchildren at every opportunity – to drive him to Mandela's Houghton home, not too far from their own Johannesburg suburb. Craig gave a simple, handwritten note, along with the invitation, to the security guard at the gate. The guard promised that the president would get it, and that was the end of it...or so they thought.

Feature

When the phone call came from the president's personal assistant two weeks before the big event, Craig's mom thought it was a hoax. But before she knew it, she was faxing guest lists for a security check, and answering Mandela's questions: What is a bar mitzvah? And how many children would be attending?

The Sept. 7 party was not your typical affair. Sniffer dogs and metal detectors are a rarity at bar mitzvot, even in South Africa. And the rabbi's wife doesn't get bumped from her head-table seat of honor for just anybody!

Since no one but the immediate family knew who was coming to dinner, it turned into the do of the season. How would the Jewish mothers of Joburg top this (Does Nelson do weddings)?

When Mandela entered the room, the kids rushed up and swarmed him like a rock star. Belying his age of 78 in a bold, African print shirt that matched his salt-and-pepper hair, Mandela tried a few steps of the horah, and personally greeted every one of the 240 men, women and children in the room, including my 5-year-old son, who had no idea who this nice man shaking everybody's hand was.

Continued on page 28

EARLY DEADLINE NOTICE

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Netanyahu warns against PA declaration of statehood — see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

JCC Plans Approved

HAMILTON — Ancaster's town council voted recently to approve the Jewish Community Centre's (JCC) application to further develop lands. The JCC, which had sought the approval for eight years, can now examine a host of options, including the addition of a swimming pool, a permanent gym, a fitness trail and other amenities.

Nazi Imagery Condemned

EDMONTON — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Alberta region, has condemned the use of Nazi and Holocaust analogies used by gun lobbyists at a protest held last week outside the constituency office of Justice Minister Anne McLellan.

CJC spokesperson Ron Sorokin said he was disturbed to see protesters wearing Star of David badges and comparing themselves to Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

New Rabbi

CALGARY — There's a new rabbi in town. Seth Binus, a 26-year-old graduate of Yeshiva University in New York, is the new rabbi at House of Jacob Mikveh Israel.

ISRAEL

Violence in Israel

JERUSALEM —A bomb exploded at a Jerusalem bus stop during morning rush hour near the Mount Scopus campus of the Hebrew University, last week, injuring one soldier. And near Hebron, several shots were fired at a van driven by Jewish settlers. No one was injured.

Two Soldiers Killed

JERUSALEM — Two Israeli soldiers were killed in a tank accident near the Litani River in southern Lebanon last week. Three other soldiers were wounded when their tank overturned and fell into the river. The vehicle was destroyed by Israeli helicopters after the casualties were evacuated, army officials said.

Clinton Should Stay: Poll

JERUSALEM — Approximately 80 percent of Israelis believe U.S. President Bill Clinton should not be impeached, according to a new poll. The survey was conducted immediately after Israel Television broadcast Clinton's grand jury testimony in the Monica Lewinsky affair.

WORLD

Siemens Comes Aboard

BONN — A second German firm says it will set up a fund to compensate slave laborers who toiled for the company during World War II. The decision by the electronics firm Siemens to establish the $11.9-million fund comes after Volkswagen announced it would set up an $11.7-million slave labor compensation fund.

Swiss Miffed at Netanyahu

BERN — Swiss officials say they may cancel an economic conference aimed at improving bilateral business ties with Israel. Their anger was sparked by a letter written by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Edgar Bronfman, in which Netanyahu thanked the president of the World Jewish Congress for his efforts to get Swiss banks to pay Holocaust-era claims.

Greetings From Zyuganov

MOSCOW — The leader of Russia's Communist party sent Rosh Hashanah greetings to the country's Jewish community. In his letter read during services at the Moscow Choral Synagogue, Gennady Zyuganov noted the Jewish contribution to the defeat of Nazi Germany and condemned anti-Semitism in Russia.

Brothers To Open Shul

LONDON — Two British Jewish brothers known for the advertising firm they founded are opening a synagogue that will be named after them. Charles and Maurice Saatchi have launched a full-blown advertising campaign for their own Orthodox synagogue. The Saatchi Synagogue is scheduled to open in October.

Citizenships Revoked

WASHINGTON — Two Americans suspected of Nazi war crimes have had their citizenship revoked. The Department of Justice alleges that Walter Berezowskyj, 73, of Guilford, Conn., served as an armed guard at the Poniatowa labor camp, where thousands of Jewish prisoners were interned and later shot to death.

And a federal judge revoked the citizenship of Adolph Milius, formerly of St. Petersburg, Fla., for allegedly assisting in the persecution of Jews in Vilnius, Lithuania, where he fled in 1996 after the complaint was entered against him.

No Jews: Priest

WARSAW — A Polish priest known for his anti-Semitic remarks said Poles should not vote for Jews or Russians in next month's government elections. Henryk Jankowski, who is banned from preaching because of an anti-Semitic sermon he gave last year, made his remarks before a religious service began.

Local elections are scheduled to be held in Poland on Oct. 11.

Israelis Flock to Casino in Jericho

JERICHO — The biblical Joshua who led the Israelites' siege of Jericho could never have dreamed that stud poker would breathe life back into this dusty Palestinian-ruled town.

But last week, hundreds of Israelis made the 30-minute drive down the winding road from Jerusalem to place their bets at Oasis, a new gambling complex in Jericho and the first big foreign investment in the Palestinian self-rule areas.

They found 35 gaming tables and 220 slot machines amid the classic casino-kitsch decor, beneath a star-studded ceiling. The $50-million (US) casino is the first stage of a $150-million investment in a tourist complex that will eventually include 800 hotel rooms, a golf course and conference facilities.

Paul Herzfeld, chief executive of Casinos Austria, which operates Oasis, said Jericho was chosen because of "the magical setting of the desert against the city."

His description of the setting made no mention of an impoverished Palestinian refugee camp directly across the road, perhaps because the camp is hard to see at night – it has no electricity.

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Vol. XXVIII, No. 38 (1,365)*

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Jewish sailor fails in bias claim against navy

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Federal Court of Canada has agreed with a Jewish sailor who charged that he was denied a plum posting during the Gulf War because of his religion.

But at the same time, the court found that the process by which Andrew Liebmann was denied the post does not violate Canada's Charter of Rights.

The court said it was satisfied that Liebmann was qualified for the job, which he did not get "because of his religion."

But the court did not do what Liebmann had wanted: strike down as unconstitutional the military's policy on who can be excluded from peacekeeping.

In fact, the court ruled that the policy had been wrongly applied to Liebmann, who was on active duty during an armed conflict.

His lawyers plan to appeal the part of the ruling which upholds the military's right to exclude personnel from some missions.

Liebmann, now 34, had argued he was the victim of anti-Jewish bias, and that a long-standing Canadian Armed Forces policy barring Jews and Muslims from some peacekeeping operations violated his constitutional rights.

The case goes back to 1990, when Liebmann was serving as a reservist lieutenant aboard the *HMCS Discovery* in Vancouver. Just as the Gulf War began, he applied for the job of executive assistant to Commodore Kenneth Summers, then commander of Canadian forces in the Middle East. The posting was to Bahrain.

Liebmann said he was hired and was even sent orders to prepare to go to the Gulf. But he said he was then told his application had been revoked because of his religion, and that another officer had been hired.

He said he was told that the Forces' official position was that being a Jew in Bahrain – particularly when tensions were escalating between Iraq and Israel – would pose a risk to his personal safety and impair his ability to do his job.

Finally, Liebmann said he was told the job was posted in error, and that Summers' aide would be staying on.

Liebmann launched an internal grievance, which took two years to complete. But it failed to address his belief that he was discriminated against as a Jew, and he took the military to court.

Military policy upheld

Justice Paul Rouleau of the Federal Court found that internal navy communications determined that Liebmann was Jewish, and he threw out the military's contention that Liebmann's faith was not a factor in their selection.

While Liebmann was treated shabbily, his constitutional rights were not violated, the court found.

The court upheld the military's selection policy, which allows some members of the Armed Forces to be excluded from peacekeeping missions based on the "cultural, religious or other sensitivities" of the parties involved, and of the host country.

For example, the military testified it would not send soldiers of Vietnamese descent on a peacekeeping mission to Khmer Rouge-controlled areas in Cambodia.

The ruling states that the policy is applied on a case-by-case basis "and not to screen classes of members based upon stereotypical views of groups to which they belong. There has not been any 'blanket prohibition' imposed as a result of the policy in question."

Nevertheless, the court blasted the military's policy as "poorly drafted," and said it was incorrectly applied to Liebmann, who was not part of a peacekeeping mission.

Liebmann, who now works on oil tankers, "proved he was a victim of discrimination," his lawyer, Sam Hayman, told *The CJN* in a telephone interview from Vancouver.

The ruling sends the message to prospective soldiers and sailors that they better hide their ethnicity, culture and religion if they wish to climb the ranks, Hayman said.

The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada had joined the case, also in an effort to strike down the military's peacekeeping selection policy.

The League had argued that Canada systematically bars Jews and Muslims from peacekeeping missions in the Middle East.

League lawyer David Matas was resigned to the ruling.

"These battles are won inch by inch," he said. With the court's finding that Liebmann was discriminated against, "we've gotten a bit closer to the goal line."

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U.S. losing out at the UN

By THOMAS O. HECHT

Guest Voices

The Palestinian Authority recently achieved enhanced status at the United Nations. The Palestinians sought non-voting member status, which they did not get, contrary to press reports. But the big loser was not the Palestinians. The big loser was the United States, which had strongly urged the UN members to vote against the proposal.

As a result of the vote, which was supported by Canada and the Europeans, the Palestinians' present observer status was enhanced, elevating them above other observer groups. The resolution was passed 124 to 4 with 10 abstentions. So much for American clout.

Yes, the United States lost, notwithstanding its attempts to urge member states to vote against the proposal, stating that this was the wrong resolution at the wrong time, for it would cause suspicion and mistrust between negotiating parties, and would not bring the parties closer to their goal. The U.S lack of influence on the world body can be blamed only on a lack of U.S. global leadership.

Saddam Hussein beat the United States at the potentially lethal weapons inspection game. The time has come for the president of the United States to make it clear to allies and foes what the U.S./Iraq policy is. It seems that the administration is ambiguous in establishing its intent; instead it has shifted the responsibility for Iraq policy from the White House to the UN, which means shifting it away from those who can implement and execute policy decisions.

The U.S. secretary of state has even suggested to the chief of the UN committee on Iraqi weapons compliance, Richard Butler, that he should not further alienate Hussein with surprise inspections. As a result, the chief of the UN weapons inspection team resigned and accused the members of the UN security council of being co-conspirators in allowing Iraq to develop chemical/biological weapons.

The recent U.S. cruise missile attacks on Afghanistan and Sudan were attacks on states which are considered pariahs, even in the Muslim world. Still, Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction of the PLO has denounced the U.S. action as terrorism in the Voice of Palestine's official radio broadcast.

Recently, President Bill Clinton declined to impose sanctions on France and Russia for investments in Iran that violate U.S. laws. India and Pakistan detonated nuclear weapons – Pakistan in direct defiance of a request from the president.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) itself has received hundreds of millions of dollars from the United States, while the U.S. government ignores Palestinian violations of the Oslo accords, such as the non-amendment of the PLO charter, the permanent incitement to violence against Israel, the non-disarming of militias in areas of PA control, the stockpiling of illegal weapons by the PA, and the harboring of scores of Palestinian terrorists, several of whom have participated in terrorist murders of American citizens.

It is noteworthy that the U.S. Justice Department has refused to issue indictments, and demand the extradition of Palestinian killers of American citizens, including four who are members of Arafat's own security forces. Yet U.S. federal law obligates the U.S. Justice Department to demand their transfer to U.S. jurisdiction.

Israel has identified by name 12 Palestinian Arab terrorists involved in attacks in which 11 Americans were murdered in Israel or in the territories administered by the Palestinian Authority since the signing of the Oslo accords in 1993. Americans were also killed by terrorist bombs in Kenya, which prompted a U.S. response to the murder of Americans, even if it was a somewhat questionable response. The Palestinian Authority, it seems, is immune from American demands or retribution.

Yet, when it comes to identifying the obstacle to progress in the peace process begun in Oslo, chancelleries throughout the world and the media generally opt to blame the only reliable democratic ally of the western world in the Middle East. Presidents and prime ministers exhort Israel to take security risks they would never recommend for their own countries.

Such advocacy placates the forces of appeasement for the sake of unprincipled expediency and pragmatism. That is how Czechoslovakia disappeared piece by piece in 1938-39 in the centre of Germanic Europe. George Santayana's well-known aphorism seems applicable: "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to relive it."

The loss to the Palestinian Authority in the General Assembly from not receiving non-voting member status was a mild embarrassment. The real problem and the threat that has arisen is that the U.S. administration has made it clear that there will be no penalty to the major actors who consistently oppose America on fundamental issues of a principled, world order, of which the fundamental tenet is a move towards making democratic regimes that are more prone to live in security with their neighbors and thus achieve a more tranquil world order.

Thomas Hecht is the founder and chair of the International Advisory Board of the Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies.

From the editor's desk

Will Return

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

THE DECORATION SAYS IT ALL

The poster on the wall of the sukkah in Tel Aviv, 1968, expresses the hope for a year of peace and security.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

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Prof. Irving Abella, *York University*
Breaking Down the Barriers: Canadian Jewry Comes of Age

Moderator: **Morris Cooper**

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Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, *Senior Scholar, Holy Blossom Temple*
The Church on the Hill: Perceptions and Reality

Moderator: **Jack Geller**

Tues., Nov. 3
Prof. Janice Stein, *University of Toronto*
Israel and the Jewish World: Consensus and Polarization

Moderator: **Mark S. Anshan**

Mon., Nov. 23
Prof. Norma Joseph, *Concordia University*
Revolution, Evolution and Resolution: Feminist Contributions

Moderator: **Elizabeth Wolfe**

Wed., Dec. 2
Prof. Neil Gillman, *Jewish Theological Seminary*
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Professor Michael Marrus, *Dean of Graduate Studies at University of Toronto*
Mon., Nov. 2, 8 p.m.
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Professor Elaine Newton, York University
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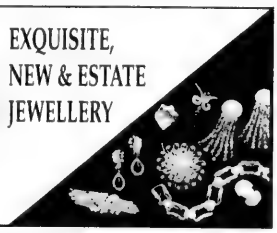

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Canadian Jews differ from American cousins: Abella

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It is wrong to base predictions about the future of Canadian Jewry solely on the American experience, says a leading Canadian Jewish historian.

Canadian Jews are not the "underachieving, developmentally challenged cousins" of their American counterparts, said York University professor Irving Abella at the recent inaugural lecture of the J. Richard Shiff Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry.

Abella, who was recently appointed to the chair, discussed Canadian Jewry: Past, Present and Future before an audience of almost 300 people in a York lecture hall.

Lorna Marsden, president and vice-chancellor of the university, gave a brief welcoming address, as did Michael Brown, director of York's Centre for Jewish Studies. Adrian Shubert, chair of the department of history, introduced the speaker.

Although Canadian Jewry is a generation closer to Europe than American Jewry, there has been a Jewish presence in Canada almost from the beginning of European settlement, Abella emphasized.

Jews were among the most important fur traders of the 1770s and '80s, he noted. There is also "compelling evidence" that Marranos, hiding their Jewish identities, sought refuge from the Spanish and Portuguese inquisitions in Quebec earlier in the same century, when

Irving Abella

Jews were barred under the French regime from what is now Canada.

During the War of 1812, said Abella, almost every Jew of military age joined the militia. Some were promoted to become the first Jewish military officers anywhere in the British Empire. Jews here also held legislature seats before their counterparts in Great Britain, he said.

"It wasn't until the 1880s, with the beginning of mass migration from eastern Europe, that anti-Semitism became such a powerful element in Canadian society."

Although Canadian Jews early in this century suffered "dreadful" living and working conditions, they created a "Jewish world full of vitality, passion and creativity."

Yet it would be wrong to romanticize the past, Abella cautioned. "Jews were at the bottom of Canadian society.

"Just over fifty years ago the Jew was a pariah...excluded from most professions and legally prohibited from vacationing in a variety of locations."

Today, things are better than they've ever been, Abella said. "There's no area of Jewish life that's not thriving, or so it seems." At the same time, Canadian Jews are "arguably the most affluent, integrated community in the country."

Among features distinguishing us from American Jews, Abella mentioned Canada's policy of cultural diversity, which he said has enhanced Jewish self-image and fostered a more traditional, unified community than in the United States.

The large proportion of Holocaust survivors here, relative to the States, has also had an impact. About five percent of American Jewry is made up of Holocaust survivors and their children; in Canada the number is seven to eight times higher, Abella said.

Compared to American Jews, we have lower rates of intermarriage, are more Zionist, donate more money to Jewish causes, are more Orthodox, are more likely to speak Hebrew or Yiddish and are more likely to send our children to Jewish day schools, he said.

The central question facing Canada's Jewish community now, Abella said, is whether Judaism can survive in an atmosphere of unprecedented freedom. "What, aside from religion, will bind Jews together?" he asked.

"The task facing Canadian Jewry is formidable," Abella concluded. "Our history has shown that Canadian Jews are a formidable people."

Littman named to Argentine panel

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sol Littman, the Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, has been named to an international panel that will review the work of a commission investigating Nazi connections to Argentina.

Littman is the only Canadian on the 20-person international committee that includes Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, and David Harris, executive director of the American Jewish Committee.

In November, the committee will review the first annual report prepared by the Commission for the Clarification of Nazi Activities in Argentina (CEANA). The commission, which includes representatives of the Argentine Jewish community, was established by the Argentine government to examine the country's links to Nazis and Nazi loot.

CEANA has accumulated a list of 300 Nazi suspects and it will search a variety of Argentine military and state archives – which had previously been closed to researchers – for information about the suspects. Ignacio Klich, professor of Latin American history at the University of Westminster in London, serves as the commission's academic coordinator, the *Miami Herald* reported.

Following a preliminary meeting of the oversight committee in New York, Littman said, "I was struck by the sincerity of the Argentine representatives who met with us. I thought they were forthcoming and genuine."

The international panel decided that "we'd not just be 'yes men.' We wanted to see all the original documents" that CEANA will rely upon in reaching its conclusions, he added.

Despite all the apparent safeguards to ensure the integrity of CEANA's work, "the Jewish community in Argentina views it with some degree of skepticism and suspicion. They're taking a wait and see attitude. The fact that a Jew is heading the research team does not necessarily reassure them," Littman said.

Argentine Jews have been rocked in recent years by a spate of anti-Semitic attacks. A terrorist bombing of the community's main building in Buenos Aires killed 86 people. The Israeli Embassy was targeted in another bombing. It is widely believed the terrorists were assisted by local police.

In early August, an estimated 200 Nazi sympathizers attended a conference on Nazism held across the street from the newly rebuilt headquarters of the Jewish community centre. That came only a month after Argentine authorities established an office dedicated to searching for war criminals and monitoring neo-Nazi groups. In 1995, a group of skinheads brutally beat a man they thought was a Jew. They were released after serving only three months in jail, the *Herald* reported.

Meanwhile, CEANA has published its first preliminary report, in which it described its research methods and provided a historical background to its inquiries. Argentina has been a destination for German immigrants since the 1870s, the commission reported.

Greater Toronto Area

Former Latvian policeman wins citizenship fight

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A man who served in a Latvian police battalion that was involved in anti-partisan atrocities has won his battle to retain Canadian citizenship.

Federal Court judge William McKeown last week ruled that Peteris (Peter) Vitols did not lie about his wartime activities when he applied to immigrate to Canada in 1950.

McKeown found that security officers stationed in Europe did not uniformly implement screening criteria to weed out individuals belonging to prohibited groups, and that at least one other ex-Latvian SS man, Vitols' brother Robert, was allowed into Canada after admitting his involvement in the unit.

Members of the SS and Nazi collaborators were among those prohibited from entering Canada.

McKeown found that Vitols admitted to service in the Latvian Army, and that Canadian screening officers equated that with a Latvian SS unit. Vitols "disclosed his membership in the Latvian Army to Canadian authorities. Although Canadian policy precluded the entrance of such persons into Canada, the evidence indicates that, in practice, their admission into Canada was discretionary in the hands of visa control officers. The evidence would appear to indicate with regard to Mr. Vitols that such discretion was exercised positively."

McKeown's judgment stunned spokespeople for the Jewish community. "It's Kafka-esque," said Jack Silverstone, general counsel to Canadian Jewish Congress. "Just on the basis of his admissions, he shouldn't be allowed into Canada... It's as if it's a defence to [a charge of] obtaining citizenship by fraud to admit you were a member of a criminal organization."

"I'm genuinely dismayed. I think it's a real crisis," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. The decision demonstrates that "in the same way judges were unprepared to deal with women's issues, they're unprepared to deal with war crimes issues," he said.

McKeown "failed completely to appreciate the difference between the Latvian SS and the Schutzmannschaft battalion," he added.

In his 111-page judgment, McKeown reviewed Vitols' wartime service in a variety of police and military units. He points out Vitols volunteered to join the Madona district police in September 1941, after the area's Jews had been wiped out.

He found that in February and March 1943, Vitols and other members of that unit "were incorporated into the 281st Schutzmannschaft (Latvian auxiliary police battalion), then involved in a large-scale anti-partisan operation known as Winterzauber (Winter Magic) in the Latvian-Belorussian border district."

Vitols served as a second lieutenant and platoon commander.

Court heard evidence that the German forces practiced a scorched earth policy in which "villages used by partisans for their bases were razed to the ground" and where "the civilian population was either executed on the spot or was deported for forced labor."

McKeown accepted Vitols' testimony that he did not participate in atrocities but he rejected his testimony that the atrocities occurred after his unit was disbanded.

Despite that finding, Vitols' participation in Schuma 281 barely figured in McKeown's decision on whether Vitols misrepresented his wartime activities.

Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, said McKeown's acceptance of Vitols' account that he wasn't personally involved in atrocities "seems to be a key point in his decision. But the focus of the Crown's case was that Vitols was a member of an inadmissible group. The fact that he was not personally involved in atrocities is neither here nor there."

Furthermore, it appears McKeown found that Vitols was not asked about his involvement in Schuma 281. "I don't agree with that conclusion," Vickery added.

Under the Immigration Act there is no right of appeal in the case. Vickery suggested the decision would not hinder other war crimes cases, since it was decided on a unique set of facts.

"We have every intention of proceeding with the program. This decision does not impact on that," he said.

TRIP OF A LIFETIME

This summer, 38 members of the staff of Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto spent two weeks in Israel where they were exposed to Israeli history, culture, religious and political issues.

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Misplaced loyalty

The Complaints Commission of the RCMP begins its work next week investigating the behavior of the security officers at the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit last November in Vancouver. Canadians witnessed, with shock and disbelief, a sight relatively rare in Canada: RCMP officers man-handling apparently peaceful though pointedly political demonstrators. Police arrested more than 40 demonstrators, pepper-spraying some in the process.

Although there were a number of messages intended by the demonstrators to be seen and heard by the foreign leaders attending the summit, the real focus of their attention was President Suharto of Indonesia. They were protesting his record of human and civil rights repression. Indeed, as riot and mayhem subsequently unfolded in Indonesia, he was forced to resign his office.

From the outset, it was apparent that the atmosphere outside the summit was edgy. The RCMP seemed nervous and jumpy. In view of a number of memos and documents that have recently come to light, it is not hard to understand why. They had good reason to be.

The dictator from Indonesia essentially expected protesters in Canada to be treated here the way they would have been treated back home: mercilessly. And he brought his own security officials, some armed with guns, just to be sure.

Prior to Suharto's arrival, the ambassador to Canada from Indonesia even inquired into the nature of the possible response by Canadian authorities were his president's personal bodyguards to shoot any demonstrators! We can only speculate and hope that the mere posing of the question would have set off high-sounding, shrill alarms at RCMP headquarters. Five of those bodyguards were actually arrested and sent home by the RCMP.

Complicating the work of the RCMP was their understanding that it was important to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien that Suharto not be embarrassed by the demonstrators. How that came to be their understanding will form part of the investigation that starts next week.

With the publication of the leaked memos, accusations and allegations have been hurled against the prime minister that he personally sanctioned the roughhouse treatment of the demonstrators. Not surprisingly, some members of the opposition have called for his resignation. Whatever the extent, if any, of the prime minister's involvement in the affair last November, such a call is over-reaching.

The apology he offered last week in the House of Commons, however, was under-reaching. It stated what was obvious. "No one wished for that to happen." But it did not state what was necessary: that Canadian values were compromised, inappropriately and shamefully, in order to placate the former president of Indonesia.

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms clearly enunciates the rules that apply to our way of life in Canada. Sec. 2: *Everyone* has the following fundamental freedoms...(Our emphasis)

(b) *freedom of...opinion and expression*, including freedom of the press and other media of communication;

(c) *freedom of peaceful assembly*...".

Indeed, these freedoms are considered to be so universal, so basic, so integral to meaningful individual existence, they apply to *all* persons living in Canada. And they are "guaranteed" by law subject "only to such *reasonable limits prescribed by law*..." (Sec.1 of the Charter)

The peaceful protesters outside the summit meeting were entitled by law to demonstrate their opinions until and unless they became a menacing rabble, which they did not.

The first loyalty of Canadian law enforcement officials, including for this purpose, the prime minister, had to be and must always be to the laws of Canada, to the fundamental values the laws represent. It must never be displaced by the desire, even well-intentioned, to please a visiting dictator who wishes not to be embarrassed.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"When the house is swept, everything turns up."
Yiddish proverb

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Troubled by allegations against IRB

I have appeared on numerous occasions before the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB), both at the Appeal Division and the Refugee Division. In many instances, I have received decisions that I did not agree with, but I can candidly say that I have never experienced anti-Semitism or racism from any board member through my career at the bar.

I am extremely troubled by the allegations that have been made against the IRB and can clearly indicate that in my experience these unfortunate allegations have never surfaced.

Mendel M. Green
Toronto

Claims circumcision opponent off base

I am disturbed by the article "Is circumcision wrong?" by Morton Weinfeld (*CJN*, Sept. 17).

He related how Dr. Margaret Somerville of McGill University expressed her hope in the *Montreal Gazette* of Aug. 22 that religious leaders would be convinced to cease carrying out ritual circumcisions.

Somerville's opinion crossed over the boundary from medical ethics into religion, beyond her realm.

I would recommend that she be contacted by Montreal rabbinical authorities and the Canadian Jewish Congress, in order to be educated and sensitized about the meaning of Jewish law and our people's relationship with God and Torah. I would also suggest that formal complaints be lodged with her faculty dean and her university's officials.

This serious boundary violation, if left to continue, can only bring ill repute to herself, her institution and indeed the entire discipline of medical ethics.

J. Joel Rosenberg, MD
Toronto

Criticizes Peace Now position on Arafat

Re: "Arafat not responsible," Letters to the Editor, (*CJN*, Sept. 17).

We are used to the swiftness with which those Peace Now champions attack the current government of Israel and blame it for all the woes of the world. It now seems that they are equally fast to defend Yasser Arafat and his good repute.

I trust the co-presidents of Canadian Friends of Peace Now have visited the Fatah Web site and are familiar with its content. Yet they say that Arafat is not responsible for the actions of his own party.

Arafat was quick on several occasions to shut down Palestinian radio stations and newspapers that did not show proper reverence to the great leader. He shows no intention now of closing this forum of his own party.

Peace Now is seemingly hell-bent on absolving Arafat of all responsibility. They should stop for a moment and consider that it was precisely this lack of responsibility by Arafat that brought forward the victory of Benjamin Netanyahu, the man they hate so deeply. That intense hatred seems to be in the way of reasoned and logical thinking.

Michael M. Salamon
Toronto

Commemorating the "night of broken glass"

The Montreal Holocaust Centre (MHMC) will be holding a major commemoration service on the night of Nov. 9, to publicly observe the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the "night of broken glass."

The centre wishes to involve in this commemoration the survivors of the Austrian and Jewish communities who were witnesses to the wanton destruction that marked the turning point in the war against the Jews.

Witnesses to Kristallnacht, or members of their families presently living in Canada are requested to contact the MHMC at their earliest possible convenience. Telephone 514-345-2605; fax 514-344-2651; or address mail to MHMC, 5151 Cote Ste. Catherine Rd., Montreal, Que., H3W 1M6.

Bill A. Surkis
Executive Director

Pakistani general never made offensive remark

Re: "Pakistani general surrendered to Jew," Letters to the Editor (*CJN*, Sept. 10).

Isaac Judah's erroneous concept with respect to the ancestry of Lt.-Gen. J.F.R. Jacob and Judah's attribution of an alleged anti-Jewish remark to Pakistani Lt.-Gen. A.A.K. Niazi are both regrettable.

Jacob, who represented the Jews of India at the Commonwealth Jewish Council in Gibraltar in 1997, when interviewed by journalists for Jewish newspapers in the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada, has always stated that he is descended from Iraqi Jewish ancestors who settled in India almost 200 years ago. His Iraqi heritage is shared by his cousins, who reside in Toronto and Ottawa, and whose parents were Arabic-speaking.

With respect to Niazi's alleged remark that it was an insult to make him sign surrender terms in front of a Jew, protocol dictated that the man who led the Indian army in the battle, Lt.-Gen. J.S. Aurora, accept Niazi's surrender. Jacob, the Indian army's chief of staff, was an honored presence at that historic signing ceremony, and Niazi's alleged remark was never made. To correct the error is particularly important in today's delicate political climate.

Diana Mingail
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

'Who are we to judge...?'

By ADINA ESHEL

When I opened the door, I hardly managed to suppress a scream: standing in the doorway was a monster. It was, no doubt, a woman, but her face... it was mutilated and frightening.

"Shalom," she said, "Is mother home?" "No," I whispered, my eyes fixed upon her face. What must have been her face, looked like a deformed mask. Her forehead was busted in, one eye was lower than the other, and her crooked nose made her mouth look as though she was about to cry.

Her first question must have exhausted all her Hebrew vocabulary. "I am very tired," she went on in Yiddish, "I have walked all the way from Jaffa, in this terrible heat, may I wait for your mother?" Her words brought me back to reality and I was ashamed for staring at her. I opened the door widely and asked her to come in and sit down.

Slowly she entered the living room and sat on the edge of a chair at the dinner table. I went to the kitchen for a glass of cold water. When I handed her the glass, her face grimaced with what was probably meant to be a smile. Most of her front teeth were missing. "Thank you," she said, "you are a good girl."

She drank the water slowly, looking around. I watched her, feeling terribly sorry for her. She sat there, shrunk, as though trying to minimize the space she was taking up.

It was a warm summer day, but the woman was wearing winter clothes and shoes, carrying an overcoat over her arm. She kept holding it even as she sat down, clutching her hand bag.

"I am from Lublin," she said, as though this should solve a problem. It did. At least part of the enigma was solved. She probably knew my mother.

Ever since the war ended, I got used to people from Lublin – Holocaust survivors – turning up at our door, to the delight of my parents. Some had numbers tattooed on their arms, some managed to survive without going through concentration camps; the stories of all of them were heartbreaking. This was something entirely different.

In order to overcome the silence, but mainly to avoid looking at her face, I took out a book from my schoolbag, sat on the sofa and began reading. After about 15 minutes my mother arrived.

Upon seeing the figure seated on the chair, she hesitated for a second and then cried out: "Gitta!" The woman wore once again that grimace I knew for a smile, and said: "You recognized me immediately, very few people recognize me at all," and burst out crying bitterly.

She got up and embraced my mother, who embraced her. They stood there hugging each other for long moments without uttering a word. At last mother asked: "Do you want some water?" The woman shook her head, pointing at the empty glass, and said "Your daughter had already seen to it." "Then let us sit down to eat," said my mother.

The mere idea of having to dine with that revolting face in front of me, drove my appetite away. "I have lots of homework to do," I said to my mother in Hebrew, "I'd rather do it first and eat later." I could not share my mother's courage to eat with that face in front of her.

After the meal, mother made Gitta sit on the couch and said: "Now tell me!" "I have been through so much, that I don't know where to begin" she said. "Begin with 1932, the year my husband and I left Lublin (Poland) for Palestine." "Didn't your mother write to you about me?" she asked surprised. "She was the person who helped me more than anyone else."

"Gitta used to visit with your grandmother," said my mother in Hebrew, knowing I was only pretending to be doing my homework, and was in fact listening to their conversation. "She used to be a beautiful and diligent young girl," mother added in Yiddish.

Gitta turned to me and said: "Your grandmother was a true angel; she took care of me as though I were her own daughter. She taught me everything I know and made a mentsch of me," and as if continuing an inner thread of thought she went on: "Despite all that I have been through, I have kept my respectability, no one can say I didn't."

All through that afternoon Gitta went on telling my mother what she had gone through during the period of the Holocaust. She spoke slowly, as though visualizing each scene, and living it once again. Often she would burst out crying, unable to restrain herself.

In 1935, she married a young man against his parents' will. They had two children, a boy and a girl. She could not work, and his salary was not enough. His parents wouldn't help, her parents couldn't. They moved to another town, and just before the war broke out, they returned to Lublin. When the Nazis came, they stayed in the Lublin ghetto. Her husband became ill and she tried to provide for the family.

One day she went out for some food, and when she returned her husband and children were gone, as were some other Jewish residents of her neighborhood, mostly the sick, the old or children. There was a raid, and they were taken to the nearby extermination camp in Majdanek.

She then fled the ghetto to a Polish village. "I worked hard, believe me I worked hard, but believe me I kept my decency, all through the war I kept my decency, no one will be able to deny it," she repeated.

For a while she stayed in that village, but fearing she would be handed over to the Gestapo, she moved on to another village and then to another. Finally she came to a village on the border between Poland and Ukraine, where she stayed till the war was over.

"I worked hard, like a slave, it nearly killed me, but I kept my dignity, no one will tell you I didn't," she said, stretching out her hands to prove it. Those were coarse hands, the hands of a manual worker who had done all kinds of hard work, that left no trace of softness on them.

When the war was over, she returned to Lublin. She knew there was nothing to go back to, but what else could she do?

When Shavuot came, she went to the synagogue. After the Holocaust she had her problems with God, but going to the synagogue was more than a religious matter, it was a symbol.

Besides, "It was an opportunity to meet most of the Lublin Jewish survivors," she explained. Even people who were not religious came to the synagogue to meet the others, to be together, and to find as many details as they could about the fate of their beloved ones.

Together with other women she sat in the Ezrah Nashim, which was situated in an inner balcony on the second floor, facing the Holy Ark. Suddenly the balcony collapsed, falling down upon the floor below.

When she came to she was in a Polish military hospital. "You see what is left of my beautiful face" she laughed. "A Polish doctor insisted on saving my life, whatever for? I wish he had failed." She sobbed quietly for a while and then said: "What a laugh, to survive the Nazis without a scratch and to end up like this!"

"So here I am, frightening people away wherever I go. Needless to say, I can't get a job, as no one would hire me for any kind of work. That's why they have dumped me in a God forsaken hostel in Jaffa."

My mother tried to cheer her up by evoking memories from the past, when she used to come to my grandmother's. They both laughed, remembering some funny events.

Listening to them, I learned that Gitta had, in fact, been my grandmother's help, who used to come in to help her with some light house chores.

Coming from a very poor and simple family, she had to learn even the basics, such as ironing clothes, and my grandmother taught her everything. In addition to the money she gave her, my grandmother insisted that Gitta should learn to become a lay-nurse in a nearby hospital, and my grandmother paid for her tuition. "She made a human being of me, but look at me now, what good is it to me now?"

The sun was setting, the room darkening slowly. When my mother got up from her couch, Gitta said "No, please don't turn on the light." "But I want us to have supper." "No, I must go before it gets too dark, one of my eyes is made of glass, so..."

As they were standing at the door, my father arrived. He took one look at her and said "Gitta!" She gave him her hand and he shook it and said: "I heard you had arrived in Israel, but I did not know where."

Gitta apologized for having taken up so much of my mother's time. Taking her hand and asking her to come again soon, mother slipped some money into her palm, and then wrote down the exact name and address of her hostel in Jaffa.

When she was gone, my father remarked that he had known for some time that she had arrived in Israel, also about her face, but he did not mention it because he did not want my mother to search for her.

"But why?" asked my mother, "because of her frightening face?" "That too" said my father, "But mainly because I did not want you to take her in as our guest." "But she is so miserable, and alone" said mother vehemently.

My father looked at my direction, making sure I was absorbed in my book, and whispered to my mother: "Do you know how she managed to survive? She was a whore!" spitting the last word with contempt.

Mother was silent for a moment and then spoke very quietly, suppressing her anger by emphasizing each word: "I saw her hands, she had worked hard in order to survive. No doubt about that. If she had to do something else, in addition to her hard work, to stay alive, who are we to judge her? Is there one human being on God's good earth who could be sure how he'd have behaved under similar circumstances?" "And anyway, this kind of work is now out of the question for her," she added quickly with a bitter smile.

The following morning my mother went to the Jewish Agency to arrange for Gitta to be transferred from the hostel in Jaffa to a hostel in our neighborhood in Tel Aviv.

Adina Eshel is a teacher in Israel.

Opinions

The mother of the bride

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Everyone knows how the father of the bride is supposed to react to his daughter's wedding: He gets slightly muddled, forgets his lines, acts frantic, and in the end, has not one but two movies made about his tribulations on the way to the chupah. But the mother of the bride is supposed to stay in charge of the event, maintaining her cool when all others are losing theirs.

This summer we celebrated the first wedding in our family (since ours, the parents'). It was a lovely wedding: The chupah was set up next to a stream that flows by the synagogue, with sunshine and flowers, almost as if Disney himself had choreographed it. No one lost the rings, the glass broke on schedule, the music was perfect and the setting idyllic. The food was terrific and the guests threw themselves into the nonstop klezmer music courtesy of Yitzchak Perlman, with such abandon that people are still talking about it.

The speeches made everyone cry. The father of the bride recalled our daughter's childhood with affection and wry humor, so that she enjoyed the reminiscences as much as we did. The groom's roast was no less loving, and we all wondered how we managed to have two such great kids! Instead of the usual clanging of glasses to indicate that guests wanted to see the bride and groom kiss, we had whole tables rising to sing compositions created on the spot. It was very hectic and completely wonderful.

The bills are paid and the pictures are ordered. Now we have time to reflect on what has happened.

It wasn't exactly like that at my wedding. I'm not sure what it was like. I must have been in a state of suspended animation. I remember practically nothing – except that the glass was really a light-bulb and the air conditioning broke. This was in August in New York City. Need I say more?

But this wedding, well, I'll never forget one minute of it. And since I didn't have much time to reflect before, I can do so now. This is what is on a mother's mind.

All our children are special, each one a first edition, as their kindergarten teacher put it many years ago. This one, like her father, has a mathematician's approach to life, coupled with an intense sense of right and wrong and a determination to make a difference in this world. I have no anxiety about her life plans, and the husband she has chosen (or who chose her, however you want it) can complement her in many ways.

Each has made sacrifices to create this bond and each brings to the marriage values which, in this era of cynicism and selfishness, are truly a joy.

It is not easy to marry today. Oh, the ceremony is the fast and easy part. But both these young people have seen many marriages collapse – some almost immediately, some after decades. Today we don't send our children out with the blithe assumption that after the ball is over, they'll live happily ever after. Not without a great deal of work, and no one knows what works.

That's the scary part. It remains a mystery how a couple remain married, just as what has torn them apart often can't be imagined.

Advice seems silly. What keeps a couple together and makes for a marriage where each partner is content? Despite libraries of books on marriage, the perfect formula remains unknown.

I had parents whose marriage was a wonder from the first. My mother, a college graduate and mathematics teacher, was an accomplished musician, and the Protestant equivalent of a Litvak (think Church of England). My father was more like a Chassid (think Methodist): chalk and cheese. But their 52 years together was a love affair from first to last. My children should be so lucky as to create this kind of lifetime relationship.

Upon reflection, how do I feel? Exhilarated that my daughter and son-in-law have begun to build a household among the Jewish people.

Delighted to welcome them as a Mr. and Mrs. to the holidays about to begin.

Pleased that we will spend part of the holiday in their home. Grateful for health and the fact that they both have jobs. Hopeful that her siblings will find life partners who value them as my daughter's husband loves her.

Sorry that we didn't hand them a more peaceful and clean earth for their children.

Regretful that their grandparents were not alive to join in the celebrations.

And most of all, deeply contented that two such people will have the chance to experience a lifetime partnership with all its attendant joys and sorrows, just as we have had. I would not want anything else for them.

"Other" issues affecting Israelis

By Bruce Elman in Edmonton

Twice in the past decade, my family has enjoyed the privilege of spending a sabbatical year in Jerusalem thanks to the support of the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies at Hebrew University. I lectured in the faculty of law, my children went to "regular" public schools, and my wife studied at an ulpan. We shopped at Machane Yehuda, and strolled along the Midrachov. We went to parent/teacher meetings, and we davened at the local shul (even though we did not understand either the principal or the rabbi).

Israelis are addicted to news – television, radio and newspapers. Israelis hurry home to watch the television news; passengers on the buses quiet down when the news comes on the radio; and Israelis must buy more newspapers per capita than any other people in the world, or so it seems. So we started to read the paper religiously. During our first sabbatical, in 1988-89, Israel was in the throes of the intifadah, and the newspapers were filled with it. I stopped reading the intifadah stories and turned my attention to other issues.

Our second sabbatical, 1995-96, was two years after Oslo. Israel was handing over control of West Bank cities to the Palestinians. The initial euphoria had worn off, however. But still, the papers were obsessed with Oslo, the peace process, and ultimately, with what became known as "peace and security."

I got tired of these stories. They overshadowed numerous other interesting stories. In my view, the press was obsessed with peace and security to the relative exclusion of other important issues. Eventually, however, it dawned on me that the culprit here was not the press, but the country as a whole – peace and security was paramount; all else was not merely secondary, it was meaningless.

Five years after Oslo, the situation remains the same. The importance of peace and security for Israel cannot be seriously challenged, but by the same token, other matters cannot be simply ignored. Here are three of my favorite issues. These are quality-of-life issues that affect the lives of all Israelis:

• Road safety: Far too many Israelis either die or are seriously injured in road accidents. The number of traffic fatalities, as I recall, dwarfs the number of soldiers killed in military or quasi-military action. The first half of 1998 showed an 11.3 percent increase in road accidents. Add in the facts that a sizable percentage of the country only drives six days a week, and the incidence of accidents caused by drunk driving is very low, and you have nothing short of a crisis. Perhaps it is a failure in the licensing process or in the enforcement of the laws or, maybe, the sentencing practices of the courts is at fault. In any event, something must be done about it.

• The environment: You land at Ben-Gurion Airport, and as you are driving to Tel Aviv, you roll down the window to smell the orchard fragrance in the air. If the wind is blowing in your direction, however, your nostrils are filled with the stench from the mountain-like landfill site at Hiriya.

Hiriya was recently closed and now the site must be rehabilitated. No one is quite sure which ministry is responsible for that task. Incidentally, the replacement site at Rotem will not be ready for 14 months. Other snippets: 88 percent of gas stations in Israel do not have standards on groundwater pollution prevention. Recently, there was a fire at the Ramat Hovav national hazardous waste disposal site. After battling the blaze for five hours, firefighters gave up and decided to let the fire burn itself out. In mid-August, vacationers were ordered to leave the beaches of Eilat when the city's main sewage line collapsed.

• Crime: In spite of denials by the police inspector general, crime rates in Israel are, apparently, rising. Overall, there was a 12.5 percent increase in the crime rate for the first half of 1998. The worrisome rise in crime and violence was noted by President Ezer Weizman in his address to a gathering celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Israeli Supreme Court. One crime prevention plan was rejected because it used the Green Line as a border – peace and security, ideology and politics interfering with crime prevention.

Whether 11 percent or 13 percent of the West Bank is given over to Palestinian control may be important to the future security of the state. I do not know. But I do know that it cannot be an excuse to neglect safe roads, crime-free neighborhoods, clean drinking water, and efficient garbage and sewage disposal. Oslo should not obscure other important issues.

Quintessential underdogs

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

At the centre of our Yom Kippur confessions lie not only deeds that need repentance but also attitudes we cherish. It is often easier to repent something we have done than to change the basic attitudes that led to the deed in the first place.

Recently, I made mention of Thomas Cahill's book *The Gifts of the Jews*. In it, he enumerates 10 important innovations that were introduced to the world by our people. One of them was concern for the underdogs. It is a basic teaching of our religion to make sure that the weakest elements in society – the Torah notes widows, orphans and strangers as examples – are looked after and received with love and generosity.

Most readers of this column are the children or grandchildren of "underdogs." Their forebears came as refugees or poor immigrants; very few arrived with earthly goods to smooth their path in an unknown world. Much has changed since those days. I am glad to say that our society has developed a sense of compassion for refugees which, however, is in danger of disappearing. It is part of our Jewish responsibility to reawaken it. I therefore deem it appropriate to transmit to you the spirit of an editorial that appeared some time ago in the *Vancouver Sun*:

"Refugees whose claims have been investigated and verified will now be eligible for income-assistance benefits beyond the previous, minimal hardship assistance. The provincial Ministry of Human Resources' change of policy is wise. It will benefit all parties.

"Under the changes announced this week, those refugees can now receive job training, English tutoring, medical, dental and pharmacare services, child care and special assistance in finding employment such as help with transportation and clothing.

"These are not applicants for refugee status – they've already been accepted by Canada under our United Nations conventions. MOSAIC, an immigrant advocacy and integration organization, says it may take a year or more for the immigration department to process the paperwork.

"The new rules do not increase their monthly stipend (for a single man, $500 a month) but offer a better, earlier chance to find a productive place in Canada.

"Refugees represent the full range of society, including people who have had to leave behind families and careers to begin new lives. Why leave them waiting in limbo?

"It's neither any great act of humanity nor economically responsible to limit them to a government-subsidized place at the bottom of society."

It not only makes good sense, it also makes for good religion. I have repeatedly stressed this theme in writing this column. The very word "refugee" awakens in me memories of my own arrival in North America. It was the midst of the Great Depression, and my earthly goods amounted to 40 cents. Bread lines were everywhere and "Brother, can you spare a dime?" was more than a line in a song – it was bitter reality.

We Jews have been refugees ourselves for so long that compassion for them ought to be incised on the tablets of our hearts.

The Kirshner File

Mandela's refusal to visit Israel due to policy shift

Nelson Mandela, president of the first black majority government in South Africa, visited Ottawa last week, addressing

By Sheldon Kirshner

parliament and becoming the first overseas leader to be appointed to the Order of Canada.

Since his election in 1994, Mandela has been a world traveller, having accepted invitations from numerous countries, including Libya and Egypt. But he has studiously avoided one country – Israel.

He does not lack an invitation. Mandela, the avatar of the civil rights struggle in apartheid South Africa, was officially invited to Israel by President Ezer Weizman when he attended Mandela's inauguration in Johannesburg four years ago.

A date for a belated visit was finally set for August 1996. But the trip was postponed on the grounds that Mandela, now 80, was not feeling well. A South African diplomat in Washington said the visit might be rescheduled to October. But two years have elapsed since Mandela's cancellation, and though he accepted an honorary degree from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in 1997, he will probably not set foot on Israeli soil any time soon.

By all accounts, Mandela does not wish to visit Israel as long as Benjamin Netanyahu is prime minister.

At a recent meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement in Durban, South Africa, Mandela said, "We should not allow the narrow, chauvinistic interests of the current administration in Israel to block the prospect of a permanent and just peace throughout the Middle East."

Netanyahu was so offended by this statement that he let it be known that he would not seek a meeting with Mandela when the United Nations General Assembly reconvened in New York City last month.

Their strained relationship is symptomatic of a shift in South Africa's policy toward Israel since the advent of Mandela's presidency. South Africa today is far more critical of Israel's policies than it was in the not so distant past. For example, the South African foreign ministry recently called on Israel to refrain from expanding settlements beyond the Green Line and to implement agreements signed with the Palestinian Authority.

During much of the apartheid era, when Mandela languished in a prison off the coast of Cape Town, Israel generally had close political, economic and military ties with South Africa, a fact which did not go unnoticed in the African National Congress, led by Mandela.

Much to South Africa's irritation, Israel regularly condemned apartheid, the system of institutionalized racial segregation. But its overall embrace of South Africa – home to Africa's largest Jewish community – antagonized some of the leaders of the African National Congress, whose cause was visibly backed by nations like Syria, Iraq and Libya and by the PLO.

Due to Arab support, the African National Congress came out strongly in favor of a Palestinian state and advocated a withdrawal of Israeli forces from the territories.

Mandela himself was doubtless miffed by Israel's friendship with the former South African regime. But he did not allow his visceral feelings to blur his intellectual view of Israel and Zionism.

In 1990, the year he was released from his long imprisonment, Mandela said: "If Zionism means the right of Israel to occupy lands of other countries like the Golan Heights, West Bank and Gaza Strip, then I condemn that. But if Zionism means the desire of the Jewish community to have their own state, then I support that."

In keeping with this somewhat nebulous formulation, the new South Africa has established diplomatic relations with all Arab states as well as Iran, supported the PLO's campaign for statehood in the West Bank and Gaza, and maintained cordial but not special ties with Israel.

The first African National Congress delegation visited Israel in January 1993, and South Africa's foreign minister, Alfred Nzo, paid a visit to Israel in September 1995. A few months later, the South African defence minister, Pierre Steyn, held top-level meetings with his Israeli counterparts in Jerusalem.

But in July 1997, in a show of dissatisfaction with Israeli policies, South Africa's Minister of Police Sidney Mufimdi refused to meet with Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani after arriving in Israel en route for a meeting with Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat in Gaza.

Mandela, who has warm relations with South African Jews, has been open to meeting Israeli ministers, though not in Israel itself. After the 1993 Oslo accords were signed, he had brief encounters with the then Israeli foreign minister, Shimon Peres, in New York and Lisbon. And at his inauguration, he made a point of meeting with Weizman before greeting any other of the heads of state.

On the minus side, there have been several developments which have been of great concern to Israel.

There have been reports that South Africa is sharing nuclear technology with Iran. South Africa maintains that its ties with Iran are purely economic. In the past year, the Iranian president and foreign minister have visited Pretoria.

Almost two years ago, South Africa said it intended to sell Syria a $650-million tank-firing system. After U.S. protests, Mandela dropped the sale.

Israel Radio, in 1996, reported that Hezbollah has five training camps in South Africa. "That's just unthinkable," said Mandela's spokesperson, flatly denying the story.

Maybe so. But such blips in Israel's relations with the old South Africa rarely, if ever, occurred.

Zionist goals

In a speech delivered to the Histadrut labor federation in 1922, David Ben-Gurion, a founding father of Israel, declared: "The one great concern that should govern our thoughts and work is the conquest of the land and building it up through extensive immigration. All the rest is mere words and phraseology."

David Ben-Gurion

With this clarion call, Ben-Gurion clearly and unambiguously spelled out the overriding goals of the Zionist movement in Palestine. What he meant was that nationalism, taking the form of a Jewish state, took precedence over socialism, the establishment of a just society. The founders of Zionism were inspired by the vision of a socialist state. But according to Hebrew University political scientist Zeev Sternhell, universalistic ideals interested Ben-Gurion and the other leaders of pre-state Israel only insofar as they served the nationalist agenda.

In his meticulously-researched book, *The Founding Myths of Israel* (Princeton University Press), Sternhell contends that mainstream Zionism from the end of the Second Aliyah in 1914 to the emergence of the Labor party in 1968 was a case of national objectives triumphing over social ones. It is a persuasive, though not entirely novel, thesis.

Using primary and secondary sources, Sternhell claims that the labor movement never portrayed itself as an alternative to capitalism, and that the kibbutz, for all its socialistic trappings, strengthened Israel's capitalist economy. As Berl Katznelson, a Zionist worthy said, the kibbutzim were founded not to forge a socialist utopia but to lay the groundwork for national independence.

Ben-Gurion believed that Zionism was compatible with socialism. And perhaps it may have been at one point. But to Sternhell, there was an unbridgeable gap between these two forces, and in the final analysis, nationalism subsumed socialism.

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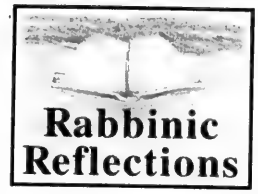


Time to appreciate what we possess

By RABBI MOSHE J. YERES

With Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur behind us, the feelings of solemnity and reverence of the High Holy Days recede into the background and are immediately replaced by the joy of yom tov celebration. Sukkot, of all the holidays, symbolizes simchah, hanpiness par excellence. The Torah enjoins us *vesamachta bechagecha*, the Amidah liturgy calls the holiday *zman simchatenu*, and the celebrations in ancient (and modern) Jerusalem are termed *simchat beit hasho'eva*. The midrash even goes as far as intimating that we wave the lulav on Sukkot as a joyous victory salute to our happiness.

Understandably, confident as we are that HaShem has heard our prayers on Yom Kippur and granted our request for the coming year, we ought to be happy. Yet I cannot but wonder how God can *command* us to be happy. What if I do not feel like I am happy? How can HaShem adjure me to adapt my mood to his directive? Is it possible? Is it logical? I can understand being commanded for an action, a deed, such as taking a lulav, sitting in a sukkah. But how can I be truly happy if it is only because I am bound to follow God's word. And why? Why command me to be happy?

If there ever existed an era when those questions should be asked, it is our own generation. Though blessed with greater wealth and leisure than our predecessors, our age is surely not one of the happiest. Psychologists have noted that were you to ask most people today if they are happy, they would answer in the negative. If you want to get a sense of the problem, remember the next time you are in a bookstore to look at the number of volumes that have been published recently containing strategies and panaceas for reaching personal happiness.

So how can God tell me to be happy? What does *zman simchatenu* really mean?

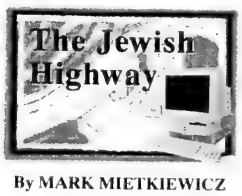
Permit me to retranslate the word simchah. Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) 4:1 says *"ezehu 'ashir hasame'ach bechelko"* – "who is truly rich; the one who is sameyach with what he has." While *sameyach* is often translated here as happy, I think it is better translated as — satisfied; satisfied and appreciative of that satisfaction.

Sukkot (*Chag Ha'astif*) comes right after most of the crops in Eretz Yisrael are harvested. This was especially significant in biblical Israel which was an agrarian society. Some years brought in a full harvest and others were lean years. Depending on the success of the harvest, the farmer no doubt exhibited one of two feelings. He either became smug with his agricultural accomplishment or frustrated by his lack of sufficient crops. In either case, his response was such that he ignored or forgot God and His Divine role in man's livelihood.

Enter now Sukkot in which we are commanded to be satisfied with what we have. Perhaps I may not feel happy, but the command is to be satisfied with what I have on this yom tov. We leave our comfortable homes and go into temporary dwellings, the sukkot, to appreciate that what we do possess and own, comes from God, and therefore, to be satisfied with our lot. The truly rich and happy person is the individual who celebrates what he has and needs not look further for life's meaning.

May we all find fulfilment in *simchah shel mitzvah*, in bringing God's word into our lives.

Rabbi Yeres serves as rosh hayeshiva of Yeshivat Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot Girls' School.



Some lessons for Sukkot

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

"In sukkot you shall dwell, seven days…That your generations may know that in booths I made the children of Israel dwell when I brought them out of the land of Egypt." (Leviticus 23:42) **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/leviticu/torah/23412343.htm]**.

With that we are commanded to perform one of the most joyous mitzvot in the Jewish calendar. Today, some sukkah lessons from the Jewish Highway.

Build It: Whether you decide to start from scratch or want to buy a prefab Sukkah, there's something for you on the World Wide Web **[http://judaism.tqn.com/msub101.htm]**. Take a look at Ten Tips for Your Sukkah **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/sukkot-8Atzeret/]**. While you're there, check out the article explaining the hows and whys of building a sukkah. Dovid Gross gives you an illustrated tour of some of the sukkot of Jerusalem and finishes off by welcoming you into his own.

Need more detail? The Mishnah explains that a sukkah built on top of a wagon or on the deck of a ship may be used on the holiday. A sukkah built on a treetop or the back of a camel may not be used. **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/tishri/elepsuka.htm]**. If camels aren't a concern, Aba Ward of New Rochelle, N.Y., has provided detailed plans including diagrams for a more conventional sukkah **[http://www.uscj.org/scripts/uscj/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=257]**. You can also listen to some directions at 613.org **[http://www.613.org/roshyomkippursuccot.html#s]**.

Entertain in it: If you build it they will come. Who? In addition to your earthly guests, tradition holds that every sukkah is graced each night by a different tzaddik: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron and King David. Virtual Jerusalem has a very good page explaining the spiritual significance of Ushpizin **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/sukkot-8Atzeret/ushpiz.htm]**.

Eat in It: Sure there's always room for gefilte fish. If you want to broaden your holiday palate, take a look at Succulence for Sukkot **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=1101]**. You can try out kalia (Georgian beef soup with pomegranate), djadja bi looz (Moroccan chicken fricassee with almonds), fasoulia (Turkish braised green beans in tomatoes) and the always reliable mehren kugel (Ashkenazi carrot kugel).

If you're hungry for more, see the Jewish-Food Sukkoth Archives **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jefffree/recipes/sukindex.htm]** and a Kids' Sukkah Theme Dinner **[http://jewishfamily.com/Holidays/sukkah4.htm]**.

Learn from it: In When a House is Not Your Home, Rabbi Mendel Weinbach suggests that no matter how beautifully we decorate a sukkah, there's no mistaking that it's a temporary structure. From that we can learn about the transience of life **[http://www.jer1.co.il/education/education/ohr/special/sukkos/]**.

Rabbi Weinbach tells the story of a traveller who once visited the Chafetz Chaim. "Where is your furniture? " asked the astonished visitor of the sage when he saw how barely furnished the room was. "And where is yours?" was the Chafetz Chaim's response. "I have no furniture with me because I am only passing through," explained the visitor. "I, too, am only passing through this world," said the Chafetz Chaim, "for our lives here are only a preparation for the real world, the World to Come. For merely passing through this corridor of time I have enough furniture."

Have a very happy holiday!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Midrashic Moments

Humility and balance

Exploring the sukkah, lulav, etrog

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

With the holiday of Sukkot upon us, many modern Jews begin to wonder about the ancient symbols involved. The historical association of dwelling in booths, just as the Israelites dwelled in booths in the desert, is the reason usually offered for the building of sukkot.

But why is it important for us to live as they did? They were nomads, wanderers for 40 years. Perhaps we should spend the entire holiday of Sukkot travelling, so that we can truly live as they did. Why do we want to mirror ancient Israel's living conditions? What is the significance?

Furthermore, taking a lulav and an etrog into our hands and making special blessings upon them seems equally irrelevant. Someone once asked me why Jews walk around with a lemon and a bush during Sukkot.

We are no longer an agricultural nation; so why do we continue to carry seemingly irrelevant agricultural symbols? Although it seems that the acts of dwelling in booths and blessing the lulav and etrog are meaningless, one need not look far for their significance.

Once a year, the Torah instructs us, we are to construct a dwelling whose main defining feature is that it not be permanent. In fact, one should leave one's permanent dwelling as often as possible to spend time in this flimsy structure. Why such an odd request? The rabbis in the Mishnah have stated that you must never begin to judge another person until you have arrived in their place. For one week a year, we arrive in the place of the homeless. For one week, we scratch the surface of what life must be for those whose home is never permanent.

We have been forced into this position by Divine decree – circumstances beyond our control. Each of us encounters homeless individuals on the streets of our cities. We are quick to judge them as responsible for their circumstances. Surely they are lazy or guilty of substance abuse.

Perhaps dwelling in a sukkah will remind us that they may have arrived on the streets through circumstances beyond their control. If we are lucky, the booths will give us perspective.

Blessing the lulav and the etrog will also teach us much beyond agricultural cycles. The midrash states that the etrog symbolizes Abraham, the palm branches symbolize Isaac, the 'boughs of thick trees" symbolize Jacob and the willows symbolize Joseph. One is not surprised to see the patriarchs embodied within such an important ritual.

However, the same midrash continues to say that the etrog equally symbolizes Sarah, the palm branches symbolize Rebecca, the "boughs of thick trees" symbolize Leah and the willows symbolize Rachel. The lulav and the etrog stand for many things, and among them are both our patriarchs and our matriarchs.

If we view Sukkot as a historical, agricultural remnant of our past, the symbols become obsolete and are easily dismissed. If we are lucky enough to experience the holiday, and not just commemorate it, we learn humility and balance.

Sukkot

The spinning globe, renewed
a booth bedecked with flowers,
torrential prayers overhead,
the sun's breath sweet and strong.

The palm, myrtle and willow
sway with winds of tomorrow,
and the moon, velvet ivory
blesses the tranquil harvesters.

And the people,
white, red, black and yellow,
accept their common mortality,
and each, in his own sukkah,
repeats the Universal Shemah.

by Donia Blumenfeld Clenman

[Fritz Cohen photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

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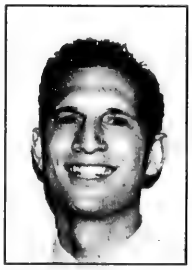

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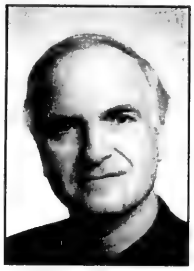

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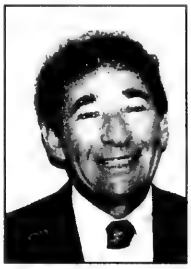

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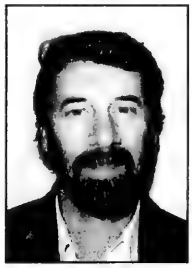

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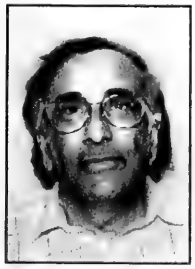

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Greater Toronto Area

Israeli women's stories tug at heart-strings

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish Agency for Israel representatives Genia Gitkis and Rachel Korazim tell compelling stories of their respective lives, and the effect the agency had on them.

The two women were in Toronto recently to address a group of 120 women at a UJA Lion of Judah luncheon.

"Your [UJA] support helped me find my lost identity," said Gitkis, a 23-year-old native of Ukraine who made aliyah in 1994.

Gitkis was raised in "a typical communist family completely cut off from Jewish tradition." Her grandparents, however, spoke Yiddish if they didn't want her to understand.

The only Jew at her school in Vinnitsa, a small town five hours from Kiev, Gitkis wanted no connection with Judaism. A community seder she attended at the age of 14 only alienated her further.

"I felt out of place. I didn't understand what they were doing...it strengthened my desire to feel more connected to the Ukrainian people that surrounded me," she said.

Gitkis' life took an unanticipated turn two years later, when the time came for her to get her passport. Although she wanted to be identified only as a Ukrainian, her passport identified her as a Jew.

And although she dreamed of studying English at university, it would have entailed a bribe her mother couldn't afford, she said.

It was "easy" to be accepted into Jewish studies at Kiev's State Pedagogical Institute, and she hoped in time she would be able to transfer to the English faculty.

She resisted taking part in Jewish activities until a persistent Jewish Agency shaliach started inviting her to meetings and events like Kabbalat Shabbat.

"I'm sure you'll be a Zionist and make aliyah," he told Gitkis on meeting her.

"What chutzpah!" she thought.

At a leadership seminar, the petite, feisty student was chosen to teach Jews in their early twenties about Jewish identity. She was only 17. "I guess they saw something in me."

Her attitude changed. Three months after she began studying Hebrew, she was teaching the language to others, and she wanted to know more.

"I still didn't feel Jewish," she recalled, but her first visit to Israel, at the invitation of the Jewish Agency in 1992, changed that. "It felt good. It felt [like] home."

Gitkis began teaching her mother, and at her daughter's urging the mother left her teaching job to become the aliyah co-ordinator in the Ukraine.

Rachel Korazim

Genia Gitkis

Two years later Gitkis made aliyah. She now works for the Jewish Agency and is studying for a master's degree in educational counselling at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

She has returned to the former Soviet Union as a shlichah at Jewish winter and summer camps, and represented the Zionist Woman of the '90s at a recent congress on Women and Zionism, held in Israel.

Unlike Gitkis, Korazim is a sabra whose connection to the Jewish Agency predates her birth. She heads its division for professional development and in-service training in the department for Jewish education and culture in the Diaspora, and spent four years as a shlichah in Montreal in the 1980s.

In 1946, Korazim's grandmother, a frail but determined Holocaust survivor, insisted the family make aliyah, despite her non-Zionist background. Her two daughters (Korazim's mother and aunt) had nursed her back to health after she made her way home to Budapest's Orthodox ghetto.

The sisters had been spared by the Nazis because they could sew, Korazim said. The older sister (Korazim's mother) married at the beginning of 1946.

On their arrival in Haifa, the small family of four was taken to the illegal immigrants' detention camp at Athlit. Their welcome, which Korazim's mother remembers gratefully, consisted of "Jewish Agency people on the road throwing oranges into the truck."

Korazim was born that October, and against conventional wisdom of the time – which advocated that new immigrants become Israeli as quickly as possible – she was taught Hungarian so she could communicate with her grandmother.

Her language skills proved important in 1990 when the Jewish community in Budapest decided to establish a Jewish day school.

Korazim was sent to Hungary, and has returned regularly to help them. On her first visit, even the school principal didn't know what Korazim meant when she said, "Shabbat Shalom." She quickly taught them "Shabbat 101."

She has returned annually and reports that the school now has over 600 children, who have learned together with their teachers.

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Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto (C)	613 Clark Ave. (905) 886-3810	6:37 AM	8:45 AM	6:45 AM 7:45 AM 8:30 AM	6:30 AM 7:15 AM	6:45 PM
Beth Emeth (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	6:50 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 PM 8:15 AM	6:45 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave (416) 229-2600	6:40 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM-	7:00 AM	----------
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	6:45 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave (416) 789-3213	6:45 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 AM	6:35 PM

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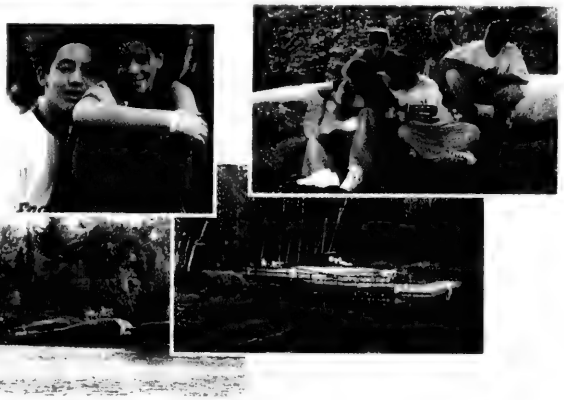

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Congregation Beth El	Shaarei Beth El Congregation	Temple Emanu-El Beth Shalom	Temple Sinai
Congregation Iyr Ha-Melech	Solel Congregation	Temple Har Zion	Temple Tikvah
Danforth Jewish Circle	Temple Beth Ora	Temple Israel	Victoria Reform Congregation
Har Tikvah Congregation	Temple Beth Tikvah	Temple Kol Ami	

Also contact: Kolel or Leo Baeck Day School

or call toll-free to: 1-800-560-UAHC (8242) or from Toronto and vicinity: 905-709-CCRJ (2275)

MKs slam Reform, Conservative movements

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two Israeli parliamentarians have accused the Reform and Conservative movements of blowing the divisive conversion issue out of all proportion.

Zvi (Henry) Weinberg of Yisrael Ba'aliyah and Rabbi Nissim Dahan of Shas levelled the charge at an informal meeting with Jewish students at the University of Toronto on the eve of Rosh Hashanah.

Weinberg, a former U of T French professor who made aliyah in 1992, said that Reform and Conservative Jews had erred by taking their case to Israel's Supreme Court.

By doing so, he noted, they have "thrown a bomb at Israeli society" and let "a very dangerous genie" out of the bottle.

His colleague, Rabbi Dahan, said that some Reform and Conservative Jews have a vested interest in magnifying the issue.

The Reform and Conservative movements oppose a pending conversion bill which received first reading in the Knesset last year. The legislation, if passed, would formally codify into law the Orthodox monopoly over conversions performed in Israel.

Orthodox parties in Israel have urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to push it through parliament.

Three months ago, he told his coalition partners that his government is committed to the legislation.

The parties in Netanyahu's coalition include Yisrael Ba'aliyah, a centrist party led by former Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky which largely represents new Russian immigrants, and Shas, an ultra-Orthodox party whose constituents are mainly Jews of Moroccan origin.

In an attempt to solve the problem, Netanyahu created a committee chaired by Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman. In January 1997, Ne'eman submitted a report in which he proposed a compromise solution.

The chief rabbinate rejected the centrepiece of the compromise, a joint institute sponsored by the Jewish Agency which would prepare potential converts for conversion.

Weinberg, an observant Jew and the second Canadian member of the Knesset after the late Dov Joseph, acknowledged that Reform and Conservative Jews have legitimate grievances.

But he pointed out that they can practice their faith freely in Israel, and claimed their case against the Orthodox rabbinate really rests on a handful of non-Jews who want to be converted to Judaism by Reform rabbis.

"The issue has been blown out of all proportion," he declared.

Weinberg said the Reform and Conservative movements have violated the religious status quo in Israel, since the chief rabbinate historically has been the only body authorized to perform conversions.

Lashing out at the Israeli political left, Weinberg said it has used the controversy over conversions "to knock the government for ruining relations with the Diaspora."

Calling the accusation untrue, he said Netanyahu was getting a "bum rap" from these critics. In a reference to Netanyahu's fractious coalition, Weinberg said that if the prime minister offends his ultra-Orthodox allies, the government could be toppled.

Describing all Jews as "brothers," regardless of their religious affiliations, Rabbi Dahan suggested that if sufficient numbers of Reform Jews immigrate to Israel, they can form a political party and lobby for their rights.

Turning to the Oslo peace process, Weinberg said he wishes Netanyahu could move "faster and more decisively" in reaching an agreement with the Palestinians over a 13 percent redeployment from the West Bank.

Netanyahu, however, is "personally committed to the process," he observed.

Weinberg disclosed that the government is approaching a final decision with respect to further withdrawals.

"We expect a decision, one way or another, by Oct. 19, when the Knesset reconvenes."

If the government does not make up its mind by then, he predicted, new elections will probably be called.

Commenting on Israel's current negotiations with the Palestinians, Rabbi Dahan said that territory won in war is not normally relinquished by the victor.

But Israel, he said, cannot withstand international pressure to give up land it acquired in the Six Day War.

And a substantial percentage of Israelis believe in the land-for-peace formula, he said.

Israel, though, has genuine security needs, and must convince the world of its views, Rabbi Dahan stated.

The event at U of T was sponsored by UJA Federation.

CJC seeks names of survivors in mental hospitals

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel should give the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) the names of Holocaust survivors in Israeli mental hospitals so that Congress can help relatives find loved ones, CJC president Moshe Ronen says.

Up to now, Israel has refused to release the survivors' names to individuals making inquiries, citing medical confidentiality.

"We're willing to hear the objections the Israelis have to making the names public, but if necessary, we'll receive the names in confidence so we can answer inquiries from relatives," said Ronen.

Gustava Weiner of Montreal, who brought the issue to the CJC's attention nearly three years ago, said Congress is a legitimate recipient of the names, and Ronen's offer is in line with a proposal she made to the CJC at that time.

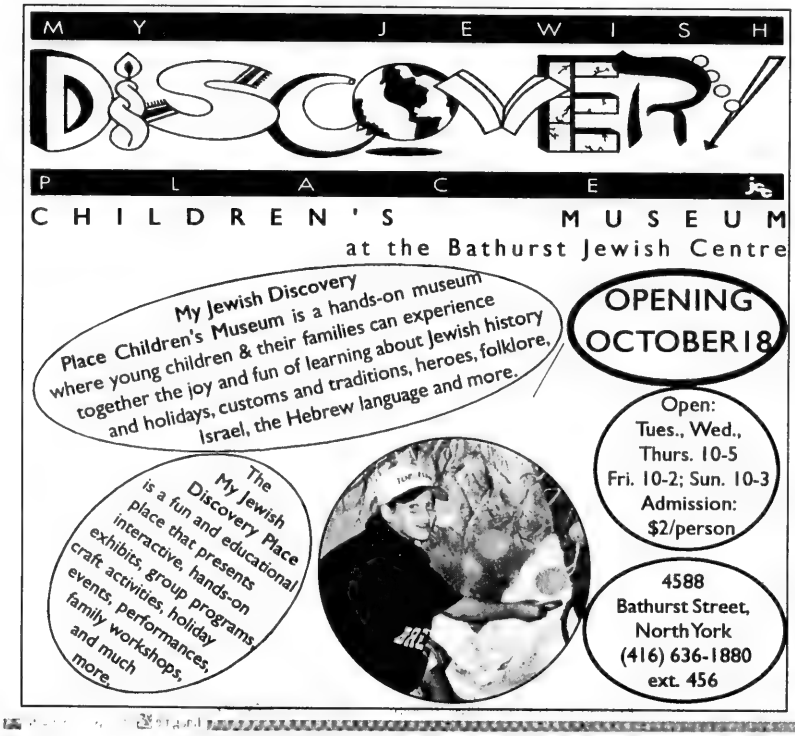
Her requests for names, made to the Israeli Ministry of Health over the past three years, were denied because of confidentiality.

In August, the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv* reported that 900 to 960 Holocaust survivors are still in mental hospitals. In 1952, Israel accepted 1,000 survivors classified as mentally ill from West Germany.

In response to the *Ma'ariv* story, Israel set up a special commission to investigate complaints that the patients are not being well cared for and have been denied restitution payments owed to them by Germany.

Ronen is to meet Israeli Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi in Toronto at the end of October regarding the survivors. CJC is seeking to make a formal submission to the investigating commission.

In preparation, Ronen said CJC officials want to question psychiatrists who have spoken out and also bureaucrats who administer the system.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Orthodox conversion only acceptable process: rabbi

By REVA KAISER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Conversion Authority, a division of Israel's Chief Rabbinate, was founded three years ago in order to deal with the overwhelming number of immigrants seeking an Orthodox conversion, says the division's director.

Speaking recently at a lecture sponsored by Beth Jacob V'Anshei Drildz Congregation, Rabbi Raphael Ostroff said that the Orthodox conversion is the only process accepted by all branches of Judaism – and the reason why many Russians are choosing it specifically.

Most immigrants who seek conversions are Russians, Rabbi Ostroff said, although the majority of Russians are not seeking conversion. Many were assimilated, but believe in their Jewish identity, even though they are not technically Jewish, he said.

To ensure that those who wish to convert are doing so sincerely, and to deal with their multiplying numbers, said Rabbi Ostroff, the rabbinate established the conversion sector. "If they are serious about Judaism," he said, "the system is user-friendly; it is possible to convert."

'The entire process is very educational and emotional'

There are two parts to the conversion process, Rabbi Ostroff explained. The first is the ulpan where students are taught the basics of Judaism, with an emphasis on Jewish history and law. Stressed throughout the course are the laws of kashrut, Shabbat and *taharat hamishpachah* (family purity). Men are also encouraged to pray at least twice a day.

Since the majority of students are female, one requirement of the ulpan is that Jewish husbands must attend as well. Many classes are taught in Russian, and the course lasts a full year.

After successfully completing the ulpan, the converts proceed to the second part of the conversion process, the beit din, the rabbinical court dealing exclusively with conversions. Once the beit din approves the convert, a bath in the mikvah is required, and males are circumcised. Converts receive two documents: an official conversion document from the Chief Rabbinate, and a document from the Religion Ministry authorizing the convert's identity card to be changed to "Jew."

"The entire process is very educational and emotional," Rabbi Ostroff said, "and the majority of those who finish the ulpan are successfully converted." There is, however, a 20 to 30 percent dropout rate from the ulpan.

There are no follow-up studies to see how many converts keep the laws they were taught during the ulpan. Once they are Jews, said Rabbi Ostroff, and have fully accepted the Jewish faith, it is all between them and God.

GOOD SERVANT MEDAL

John Kim Bell (centre), composer, conductor and founder and president of the Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, received this year's annual Good Servant Medal from the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. Flanking Bell at the council's recent annual meeting were Ned Goodman, council chair (left), and past president Jim Westcott.

Carrie and Adam's hope is alive and doing well for the Hospital for Sick Children.

Hilary (second from right) and Brenda (left) with friends, lending a helping hand at the Hospital for Sick Children.

When Hilary Prusznowski lost her child to cancer, and her friend Brenda lost her child to Riley-Day syndrome they wanted to keep their kids' hope alive – that other kids wouldn't have to go through such pain and suffering.

For the past two years, Hilary and Brenda have hosted an annual fund raising dinner and auction. The Carrie & Adam Dream Fund Dinner and Silent Auction has raised over $200,000 for two programs at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto: Paediatric Oncology (cancer) Research and the Therapeutic Clown Program. The latter, only the second of its kind in Canada, involves clowns and helps children deal with the loneliness and fear of staying in the hospital.

As one co-volunteer tells it, "Hilary is so passionate and dynamic in speaking about her vision, it's hard not to get involved."

Hilary works for Royal Bank in Metro Toronto. She's just one of many Royal Bank staff across Canada who take time out to help in their communities. And we'd just like to take this opportunity to thank them for doing what they do.

To help The Carrie & Adam Dream Fund, call (416) 636-0067.

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Imagine A New Spirit of Community

Community Matters

Women's Campaign Steps Up Support

UJA Federation's Women's Campaign contributions are up considerably this year - mirroring strong overall campaign gift increases. A majority of leading women donors who have already made their Campaign for Fifty gifts are averaging pledges that are 25% higher than last year.

Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel thanked participants at the Lion of Judah Luncheon, honouring donors contributing a minimum of $5,000 and up, for their leadership in working toward the Campaign for Fifty goal of $50 million by 2001.

"I feel that all of us share this sense of collective responsibility in helping our community take this important leap forward," said Engel. Last year 250 Lion of Judah contributors raised $2.2 million bringing the annual Women's Campaign total to $4 million.

"Thank you for understanding the urgency driving the Campaign for Fifty and for responding with immediacy to calls for increased support," added Engel. The Lion of Judah, according to Engel, has long symbolized courage, strength and commitment to our Jewish community, and is recognized worldwide.

Honey Sherman, Chair of the Lion of Judah Endowment program part of UJA Federation's Legacy Campaign, urged participants to join nearly 1,000 other North American women who have made Lion of Judah Endowments. An Endowment gift of $100,000 that would generate $5,000 annually, allows women to endow their annual campaign contribution so that it will continue in perpetuity, helping Jews in need for years to come.

(l-r) Rachel Korazim, Genia Gitkis.

Photos: Stephen Epstein

(l-r) Karen Feldman-Haber and Judy Tanenbaum.

Rachel Korazim, a senior professional with the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency and Genia Gitkis, formerly an assimilated Ukrainian girl, who now lives in Israel, told participants inspirational stories of how their lives were changed by UJA Federation and praised event participants for looking beyond their own community.

(l-r) Carole Sterling, Liz Wolfe, Debbi Stern.

This year's Atarah Division is chaired by Judy Bronfman, Judy Tanenbaum,and Maryka Weisz. The Lion of Judah Division is chaired by Lynn Belzberg, Hinda Silber and Fran Sonshine.

The Lion of Judah luncheon was held at the home of Larry and Judy Tanenbaum.

(l-r) Maxine Granovsky-Gluskin and Marsha Bronfman.

Voices From the Heart

Tuxedos in the Ma'abara!

The following is an edited excerpt, the third in a series, from Voices from the Heart: A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel, *edited by Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, published by McClelland & Stewart Inc. The book, a collection of personal reflections by Canadians about their experiences in Israel, was produced as part of Toronto's Israel at 50 celebrations. This unique 395-page volume is available by calling UJA Federation at (416) 631-5685.*

By Kurt E. Weinberg

It was September 1952 and Israel was just over four years old. From everywhere, and especially from the liberated camps of Europe, hundreds of thousands of homeless refugees streamed to the new nation. Almost all of them came with only the clothes on their backs, depending on others for housing, food and dress. Toronto industrialist and ardent Zionist Louis L. Lockshin conducted a city-wide campaign for used clothes, known as "Materials for Israel," over a six-month period. I was engaged by the Zionist Organization of Canada to help the drive reach success.

Our headquarters was the Toronto Zionist Centre at 651 Spadina Avenue, now demolished. We launched a massive advertising blitz in the newspapers and on the radio, calling on the community to open their wardrobes and empty them of everything that could be spared. Soon the phones were ringing off the hook with offers of all kinds of wear, from furs to jeans. Nothing was refused.

Clothing tumbled in by the ton and was stacked from the floor to the ceiling. After a couple of months, we were close to exhaustion from the effort, but we formed many close friendships in the excitement of the moment.

Messages soon arrived from Jerusalem, gratefully acknowledging receipt of the shipments and urging us to do even more, since there were still thousands of olim (immigrants) waiting for a suit, jacket or dress. We approached local manufacturers for their current stock and discontinued lines from previous seasons. Those who had nothing to contribute were enrolled as route drivers. And so it went on, for six glorious months, until finally word came that we had sent enough and could end the campaign. Toronto had clothed a large part of Israel's new population.

The quality of the goods we received was good, and most of the clothing contributed was clean and appropriate. But once in a while, from the more affluent sections of the community, we received tuxedos, frock coats, and evening gowns! We shipped these anyway, with a whimsical smile, imagining how they would look on an immigrant in a government-established *ma'abara* (temporary camp for new immigrants) in the middle of nowhere.

Team consultation at the "Materials for Israel" campaign, Zionist Organization of Canada headquarters, September 1952. (l-r) Kurt Weinberg, Aaron Sokolsky, Louis Lockshin, Mr. Weinreb, Sonee Cohen.

Community Matters

Facing Squalor in Moscow

By Howard Lichtman

Recently, Howard Lichtman, the Chair of UJA Federation's Marketing Advisory Committee, visited Russia on a UJA Federation Mission to see some of the urgent needs for which contributions to the current Campaign for Fifty will be allocated. This is the last part of his series.

Throughout the former Soviet Union, the Joint Distribution Committee, supported, in part, by UJA Federation donations, operates 63 *chesed* centres, helping 120,000 Jewish elderly in 651 cities and towns. The recipients of this life-saving assistance receive more than 884,000 meals in 162 communal dining rooms. The Joint also delivers over 600,000 meals on wheels and makes more than 900,000 home care visits.

All of these are overwhelming statistics but nothing is as powerful as putting a face to the numbers.

The Moscow woman we visited was 92 years old, with a monthly pension of $25 (U.S.) and rent of $30. She shares an apartment with a non-Jewish police officer, his wife and daughter. The woman told us, through a translator, that the officer wasn't all that bad, but that neither the wife nor the daughter would pick her up off the floor if she fell.

It is impossible to articulate the squalor in which she was living. She is not strong enough to leave the house. She has no other family and once a week, we deliver food to her, which will last for only 7 days. She cried in appreciation of the food and begged for medical aid. Unlike Canada, there is no free access to drugs for her pain.

Through the JDC, we also distributed more than 12,000 pieces of medical equipment last year, which barely meet existing needs. Imagine if you fell and needed a walker, a cane or a wheelchair and nothing was available.

We left Russia with both a shared sense of despair and a shared sense of pride for the work we are doing, knowing that it is our obligation to help Jews in need wherever in the world they are located.

Amazing Numbers

Community Campaign for Fifty

Contributions to date:
$20.5 Million

Last year at this time:
$16.8 Million

Increase:
22%

See next weeks **Community Matters** for the full story on what could be a record campaign.

UJA Federation

No one gift changes more lives.

Web Sites Wanted

Hundreds of Jewish organizations in Toronto will soon be connected through cyberspace thanks to UJA Federation's *Jewish Toronto* web site.

For nearly two years, Jewish Toronto **(www.feduja.org)** has been serving as a central resource for Toronto's diverse Jewish community, providing information about community services and agencies. Now a new pilot project is taking *Jewish Toronto* to the next phase by making it easier for qualifying community groups to build and link their own sub sites hosted by *Jewish Toronto*.

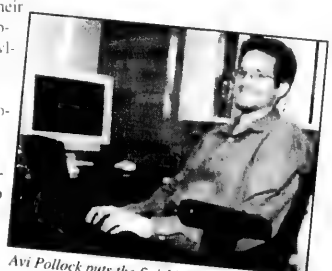
Software called Site Manager, created by North American Media Engines for *Jewish Toronto* offers a user-friendly way for participating organizations to design and manage their own sub-sites.

"We're providing the tools to allow people to create their own *Jewish Toronto* sub-sites with minimal knowledge," explains project manager Avi Pollock. "Now, with this new program, when someone is uploading their site information, it automatically gets formatted into a Jewish Toronto template."

Ten organizations, including the Bathurst Jewish Centre and UJA Federation's Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre are already participating in the pilot project. Art Benjamin, Chair of the *Jewish Toronto* Steering Committee, says the Site Manager will give organizations the ability to reach thousands of visitors. "The goal is to help every Jewish individual, group and organization in Toronto take part in our wired community," says Benjamin.

According to Benjamin, schools, synagogues and organizations joining the *Jewish Toronto* project can both enhance their profile and use the Internet as a vehicle for communication with students, parents and members.

If you would like to find out more about the Jewish Toronto Site Manager Project call Joel Verbin at (416) 635-5600.



Avi Pollock puts the finishing touches on the Site Manager Software at his North American Media Engines Office.

A Capital Tour

If you're looking for the inside track on current Canadian issues, then you'll want to grab a seat on UJA Federation's 1999 Ottawa Fly-In departing next month.

The agenda-for the one day whirlwind visit to the nation's capital, Thursday, October 29, is packed with top level briefings by national leaders and dignitaries such as NDP leader Alexa McDonough, Bloc Qebecois leader Gilles Duceppe and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs Stephane Dion. Former Liberal MP Barry Campbell will escort participants throughout the day, which will include lunch with Toronto area members of the Liberal caucus.

The mission, which costs $450 per person, will also

bring participants face-to-face with Liberal MPs in the House of Commons during the afternoon Question Period and a private reception with Secretary of State Jim Peterson. Other highlights include briefing on the Israeli-Arab peace process.

"This is a great way to gain an understanding of the impact of national policies on our Jewish community and our beneficiary agencies," notes Rick Orzy, who is co-chairing this year's Ottawa Fly-In with Jill Reitman.

To reserve a seat or for more information, call Cindy at (416) 635-2883 ext. 190.

CJC blasts Amnesty Int'l report

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has fought back against a report by Amnesty International (AI) that blasts Israel for its alleged human rights abuses.

It's the first time in memory that Congress has responded to a report from AI, which issues routine denunciations of human rights conditions in Israel and Palestinian-controlled areas.

CJC pulls no punches, saying the AI report makes "blatant omissions" and calling it "convoluted," and "skewed."

AI's 40-page report alleges that more than 10,000 Palestinians have been arrested by Israeli security forces and are "routinely" tortured under interrogation.

Among its other claims are that:
• Human rights have been "consistently" sacrificed by Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) in the name of "security";
• Israel's supreme court "accepted and legitimized" the use of torture and administrative detention without trial;
• Allowing Israeli security to kill suspected terrorists anywhere in the world has been endorsed by a commission of inquiry;
• Suicide bombings, which have caused the deaths of over 100 Israeli civilians "have provided the pretext for many" of Israel's human rights violations.

The report is also critical of the PA, saying that the Palestinian judiciary has become "marginalized," and hundreds of Palestinians have been subjected to unfair trials and torture, including 200 who remain detained without charge or trial.

In a letter to AI secretary general Roger Clark, CJC Israel affairs chair Harold Brief and co-chair Simon Rosenblum say Amnesty's report disproportionately focuses on Israel.

CJC blasts AI's use of quotation marks around words like security and terror, saying both are real concerns to Israelis.

Congress adds it is "shocked and dismayed" that the report makes the "convoluted" assertion that killings of Palestinians by Israelis have led to suicide bombings in Israel.

CJC finds it "objectionable" that AI doesn't condemn the PA's sanctioning of an atmosphere of terror for Israelis, and adds that it's "a twist of the truth" to suggest that Israel's supreme court has legitimized torture.

Brief told *The CJN* that from now on, Congress will "take a much more aggressive approach" to AI.

Oslo marked by success, failure says Peace Now

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The five-year-old Oslo accords are a mixed bag of accomplishments and failures, says the political director of Americans for Peace Now, Mark Rosenblum.

On the positive side, Oslo enabled Israel to receive $10 billion in loan guarantees from the United States to prepare itself for the absorption of hundreds of thousands of Soviet immigrants, Rosenblum said in a recent speech to Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

And thanks to Oslo, Jordan signed a peace treaty with Israel, Syria let Jews emigrate en masse, foreign investors poured unprecedented sums of capital into Israel, and Israel normalized relations with several Arab countries in North Africa, he said.

At the same time, Rosenblum added, Israel has been hit by a wave of Palestinian terrorism, Hamas and Islamic Jihad have grown stronger, Palestine Authority President Yasser Arafat has become correspondingly weaker, and economic conditions in the Gaza Strip, a breeding ground of Islamic fundamentalism, have deteriorated.

Oslo's achievements, he declared, are threatened by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hard-line policies and delays in implementing a redeployment in the West Bank.

Netanyahu has made an art form out of stalling, Rosenblum said, but he is a tactically brilliant politician. "To underestimate him is to make a terrible mistake."

Yet Arafat has not been a completely reliable partner in peace, especially when it comes to dealing with terrorism, Rosenblum said.

"Arafat's hands are not clean," he said, claiming Arafat turned a blind eye to at least one Hamas suicide bombing during a wave of terrorism in Israel in the winter of 1996.

Oslo has one great structural flaw, according to Rosenblum: It does not provide for third party adjudication in disputes between Israel and the Palestinians. But of late, he noted, the United States has attempted to play that role.

Rosenblum predicted that if Netanyahu carries out American bridging proposals for a 13 percent Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, the prime minister will try to mollify the far right either by completing the Har Homa housing project or by building in Ras al-Amud, which are both in eastern Jerusalem.

Rosenblum speculated that Arafat may hold up an agreement so as to deprive Netanyahu of both a diplomatic victory and the possibility of defeating Labor party leader Ehud Barak in the next general election.

Barak, Rosenblum said, has proved to be anything but a dramatic and dynamic politician.

Arafat's threat to unilaterally declare a Palestinian state next year may be to Netanyahu's advantage, he said.

Once the Palestinians declare statehood, Rosenblum noted, Netanyahu could annex Area C, which comprises 73 percent of the West Bank. Area C is currently under full Israeli control and contains very few Palestinians.

With an annexation, Netanyahu could claim he had achieved maximum separation from the Palestinians with minimum territorial concessions, Rosenblum said.

Rosenblum took issue with the Israeli government's contention that its policy of expanding settlements beyond the Green Line is dictated by the natural growth of the Jewish population.

Citing a figure from Settlement Watch, a Peace Now agency, he disclosed that the vacancy rate in settlements in the territories now stands at 12 percent. He described the settlements as "ticking time-bombs."

Peace Now in Israel is working hard to expand membership by reaching out to Russian and Sephardi Jews, Rosenblum disclosed.

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On Campus

Jewish student leaders attend first COSL

By ELISE LEVINOFF
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Forty Jewish student leaders attended the first ever Conference of Ontario Student Leaders (COSL), which recently took place at the Wildfire Outdoor Education Centre near Barrie, Ontario.

COSL, organized by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS) in partnership with Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC), provided student leaders with an opportunity to meet and share ideas for the 1998-99 academic year and to discuss campus programming with their peers and with field workers from CJC and Jewish Campus Services.

In a session entitled Israel is 50, Learn the History, Michael Soberman, CJC's director of community services and youth activities, spoke about current challenges and conflicts in Israel. He said he feels it is important for students who have been to Israel to speak about their experiences there.

Soberman also led a session on stereotypes and stigmas often attached to Jewish student groups on campus. He challenged the students to promote their respective organizations in a positive way, and to reach out to uninvolved students.

"COSL stirred up enthusiasm among the students," said Jeremy Lichtman, a York University student. "Hopefully it will result in good programming on campuses."

Participants brainstorm at the recent Conference of Ontario Student Leaders. Clockwise, from bottom left, are Zahava Rosenberg, U of T; Tali Sadeh, McMaster; Orrin Wolpert, Queen's; Tally Wolf, York; Monika Roseman, McMaster; and Hindy Wasserman, McMaster.

Jordie Caplan, the Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow at York University, felt that COSL "opened me up to new ideas in Jewish programming on campus."

McMaster student Hindy Wasserman said the conference helped her realize that "most Jewish student organizations are really the same and have much the same problems, and we could benefit by discussing our progress with each other."

"A conference such as this is ideal for the small campuses," said Monika Roseman, co-president of the McMaster Jewish Students Association. "It gives us an idea of what is going on in the rest of the province [and provides] programming ideas and solutions to problems already dealt with by other schools. In a small community, you tend to feel somewhat detached from the rest of the Jewish community. Conferences such as this make you realize that you are still one of the family."

At a session with Michael Sobol, national co-chair of CJC's small communities committee and a professor at the University of Guelph, students addressed the issue of small Jewish student populations on campuses outside of Toronto. Students voiced their opinions about the challenges of living in small Jewish communities and said they need support from the larger ones.

COSL was an opening meeting for most campuses, and a great way to re-orient students and get them thinking about the upcoming year.

Delegates represented York University, the University of Toronto, Ryerson Polytechnic University, McMaster University, the University of Western Ontario, Queen's University, the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University (which have a combined Jewish Students' Association), Carleton University and the University of Windsor. Also in attendance was Kol Hastudentim, an organization of Jewish student leaders from campuses across Ontario.

Jewish Campus Services is an organization committed to fostering Jewish life on Toronto university and college campuses. It is now in its fourth year of operation, with Hillel offices at York, Ryerson, U of T and Seneca College.

Canadian Jewish Congress provides similar services to campuses outside of the Greater Toronto Area through its Community Services and Youth Activities department. The services include Jewish programming, community relations and resource materials.

Elise Levinoff is a student at York University.

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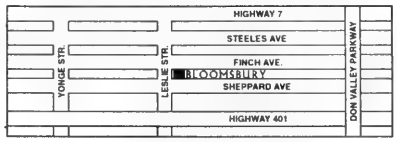

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People deadlines: Wednesday, Oct. 7, is deadline for Oct. 15 issue; Wednesday, Oct. 14, is deadline for Oct. 22 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Oct. 1

ICRF GENERAL MEETING

At the Israel Cancer Research Fund general meeting, **Dr. David Malkin**, pediatric cancer specialist, Hospital for Sick Children, speaks on Childhood Cancer – More Optimism Than Ever Before. 7:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, Room B.

Saturday, Oct. 3

THEATRE AND SONG

Opera singers **Gwenlynn Little** and **Emile Belcourt** launch the second season of Opera York with a concert of operatic and theatre favorites, From Georg to George, accompanied by artistic director **William Shookhoff**, 8 p.m, Leah Posluns Theatre. $25, seniors and students $20. 469-0086.

Sunday, Oct. 4

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Congregation Habonim invites you to hear **Max Goody** talk about Does Intermarriage Work?, 10 a.m. at Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. (Bathurst and Glencairn). Breakfast and lecture $6.

BETH TIKVAH SINGLES

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles (35-55) is joining the Body N' Soul Run/Walk for gastro-intestinal cancer research at Mount Sinai Hospital. 9:30 a.m. East Donland, Leslie, south of Steeles. Meet at registration table. $25 at race, $20 pre-registration. **Bunnie** 905-731-7545.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling, Congregation Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome, to listen or tell; $4 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

SINGLES DISCUSSION

Travel the World in Luxury (but don't pay the price!), discussion group for Jewish singles (40s to 60s) with **Dr. Theo Brant-Sarif** of California, 8 p.m. Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. $8. 446-7838.

Wednesday, Oct. 7

OUT FOR LOVE

Out for Love... Be Back Shortly **Dan Katzir's** directorial debut, is a powerful autobiographical film about a young Israeli struggling to find love and meaning in his life amid the daily reality of terror and hate. It airs on TVO *On Human Edge* at 10 p.m.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Toronto chapter, Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, board meeting, 7 p.m. 788 Marlee Ave., Haifa Room, 3rd floor. Visitors and prospective volunteers welcome. **Cheryl** 780-0034.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement a talk on Chinese and Other Alternative Medicine with **Dr. Fred Hui**, at noon. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served. $1.

Thursday, Oct. 8

ABOUT COLON CANCER

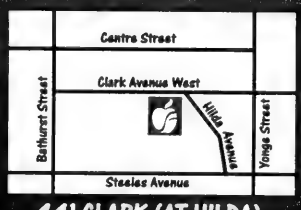
Living with Colon Cancer, a free public lecture held by Mount Sinai Hospital in partnership with Princess Margaret Hospital and Cancer Care Ontario, 7-9 p.m. at Mount Sinai, Ben Sadowski Auditorium, 18th floor. Speakers include **Dr. Steven Gallinger, Dr. Malcolm Moore, Dr. Margaret Fitch**. Moderator is CTV News health reporter **Avis Favro.** Reserve, 586-8338.

SUKKAH PARTY FOR KIDS

Pizza and flag making for the Jewish Harvest Holiday while adults can choose to listen to Gimme Shelter: The Meaning of Sukkot, 5-6 p.m., Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. $5 per child, lecture free. 905-886-5730.

[Cont'd. on page 25]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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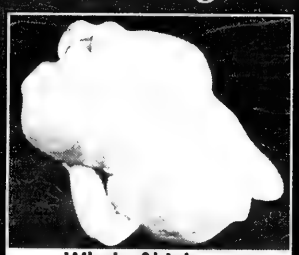

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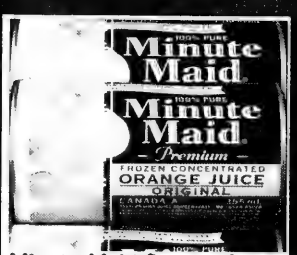

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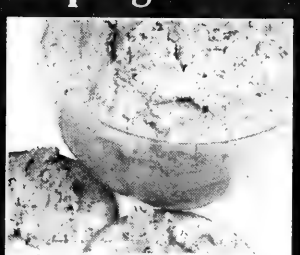

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

And What Else Is New

USY REUNION

Calling all former USYers! Come celebrate 40 years of Eastern Canadian region of United Synagogue Youth (ECRUSY) at the best-ever USY Reunion, Saturday, Oct. 10, 8:30 p.m., at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Special guest is comedian and ECRUSY alumnus **Howard Busgang**. $10. Reserve. 905-738-1717.

ISRAEL SERIES

Israel and the Conflict of Nations, the Itta and Eliezer Zeisler Memorial Lectures at Beth Tzedec Synagogue with **Prof. Aurel Braun**, University of Toronto, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., begin Oct. 8 with The Collapse of the Soviet Union and follow Oct. 15 (Israel and the Middle East); Oct. 22 (The Nuclear Threat) and Oct. 29 (The United States and Israel).

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT

Toronto Jewish Healing Project for people who are physically ill and interested in learning how to cope by finding spiritual resources for help and comfort within the Jewish tradition. An eight-week session runs Oct. 26-Dec. 14, 12:30-2 p.m. at Temple Sinai. Leaders **Rabbi Daveen Litwin** and teacher **Michelle Katz.** Information/registration, **Etta Ginsberg-McEwan**, coordinator, 944-3359.

BIBLICAL CONUNDRUMS

Biblical Conundrums: Unravelling the Mysteries of the Torah, with **Carl Ehrlich**, assistant professor of Hebrew Bible, York University, Mondays, 8 p.m. at Adath Israel Synagogue. Oct. 19 (Who Created the World?); Oct. 26 (Abraham: A Legend In His Time?); Nov. 2 (Survival of the Fittest: How Many Jews Left Egypt?); Nov. 9 (Dancing Around the Golden Calf: The Politics of "Sin"); Nov. 16 (The Concubine and the Crown); Nov. 23 (Eating Latkes in the Lion's Den: Daniel and the Maccabees).

HEBREW ULPAN

Hebrew Ulpan for beginners at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Part 1, Mondays 7-8:30 p.m., Oct. 19-Nov. 30. Part 2 commences Jan. 4 for seven weeks. Beth Tzedec members $50, non-members $95 each part. Small charge for texts. Presented in conjunction with Keren Hatarbut Institute and taught by **Joseph Klinger.**

COPING WITH DEMENTIA

Baycrest Centre offers a series of information sessions to help family caregivers understand and cope with difficult behaviors associated with Alzheimer Disease and other related dementias, 7-9 p.m., Oct. 8, 15, 22 and 29. Register. 785-2500, ext. 2308.

AISH HATORAH EVENTS

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 764-1818.

University students and young professionals (ages 19-29) Jazz Under the Stars Sukkah Party featuring Russ Myers Trio, Thursday, Oct. 8, 8 p.m. RSVP ext. 225.

Professionals (ages 30-45) Sukkah Party Wednesday, Oct. 7, 8 p.m. Italian dinner and live entertainment. RSVP.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation,Mississauga: Brotherhood hosts erev Sukkot service, Sunday, Oct. 4, crafts and decorating of sukkah 4:30 p.m. followed by family services and dinner; regular Sukkot service Monday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m.; family Simchat Torah service Sunday, Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m.; regular Simchat Torah service with Yizkor Monday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m.; Annual Solel/ Foodpath auction Saturday, Oct. 17 at Delta Meadowvale Resort, $75 including dinner, dancing, auction. Further October events will appear in next column. 905-820-5915.

FUN AND EASY HEBREW

Conversational Hebrew made fun and easy with **Yael Lev** (Ulpan method), daytime and evenings, four levels. Special classes for parents with children in Hebrew schools. Lessons start the week of Oct. 12 at Kehillat Shaarei Torah (on Bayview). Register with Yael 225-6151.

ARTISTS, ARTISANS

Artists and artisans wanted for the Bloor Jewish Community Centre Bi-zarre Autumn Affair Arts and Crafts Show to be held Sunday, Oct. 11. Tables still available for interested vendors. **Alison** 924-6211.

FOR SENIORS

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami Trip 1999 for four, six and eight weeks. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Simchat Torah dance Oct. 10. For reservations **Malka Colla** 630-5771. For general information **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip Nov. 22-Dec. 9, with nine full days touring including entertainment. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Oct. 15 and 28; Shaw Festival Oct. 22 (*You Can't Take It With You*) and Oct. 29 (*Lady Windermere's Fan*); Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel Nov. 22-25. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Courses, 10 weeks each, in partnership with Toronto Board of Education. Register at first class: Pottery, **Linda Rosen,** begins Oct. 7; Jewish Literature and Film, **Michael Laitman**, begins Oct. 7; Creative Choir, **Eleanor Rice**, begins Oct. 9; Creative Writing, **Sylvia Warsh** begins Oct. 9.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, dances. Closed Oct. 6 for Sukkot and Oct. 13 for Simchat Torah. **Anna**.

Movie,*Casablanca* on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social Oct. 7 features the Bernard Betel Creative Choir, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Wednesday Wellness Night talks by health professionals 7 p.m. every Wednesday. Women's Month is the topic for October beginning Oct. 7 with Menopause. **Alison**

Bloor JCC Seniors' Club: Thursday, Oct. 1, 2 p.m., Is Honesty the Best Policy?, film on the topic and discussion moderated by Seniors' coordinator **Judy Weinryb**. Thursday, Oct. 8, excursion in honor of Sukkot, tour of Anshe Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrews St. in Kensington Market and talk on its history by **Michael Paoli**. Travel by TTC. Meet at Bloor JCC at 2 p.m. or at synagogue 2:30 p.m. Register at reception desk.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 28

NCJW TEA AND FASHION SHOW

Pictured at a tea and fashion show held recently at the home of Jill and Joel Reitman are, from left, Lorraine Himelfarb, tea coordinator; Domenic Serio, couturier; Jill Reitman, hostess; Dorothy Reitman, honorary chair; Roz Fine, president, National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section. Proceeds go to Council's Israel Family Counselling Association in Tel Aviv and the Services and Projects of Toronto Section.

MEZUZAH FOR NEW OFFICE

Cantor Louis Danto (right) helps David Smuschkowitz, founding chair (1986) of Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, hang a mezuzah at the new office and education centre at 970 Lawrence Ave. W., Suite 211.

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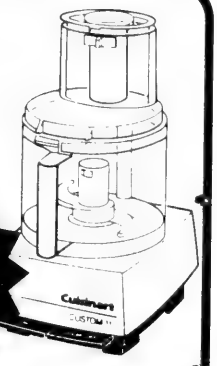

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From coast to coast

Super Sunday pledges up

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — More people than ever volunteered on this year's Super Sunday, and pledges were up 16 percent, says the executive director of Winnipeg's Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA).

"Super Sunday was really super," says Gerry Koffman.

Of particular significance this year, says Koffman, is that the United Israel Appeal (UIA) message seems to be getting through.

Winnipeg has a two-line card, he says, that allows donors to choose how much money they want to donate towards local needs and how much for overseas projects.

Last year, a much higher percentage of donations were designated for the local community. This year, however, donors designated more money for Israel and overseas concerns.

"We have been able to make people aware that 65 percent of UIA money goes toward the rescue and resettlement of Jews from the former Soviet Union," Koffman says. "As well, 150,000 poor and elderly Jews still in the former Soviet Union are dependent on UJA/UIA dollars."

Last year, the CJA campaign in Winnipeg raised just over $3 million. Koffman would like to see a 10 percent increase for this year.

Super Sunday concluded with a performance by Yoval, an Israeli touring group.

Folk ensemble gets $50,000 grant

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Sarah Sommer Chai Folk Ensemble has received a $50,000 grant which will go towards paying the cost of the group's first tour of Israel Nov. 9 to 18.

The grant was given by the International Cultural Relations program which promotes Canadian values and interests abroad by showcasing Canadian culture.

The 35-year-old group, named for its late founder Sarah Sommer, is well known in Winnipeg's Jewish community, and has performed throughout North America.

"We are real excited about our trip to Israel," says Lorne Weiss, president of Chai's board of directors. "We have always dreamed about performing our songs and dances in Israel. Some of our performers have taken a year off school to be able to participate. In some cases, there will parents and grand- parents going as well."

The cost of the trip, including airfare and ground costs,will be about $125,000, Weiss says.

The troupe has three shows scheduled: one in Gan Yavne, the Winnipeg Jewish community's twin city in Israel; a second at Kiryat Shemona; and one at the General Assembly of North American Jewish Federations, which is meeting in Jerusalem as part of Mission to Mishpocha.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Happy birthday Amanda Belzowski, daughter of Lisa & Daniel. Love Bubbie, Zayde, Aunty Marla Fruitman, Grandma & Grandpa Belzowski, Nanny, Poppy Dale, the Goulds.

Happy birthday to Alyssa Nicole Offenheim, grandaughter of Art & Carole, who is 1 year old.

Mazel tov to our dear Avraham Levy Lauterpacht who celebrated his bar mitzvah in May. Love, Bubbie & Zayde Zoltak, Bubbie Lauterpacht and families.

Jesse Matthew, son of Debby & Darren Lastofsky of Boca Raton, was born June 2. Grandparents are Barry & Lenny Acker and Evelyn & Max Lastofsky.

Mazel tov to Jody & Marshall Spegel on your 20th anniversary, from your children, Ashley & Brandon, and your mothers, Ann Spegel and Sookie Wiseman.

Mazel tov Cheryl & Stephen on their engagement. Parents and grandparents, Paulette & Amnon Kestelman, Sandy & Lenny Wise, Fanny Berholtz, Sala Ickowicz, Chaim Kestelman.

Louise & Bernard Rottman announce the marriage of their son James to Allison, daughter of Barbara & Dr. Marvin Meistrick. Grandparents are Janet & Rubin Cheskes.

Mazel tov to Marie & Marcus Gold on their 65th wedding anniversary, Aug. 13. Love from their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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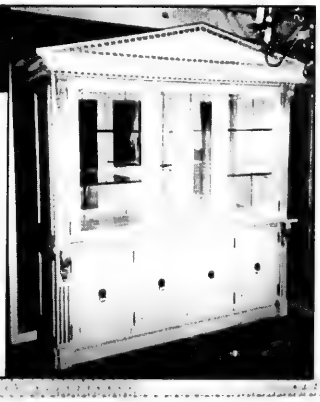

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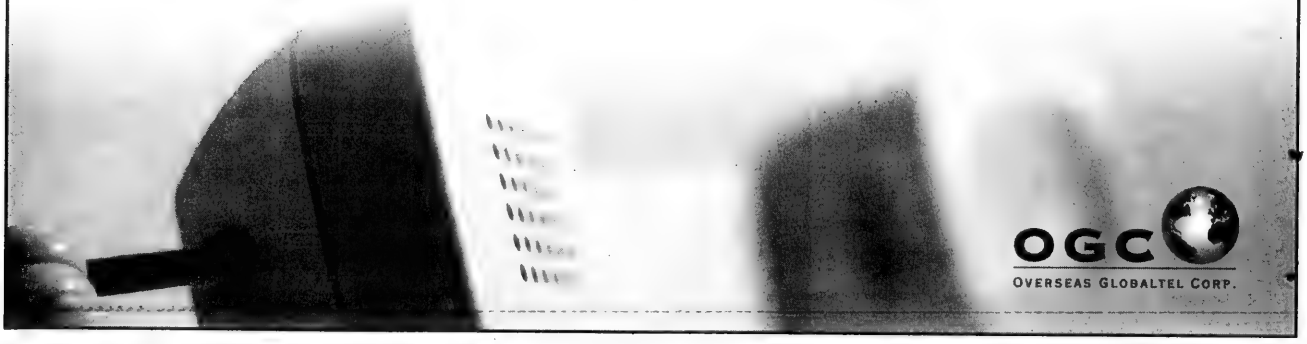

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אלה הם ההרהורים שעולים במוחי כשאני עומד בתור לקופאי בקפיטריה של בית החולים לילדים, ולפני שני אנשים קונים מים בבקבוקים. ושלא תטעו - מעבר לקופה עומד מכשיר של מים נהדרים שאפשר להוסיף להם אפילו קוביות קרח. המים בבקבוקים אמורים להיות " נקיים" יותר. איזה בובע מיסס ! במעיים של כל אחד מאיתנו יש יותר חיידקים מאשר כל אנשי העולם. אך במי השתיה של קנדה אין חיידקים שמזיקים לבריאות. תחשבו על זה בפעם הבאה לפני שאתם קונים מים. זה אמנם נורא IN , אבל מה - פסיכי לחלוטין.

קנדה במיטבה:
ישראלי בקנדה, כמו כנראה גם פורטוגזי ואנגלי וארגנטינאי - עוסק כל הזמן בהשוואות, איך זה פה ואיך זה שם. אין פה סמרטוטי ריצפה כמו שם, ולפירות אין טעם, והעגבניות בטעם של עץ, ופה בכיתה וו לומדים מתימטיקה של כיתה גימל. כאלה השוואות. אבל אחר זמן מתחילים גם להכיר קצת יותר לעומק, איש איש על פי טעמו ואישה על פי טעמה. לפני מספר שנים נפלתי בשבייה של זמרת שחיה בסטטראטפורד אונטריו, אחרי שגדלה בויניפג . שמה לורינה מקינט והיא שרה במקורה שירים קלטיים (סקוטיים ואיריים), מה שמתאים למוצא המשפחה שלה. אבל מה - עם הזמן התרחב הסגנון שלה, והיא משתפת כלים מזרחיים, ערביים והודיים , ולפעמים היא נשמעת כאילו שרה באידיש. תקליטה החדש ("ספר הסודות") הוא מתנה נפלאה לעצמכם לראש השנה. הוא מבטא רעיונות מוסיקאליים שהבשילו דרך טיולים באירלנד, רוסיה, טורקיה ומרוקו. מקינט זוכה כיום לתהילה בינלאומית, כי מי שמתחיל לשמוע אותה מחפש את תקליטיה הקודמים. בפתח התקליט מצטטת מקינט פתגם סיני עתיק: " מטייל טוב - אין לו תכניות קבועות וגם לא כוונות להגיע". רוצה לאמר תיהנה מן התהליך , מן הדרך, תלמד ממה שאתה חווה, ואל תהיה כל הזמן goal-oriented (כמו שכמעט כולנו בעולם המהיר הזה). לדברי לורינה, בכל טיוליה היא מצאה שלאנשים יש צורך עמוק למצוא פיתרון לצרכים הספיריטואליים שלהם. מלבד כתיבה ושירה, לורינה גם מנגנת בפסנתר קלידים, נבל, ואקורדיון. היא גם האמרגנית של עצמה ומפיקת תקליטים. אל תחמיצו! מגיע לכם להינות מקנדה האמיתית . בחנויות אולי לא יספיק השם שלה בעברית, אז הינה Lorena McKennitt

דו שיח עם סנאי
אני יושב מול החלון ומביט בהשתאות בעץ האגסים מלא הפרי. על העץ חוגג סנאי בודד שעובר מאגס לאגס ונותן לו ביס לבדוק את הטעם. "אל תהיה כזה תשאיר קצת" אני אומר לו. הוא מסתכל עלי בבוז איש שמן ומקריח שכמוך, אתה תעדיף לקנות בסופר אגסים ולא לעלות על סולם. אני מכיר אותך, אני הייתי פה עוד לפני שהגעת. לך דבר עם סנאים, בעיקר שהוא גם צודק

וונוס מאילת:
לפני קצת יותר משנה נולד באוקינוס השקט מול חופי אקוודור תינוק בשם אל נינו הרך הנולד גדל והפך לגל חום שחלף מעל לאמריקות והוריד על שני חלקי היבשת גשמי זעף, הוריקנים וטמפרטורות גבהות שהשאירו הרבה חברות ביטוח במאזן שלילי. וזה נדירי אפילו החורף הקנדי ספג מהלומה כאשר הטמפרטורות בקושי הגיעו לאפס ושכבת הקרח באגמים היתה דקה מהרגיל מה שהפך הרבה סנו מובילים לצוללות מאחר ואל ניניו לא הסתפק באמריקות, חלף גל החום מעל אירופה ונחת בישראל ויחד אם הניניו הגעתי גם אנוכי לתל אביב. מכיוון שצירוף של חום ולחות לא נמצא ברשימת תחביבי נמלטתי לאילת לגלות שלמרות היובש ארבעים צלסיוס בצל נחשב ליום סגריר על גדות הים האדום. למזלי ישראל נמצאת בעיצומו של משבר חמור בתיירות מה שעזר למארחי הישראלים לשכור במחיר גניבה שרותיה של יפיפיה אילתית בעלת גזרה מפוארת בשם וונוס כדי להימלט מגל החום. ולאלו שמרימים גבה, הכוונה ליאכטה בגודל בינוני בעלת שני תרנים ומנוע דיזל שעל סיפונה המוצל החלקנו במימי המפרץ הקרירים הרוח הקרירה הפכה את שהותנו בכיבשן הדרומי לחוויה עליה אני ממליץ לאוהבי החיים הטובים

יהורם פירוצקי

New JCC opens in Ottawa

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — A chain of 80 people passed a mezuzah from hand to hand in a relay from the old JCC to the new Soloway Jewish Community Centre in the Ages Family Building to mark the recent opening of the new facility.

Participants in the Dor l'Dor (generation to generation) relay, which symbolized the move from old to new, represented various community organizations.

The brand new, state-of-the-art 65,000-square-foot building includes a fitness centre, a gym, an aerobics studio, a swimming pool, meeting rooms, a library, a preschool, a teen lounge in the Soloway JCC, and offices for several community organizations.

The building will be the hub of the Jewish Community Campus, a complex of buildings serving the Jewish community that will be the fulfilment of a dream of many years. Already on the campus is a community school building that is home to a Hebrew day school, two afternoon schools and an afternoon high school, and the Tamir Foundation residence for developmentally handicapped adults is nearby. Now that government approval to build has been received, the campus will soon include Hillel Lodge, the community home for the Jewish aged.

For the opening of the centre, a huge tent was set up on the grounds, with a food court featuring local kosher caterers around the perimeter. Children's activities, musical entertainment and a festive atmosphere prevailed as people waited for the doors to open.

Barbara Farber, president of the Jewish Community Council/Vaad Ha'Ir, said it was "a perfect day, and the [beautiful] weather mirrors the image that we all have today" of the new facility.

JCC president Jeff Gould thanked the people who had worked to bring the project to fruition.

"The Soloway JCC will be our community's village square," Gould said. "The only ingredient needed to clearly turn our dream into reality is you…If you are Jewish and living in this city, the Soloway JCC is the place to be."

Hy Soloway, a former president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir, the JCC and Congregation Beth Shalom and for whose family the JCC is named, cut the ribbon, officially opening the building. Accompanying him were Roger Greenberg, Stephen Greenberg, Jeff Gould, Mitchell Bellman, Linda Kerzner, Stephen Victor and Dr. Bernard Dolansky.

Attending the event were local politicians, Israeli Embassy officials and members of the clergy.

Following the ribbon-cutting, a large challah was cut, the shofar was blown and the doors were opened.

Crowds of people streamed through the building for a "self-guided tour." Following blue arrows on the floor, they found their way from room to room and were able to finally see what will now become, according to Gould, their "home away from home."

Two mentsches together

[Cont'd. from page 1]

In their speeches to each other, they compared the Jewish and Xhosa (Mandela's tribe) rites of passage into manhood. Both spoke from the heart. "Tonight you have proven to me that dreams can come true," said Craig. "You have proven that many times over, to many people in South Africa and around the world. Your presence here is further proof that you are not only a great leader but a kind and caring person."

When Mandela left 40 minutes later, noting apologetically that he had important state functions to attend, and holding the denim kippah that Craig had given him as a gift, the party got back to normal – giggly kids doing the *Macarena*, weepy relatives toasting a teenager's future – and rightly so. After all, the night belonged to Craig.

Why did the president come to the bar mitzvah? Maybe he was trying to score some points with the Jewish community (in his speech, Mandela mentioned how the only law firm to accept him at the beginning of his career was a Jewish one). But maybe he just wanted to get to know a gutsy kid whose generation is the future of South Africa.

All I know is, now on my coffee table, next to Mandela's biography *Long Walk to Freedom*, sits a photograph of two mentsches dressed in black and white, an old man and a young man, smiling and shaking hands.

Linda Lewis is a Toronto magazine editor and a proud aunt.

El Al boosts Loyalty Program

[Cont'd. from page 1]

• an enhanced Loyalty Program for frequent flyers. Up to March 15, 1999, couples who fly to Israel will receive 600 points per person, 200 more than is regularly offered. One return flight will generate 1,200 points per couple, half the 2,400 points needed for one free return ticket. El Al is hoping to attract 1,000 new members to its Loyalty Program by mid-March.

El Al is offering these new programs "to be closer to the community, to show we are the airline of the community," Shamai said.

The recent summer season of Canada-Israel flights has proven a success, Shamai said. In addition, "we had good traffic from Israel to Canada.

"We are on the right track. We are listening to the needs of the community, what you expect from us service-wise, operations-wise. And we are investing in this market by bringing in the 767. We have a niche today, and we expect to expand our niche." The airline hopes to attract "those who left us in the last two or three years," he said.

The non-stop Toronto-Israel route should also make the airline attractive to Christian visitors planning to visit the Holy Land in the year 2000, Shamai added.

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Israel warns against unilateral Palestinian state

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

UNITED NATIONS — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued a stern warning to the world last week.

Palestinian plans to declare an independent state next May would "cause the complete collapse" of the peace process, Netanyahu said in his address to the United Nations 185-member General Assembly just after Rosh Hashanah.

Netanyahu strongly urged the Palestinian Authority "not to take this course," calling such a move "arbitrary" and "unilateral."

"It will inevitably prompt unilateral responses on our part," he warned. "This development will not be good for the Palestinians, will not be good for Israel, will not be good for world peace."

With the peace process deadlocked for more than 18 months, it appears that final-status talks will not be concluded in the next eight months.

But the Palestinians have repeatedly affirmed their intention to go ahead with a declaration in the absence of a final-status agreement.

In a 20-minute speech received with polite applause, Netanyahu returned repeatedly to the tenuous balance between Palestinian autonomy and Israeli security.

His appearance at the UN occurred just hours after a rush-hour explosion at a Jerusalem bus stop injured one soldier.

That occurrence, he said, proved that Israel's security concerns were "not hypothetical."

For enduring peace to succeed, Netanyahu said, "the Palestinians should have all the powers to govern their lives and none of the powers to threaten our lives.

"They will have control of all aspects of their society," Netanyahu insisted, "such as law, religion and education, industry, commerce and agriculture, tourism, health and welfare.

"They can prosper and flourish. What they cannot do is endanger our existence."

The Israeli premier stressed Israel's right to ensure that "the Palestinian entity" would not become a base for hostile or foreign forces, terrorists or weaponry.

"This is the great challenge of the permanent-status negotiations," he announced. "To achieve a durable peace that will strike a balance between Palestinian self-rule and Israel's security," which he added, could be achieved "by negotiations and negotiations alone."

Netanyahu conjured up a vision of Middle East peace in which the region's children would interact peacefully and respectfully and in which countries would cooperate in a regional market-based economy.

"The absence of violence will allow all of us – Palestinians, Jordanians and Israelis – to reach a standard of living and quality of life now considered unimaginable."

He also expressed his desire for peace with Lebanon and Syria to "complete the circle of peace with our immediate neighbors."

Taking up a theme introduced at the UN this week by other world leaders, including President Clinton, Netanyahu called terrorism "a global cancer."

He also pointed to the development of medium-range missiles by Iran, and Iraq's refusal to comply with UN weapons inspections, as dangers threatening all nations.

Netanyahu peppered his remarks with references to Jewish liturgy, tradition and history, including the Jewish people's historical ties to the land of Israel, which he said had been recognized by the organized international community with the creation of the State of Israel.

PA planning land claims

By NADAV SHRAGAI
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Surveyors from east Jerusalem's Orient House have photographed and mapped over 1,000 houses in western Jerusalem, which had been inhabited by Arabs before 1948 but have been occupied by Jews for the past 50 years.

The Palestinians are preparing the material ahead of final status negotiations and are planning to demand ownership and/or compensation for these houses and for other property in western parts of Jerusalem, Israeli sources say.

The Israeli Arab surveyors visited Malha, Talbiyeh, Baka, Ein Kerem, Romema and several moshavim in the Jerusalem area. Palestinian Authority representatives also visited the National Lands Registry (Tabu) in Jerusalem and even made a formal request to the Turkish government to receive all registration papers and land deeds connected to property in Jerusalem from the days of Ottoman rule over Palestine.

Ha'aretz has also learned that the Palestinians have completed drafting a petition to the High Court of Justice demanding the return of property abandoned and seized in Jerusalem during the 1948 War of Independence.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israeli, Iranian defence ministers trade threats

By GIDEON ALON
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Iran would be wiser not to threaten Israel, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai warned yesterday in response to statements by Iranian Defence Minister Ali Shamkhani.

Shamkhani had said Iran would fire missiles at Israel if Israel were to attack the nuclear reactor in southern Iran.

"The Iranians know our strength and our ability, and I advise them not to threaten us. We have all the necessary means to ensure the life of the state and its citizens," Mordechai said upon leaving a meeting of the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee.

However, Mordechai said he did not support Labor MK Ephraim Sneh's suggestion that Israel launch a pre-emptive strike to destroy Iran's capability of hitting Israel with nuclear weapons. "I have no intention of embarking on warlike declarations, which, in my eyes, are unnecessary and damaging," Mordechai said.

Meanwhile, Syria and Iran yesterday issued declarations of mutual support for each other against Israel. Shamkhani, in an article published in the Dubai newspaper *Al-Ittihad*, was quoted as saying that if Israel were to attack Syria, Iran would respond "in a manner beyond the Israelis' wildest dreams."

The official Syrian news agency SNA charged that "Israel is embarking on an anti-Iranian campaign in order to increase tension in the Middle East and divert attention from its policies, which ignore the will of the international community and all its decisions."

During the committee meeting, Mordechai said Israel is building a long-term solution to the threat of ballistic missiles from Arab countries in the form of the Arrow anti-missile missile. The Arrow, he said, will eventually provide protection against both Scuds and the Iranian missiles. However, he warned, even after the Arrow is operational, there is no way to seal the skies hermetically against attack.

Defence Ministry representatives told MKs that if everything goes according to plan, the Arrow will be partially operational only at the end of 1999. At this stage, the missile will already provide interception capabilities, but only in 2005 will it be fully operational, they said.

Development might be speeded up, Mordechai added, but only if more money is allocated to the project.

In order to save time, Mordechai said he has ordered that work on a system to operate the Arrow go forward simultaneously with the development of the missile itself.

A senior intelligence officer told the committee that Iranian development of the Shahab-3 will end next year, and the missile will become a production prototype. Despite massive pressure from the United States, he noted, the Russians have not stopped their assistance to the project.

Also in 1999, the officer said, the Iranians will begin development of the Shahab-4 – again with Russian assistance. This missile is to have a range of 2,500 kilometres, and the Iranians are also planning a Shahab-5 with a range of 5,000 km, he said.

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Dozens hurt in clashes with police

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Over 90 Israeli Arabs were injured over the weekend and dozens were arrested in clashes with police in the Wadi Ara area.

Police tried to evacuate protesters staging a sit-in on a plot of land the army has confiscated to be used as a training ground. Six border police were also lightly hurt in the clashes.

Most of the injured were brought to the hospitals with light to moderate injuries sustained from rubber-coated metal bullets and tear gas fired by police as the protesters hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails.

Among the wounded was Umm al-Fahm Mayor Sheikh Raad Saleh, who was hurt in his shoulder and back.

One injured man was evacuated to Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital in serious condition, a spokesperson for the Magen David Adom ambulance service said.

At the height of the day's clashes, angry demonstrators hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at policemen, shouting "Death to the Jews" and "God is great." As night fell, residents burned tires at Umm al-Fahm's main access roads. Large police and army forces wielding automatic weapons and batons beat back demonstrators.

The police eventually announced that it was pulling its forces out of Umm al-Fahm after an agreement had been reached with local leaders. Under the deal, the land will remain in the hands of the residents until December, while officials from both sides try to reach a compromise.

A police statement said forces entered the area to evacuate a tent full of protesters in the village of Ma'awiyah after three weeks of negotiations failed to persuade the demonstrators to leave voluntarily.

But the Arabs said the forces entered the area without warning early in the morning to evacuate protesters.

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Slave labor fund established

By DEIDRE BERGER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

FRANKFURT — Another German firm has reversed course and agreed to establish a fund for slave laborers it employed during World War II.

The announcement by the electronic giant Siemens, of an $11.9 million fund to provide the humanitarian aid, came just a year after the company rejected responsibility for compensation payments for these laborers.

Siemens has not yet indicated whether the money will be dispersed in one-time payments or in regular instalments, but says it wants to provide quick and unbureaucratic help to needy victims forced to work at its plants during World War II.

The fund will be administered by individuals and organizations who are not connected to Siemens.

Earlier last month, the auto manufacturer Volkswagen announced a similar fund for former slave laborers that also will be managed by leading public figures. Both companies emphasize they have no legal obligation to make compensation payments but acknowledge their moral responsibility.

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The Week in Israel

Sept. 21

• U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross wrapped up an 11-day mission to the region without achieving a breakthrough in the 18-month deadlock in Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Sept. 22

• American defence officials offered to sell 30 F-15 and 60 F-16 fighter jets to Israel for $5 billion (US) to help maintain the Jewish state's military advantage over potential regional foes.

Sept. 23

• Amin al-Hindi, the head of Palestinian general intelligence, said his troops would fight back against Israel if hostilities break out in response to a declaration of Palestinian statehood. "We will fight to defend our state and existence by all means available," al-Hindi told a news conference.

• A Norwegian anti-nuclear group said it submitted a petition with one million signatures to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu demanding the release of Mordechai Vanunu. Vanunu has served 12 years of an 18-year sentence for disclosing information about Israel's nuclear capabilities to the *Times of London*.

Sept. 24

• Several shots were fired at a van driven by Jews near Hebron. No one was injured.

• Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) has won a contract with the Turkish air force reported to be worth $71 million (US). Under the contract, Israel will help upgrade the 48 F-5 fighter planes in the Turkish airforce.

Sept. 25

• Israel Radio announced that an agreement achieving the "twinning" of Barcelona, Tel Aviv and Gaza City had been initialed. Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo said he was pleased to promote peace in this way by responding to the Spanish city's initiative.

• *Ma'ariv* reported that U.S. immigration authorities plan to issue 300,000 special entry visas to computer experts and programmers and that most of the applicants were expected to come from Israel and the Far East.

Files from the JTA

Iraq's cat-and-mouse game continues

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Last March, after the United Nations Security Council unanimously endorsed UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's agreement with Iraq on weapons inspections, U.S. President Bill Clinton issued a stern and unmistakable warning.

Mideast Analysis

Unless Iraqi President Saddam Hussein gave the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) "immediate, unconditional and unrestricted" access to all suspected weapons sites, Iraq would face "the severest consequences," Clinton declared. In plain language, Clinton threatened Iraq with military action, following its refusal to allow UN inspectors to visit eight presidential sites scattered throughout the country.

But judging by recent developments, Clinton – distracted by the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal that threatens to scuttle his presidency – is doing precious little to force Iraq to comply with the UN accord.

Once again, Iraq is playing a provocative cat-and-mouse game with the UN.

Under his agreement with Annan, Saddam promised to abide fully by UN resolutions calling for the dismantling of Iraq's long-range missiles and its chemical, biological and nuclear weapons of mass destruction.

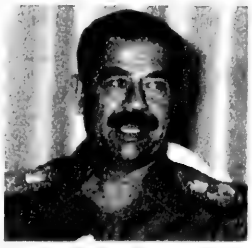
It was clearly understood that the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq would not be lifted unless Baghdad complied with these resolutions, passed in the wake of the 1991 Gulf War. The war, prosecuted by a coalition of nations spearheaded by the United States, broke out after Iraq refused to withdraw its invading army from Kuwait.

Iraq, considering these resolutions an infringement of its sovereignty and an impediment to its ambition of rebuilding its shattered armed forces and its regional influence, fell into a predictable pattern of alternatively cooperating with and obstructing the UN.

On Aug. 5, following a period of grudging cooperation, Iraq reverted to form. It would no longer cooperate with the UN because the director of UNSCOM, Richard Butler, had refused to certify that Iraq had destroyed its arsenal of banned weapons. The Iraqi parliament and the Revolutionary Command Council, the most powerful political body in Iraq, confirmed Iraq's decision.

As a result of Iraq's defiance, the UN Security Council on Sept. 9 suspended its regular reviews of sanctions, the latest of which was to have taken place in October.

At its last review in April, the Security Council decided to leave sanctions in place after weapons inspectors issued a scathing report accusing Iraq of failing to comply with UN resolutions.



Saddam Hussein

For its part, the United States charged Iraq with continuing to conceal the truth about its long-range missiles and its stocks of chemical and biological weapons.

The status of Iraq's nuclear weapons program remains unclear. Last spring, the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency disclosed that Iraq was not hiding any nuclear devices. But last month, the reputable Tel Aviv daily, *Ha'aretz*, reported that Iraq is in possession of three virtually operational nuclear bombs.

In the face of these disquieting facts, the United States' resolve against Iraq seems to have weakened, in sharp contrast to its aggressive posture during last winter's crisis, when Clinton dispatched an armada to the Persian Gulf to force Iraqi compliance with UN resolutions.

Scott Ritter Jr., a former American weapons inspector, claims that the Clinton administration has gone soft on Iraq by having blocked UNSCOM efforts to disarm Iraq. In its defence, Washington contends that its policy toward the Iraqi regime remains the same: to contain Iraq.

Objectively, however, there has been a subtle shift in American strategy.

Last year, the United States threatened to bomb Iraq, even though the Arab states, Russia, China and France opposed a resort to force. Today, the United States is trying to build a diplomatic consensus before unleashing its military might against Iraq.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Young novelist has unique approach to storytelling

By LORI FIRESTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Funny, real, vivid and recognizable are qualities that writer I.J. Schecter extends to the works of favorites Mark Twain and Stephen King, but the same could just as easily be said of his own abilities.

With a distinctive approach to storytelling, and a talent and maturity that belies his 26 years, Schecter is a man who truly understands his craft, as evidenced by *The Bottom of the Mug*, a collection of short stories that is as diversely original as it is captivating.

And why shouldn't it be, with such an author? At Thornlea Secondary School, when other students were worrying about who to ask to the prom, Schecter was writing the senior play.

At University of Western Ontario, people pledged fraternities, and Schecter wrote screenplays and edited the newspaper. And now, Schecter has published his first book, founded the Starving Romantics poetry competition, the biggest competition for romantic poetry in North America, and still finds time to indulge his love of reading, music and sports.

Schecter says he will play any sport where he can avoid sitting for great lengths of time, and is a two-time gold winner for Canadian baseball in the Maccabi games, as well as an avid hockey player.

Schecter started the Starving Romantics four years ago, frustrated by the lack of good traditional poetry being offered.

He sends out fliers annually to libraries, universities and writers' digests to ensure that he receives poetry with a broad appeal. A labor of love, it is self-financed, but it gives Schecter, as both organizer and judge, an opportunity to channel his passion for poetry.

It is often challenging and time-consuming for Schecter (and the six other appointed judges) to make their decisions, but Schecter is no stranger to hard work.

His demanding schedule includes a tour across Canada, appearing in selected bookstores in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and beyond. Schecter is thrilled by the positive response people have had to his work.

So positive, in fact, that the book tour has expanded to the United States. "Ninety percent of writing a book is promoting it."

His recent invitation to participate in both the Word on the Street and the Eden Mills Writers Festival is proof that Schecter is as good a writer as he is a promoter. The Word on the Street assembles writers from all across Canada, and is recognized as a showcase for potential raconteurs on the rise.

The Eden Mills Festival, which took place recently just outside Guelph, is the second largest literary festival in Canada, so it was quite a coup for such a young author to be invited.

His national tour will take him to Montreal where he'll be at the Double Hook bookstore on Oct.3.

Upon reading his collection (which ranges from adulterous love to bumbling mobsters to satire on the workplace), one is caught up by the richness of ideas.

His philosophy is simple: "The story comes first; character, setting and plot are secondary...if it's fun and it moves, it will turn its own pages."

His biting commentary on romance was recently featured in the *Globe and Mail*, and Schecter has seen his work in literary journals such as *Canadian Fiction Magazine* and *The Fiddlehead*, as well as the American journal *Eureka Literary Magazine*, who rated Schecter's *The Overbearing Camper* (a tale about God attending summer camp) as the story of the year.

All of Schecter's success has not spoiled him; he remains refreshingly modest, admitting that he sees his style as "continually evolving," inspired by other authors who continue to teach him how much more he has to learn, so that he can one day work as a writer full time.

Schecter is currently working on a novel about a fictitious baseball team in Rhode Island, and hopes to have it finished by next year, work schedule permitting.

It is often difficult for Schecter to juggle his work with his writing, but he "loves the feeling of a hard day's work and being exhausted at the end of it."

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Travel, Arts & Business

Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

FINGER LAKES ABLAZE WITH FALL COLORS

I'm told the Finger Lakes region of New York State is never more beautiful than during autumn, when these rolling hills and valleys are ablaze with seasonal yellows, oranges, reds and browns.

The region's charms were no less evident, however, when I toured the region in late August at the peak of a busy tourist season. In only a few days, I managed to take in a pleasing assortment of cultural and historic sites as well as several memorable natural wonders.

Letchworth State Park, which begins about 35 miles south of Rochester, was a surprise. Known as the "Grand Canyon of the East," this serpentine river-carved valley is very picturesque, with 600-foot cliffs towering over the Genesee River. Besides various camping and recreational facilities, the park offers an interesting 1912 museum on Indian and geological history. It also offers the Victorian-era Glen Iris Inn, situated in a remote natural setting beside a large waterfall, far from the madding crowd.

The town of Corning, N.Y., is renowned for its glass, especially Corningware, but not one piece of the latter was in evidence at the Corning Museum of Glass. This world-famous institution houses some 30,000 objects representing 3,500 years of glass craftsmanship and design. It's interesting to note that the section on pre-Roman glass contains examples from Hebrew, Egyptian and other ancient cultures of the Middle East. Don't miss the glass-blowing demonstrations.

With more than 100 inviting shops, Corning's historic Market Street looks similar to the way it supposedly looked in the 19th century, when townsfolk, fearing their hamlet would vanish, used $50,000 to lure a major glass company here from Brooklyn, N.Y. The local Rockwell Museum features one of the best collections of American Western art this side of the Mississippi.

There's easily enough to do in Corning to support a visit of several days. The town boasts several fine B&B hotels such as the Rosewood Inn (607-962-3253), whose proprietor, Suzanne Sanders, notes that Corning is equidistant from Toronto and New York (roughly 4½ hours by car), and thus a perfect stopping place for motor traffic between the two cities.

Spectacular hikable gorge

Driving north from Corning, one reaches Watkins Glen, a spectacular, hikable gorge at the southern tip of Seneca Lake. Continuing along Seneca's shores, one passes some of the many wineries in the region; oenophiles may follow the Seneca Lake Wine Trail. At Glenora Wine Cellars in Dundee, for example, one may taste Glenora's wine and learn how it is produced by watching a 12-minute video.

Moving eastward towards Syracuse, I stopped at numerous attractions en route. The Rose Hill Mansion in Geneva, N.Y., an elegant Greek Revival mansion built in 1839, seems a perfect reflection of the genteel, neoclassical values that dominated society's upper classes in post-Jacksonian America. Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, N.Y., is an assemblage of buildings associated with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and other pioneers of women's suffrage.

Syracuse is a university town with an industrial base (population 165,000). Its Erie Canal Museum is housed in a building in which cargo boats were once weighed as they plied the canal. Equally intriguing is the Onondaga Historical Association Museum, which details the city's colorful history. Another Syracuse institution worth visiting is the Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science & Technology.

Like Toronto, Syracuse has an annual exhibition whose roots are deep in the Victorian era. Anyone who has experienced the Canadian National Exhibition will feel right at home at the New York State Fair, held each year for the two weeks or so culminating in Labor Day.

The state fair boasts buildings devoted to food, technology, horticulture and other themes, a thronging midway, big-name entertainers, and enough red-and-blue sashes and ribbons to make you feel as though you'd stepped into a 1940s movie starring Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney. It's pure déclassé Americana and irresistible fun for children.

You'll find no kosher hot dogs nor any other kosher edibles at the state fair, of course. For that, try any large branch of the Wegman's supermarket chain. I went into Wegman's in Rochester, Corning and a few other towns, and was impressed by large kosher sections that would rival those of almost any general supermarket in Toronto.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	B	B	A		S	C	U	B	A		C	A	S	E
D	O	O	R		O	A	S	E	S		A	B	E	S
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S	T	A	R		A	R	O	S	E		H	E	R	S

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Travel, Arts & Business

Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Rich Program by Jewish Family & Child Service

On Yom Kippur we ask God to forgive us for our mistakes. However, our Sages tell us that to be forgiven, *we ourselves must first learn to forgive both others and ourselves.* We cannot expect God to be forgiving if we do not forgive. The following excellent programs offered by Toronto's **Jewish Family and Child Service** might make this process easier for those Jews who are separated, divorced or isolated as adults or children within our community. There is far too much anger out there. For further information or to reserve space call Pat Lieberman (416) 638-7800 ext. 215 (Toronto) or Elinor Gertner (905) 882-2331 ext. 32 (York Region).

The Single Parent Challenge (6 weeks): A group to discuss the feelings, concerns and skills needed to be a single parent. Topics will include Time Management, Stress Management, and Balancing Personal Needs with Parental Responsibilities.

Picking up the Pieces (6 weeks): A group for families to adjust to the stress associated with separation and divorce. Topics for parents include Understanding the Impact of Separation on their Children, Helping Children Adjust to their Changing Circumstances, and Relating to the Co-parent.

Successful Step-Parenting; Learning to Step Together (6 weeks): A group to help couples living in blended families to build a solid couple relationship and to discuss guidelines and strategies which will help children adjust to step-family life.

One Family, Two Homes (3 sessions): A group program for families experiencing separation and divorce. Children will participate in separate age-appropriate groups. Sessions in parents' groups will address Helpful Hints for Keeping Kids out of the Conflict, and Overview of the New Family Law Legislation: Impact of Separation & Divorce on Children.

Surviving Separation and Looking Ahead (6 weeks): A group to discuss the feelings of loss, anger, guilt and loneliness associated with separation. Topics include Coping with Change, Developing Resources, Letting Go of the Past, and Looking Ahead.

The Self-confident Woman (6 weeks): A group for women, many of whom are separated or divorced, to discuss Self-esteem, Relationships Choices in the 90's, and Strategies for Effective Stress Management.

Part-time Father's Group (6 weeks): A group to help fathers who are not living primarily with their children to redefine their roles as fathers while exploring the area of solo parenting. The goal is to improve fathers' relationship with their children, thereby enhancing the self-esteem of both children and fathers.

Divorce: It's Not My Idea (8 weeks): A group for individuals for whom the separation was an unwanted event. Topics include Leaving Behind Feelings of Loss and Grief, Responding to Anger/Depression in New Ways to Regain Control, and Building New Relationships with Children and Friends.

Adult Relationships Group (ongoing): A group for adults 25+ who are dissatisfied with the quality of their relationships. The group helps participants gain understanding of how personal issues can impact on the formation of healthy relationships. (Assessment interview required).

Young Adults Group (ongoing): A group for adults 18 to 25, many of whom have separated or divorced parents. These young adults are dealing with such developmental issues as separating from their families of origin, developing independent lives, forming intimate relationships, and developing career plans.

When You're About to Separate: What to Tell the Kids? This workshop will focus on children's needs just prior to and in the early stages of separation. Typical children's reactions and questions will be addressed. Ideas and strategies to best meet your child's needs will be discussed.

Dealing with Life Cycle Events: Lone-parent families face important issues in coping with Jewish life cycle events: How will I cope with my "ex" in planning a wedding, Bar or Bat Mitzvah? Where will the children be for the first seder? Shall I go to my ex-mother-in-law's funeral?

Grandparents in Families Where Children Have Divorced: Grandparents can play a very important role for their grandchildren after a divorce. Topics to be discussed are: How to Grieve the Loss of your Child's Marriage, How to Maintain a Climate of Love and Security for Your Grandchildren, and How to Remain Neutral when Conflicts Take Place Between Separating Parents.

If you find yourself in need of such services, you might also consider consulting a trusted Rabbinical advisor; spiritual advice is also quite important.

May you be inscribed for Health and Happiness.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 365-0300, ext. 22.

Material supplied and space sponsored as a public service by the Field Services Department of B'nai Brith Canada.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

Marty Galin and Avrum Rosensweig

* * *

RADIO-A-THON HELPS FEED KIDS BREAKFAST

Marty Galin and **Avrum Rosensweig**, hosts of the *Marty and Avrum's Restaurant and Food Show* on AM radio station 640 each Sunday morning, are planning a four-hour radio-a-thon on Oct. 11 to raise funds for the Toronto Breakfast Club, which tries to ensure that local children have a proper breakfast each day. Another charity to benefit from the radio-a-thon is Give Kids The World.

The radio-a-thon will feature a lively roster of chefs, celebs, singers and bands. The public is invited to phone in during the show to make donations, or even to join the duo for breakfast. The event runs 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Crown Plaza Hotel, 225 Front St. W.

Rosensweig is no stranger to raising money for charity. A former fundraiser for the United Jewish Appeal, he is a founder and vice-president of Ve'Ahavta, a Toronto-based charity that seeks to send medical relief and vital supplies to international trouble spots.

Special Geminis: Actor-director **Al Waxman** and comedy writers **Frank Shuster** and the late **Johnny Wayne** are among special award recipients to be honored at the 13th Gemini Awards on Oct. 3 and 4.

Waxman is slated to receive the Earle Grey Award for making a significant contribution to the international profile of Canadian television. Shuster and Wayne are being honored with the Margaret Collier Award, also for their significant contribution to the international profile of Canadian television.

According to a Gemini news release, Wayne and Shuster "set standards for generations of comedians and continue to be role models both domestically and internationally."

* * *

Arts Briefs:

• The Sandra Ainsley Gallery and Monsoon Restaurant are jointly presenting an exhibition of work by Toronto glass artist **Jeff Goodman**. At Monsoon, 100 Simcoe St., until Oct. 8. 979-7172.

• Violinist **Catherine Manoukian**, a student at York Mills Collegiate, performs at the Ford Centre's George Weston Recital Hall on Oct. 4, 8 p.m. $25-15. 872-2222.

• Congratulations to **Sydell Waxman**, who recently won the distinguished Heritage Toronto Award of Merit. Waxman is author of *Changing the Pattern*, a biography of **Emily Stowe**, the first Canadian woman doctor (Napoleon Press).

• *The Marriage*, a play by **Witold Gombrowicz** translated from the Polish by **Louis Iribarne**, continues at the Annex Theatre through Oct. 4. The work is described as "a postwar classic...a provocative, disturbing and strangely beautiful play." 921-4547.

• Local author-educator **Pamela Sims** has won a 1998 Athena Award for her book, *Awakening Brilliance: How to Inspire Children to Become Successful Learners.*

• **Pinchas Zukerman** joins the English Chamber Orchestra on the stage of Massey Hall on Oct. 3 at the start of a North American tour. The concert is also a celebration of the renowned violinist-conductor's 50th birthday. 8 p.m. 872-4255.

* * *

Art Gallery of Ontario: Members of the AGO enjoy free admission to the permanent collection and most ticketed exhibitions for one year. An individual membership for $75 or a family membership for $100 also brings a discount in the Gallery Shop, use of the members' lounge, and other perks. For details, call 979-6619.

* * *

Quotable Quote: Aaron Lansky, head of the National Yiddish Book Centre in Amherst, Mass., recently commented that the American Jewish community may be on the verge of "a renaissance such as the Jewish people have never known. After decades of frustration, I think we're finally beginning to understand that the best way to combat assimilation and intermarriage is not through sermons, studies, handwringing and harangues, but by building a Jewish culture in America that's so vibrant, so creative, so full of history, humor, intellectual depth and human sensibility that it becomes irresistible."

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Travel, Arts & Business

Actor enjoys artistic freedom found in Canada

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Richard Greenblatt the term "rich actor" is a contradiction in terms.

Fresh from a long run in *Two Pianos, Four Hands,* with co-star Ted Dykstra, which sold out for six weeks at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Greenblatt told *The CJN* that he is a "thousandaire" not a "millionaire."

He did concede that he made enough money to renovate the family home on Palmerston Gardens.

"But I'm just an ordinary member of the community as I have been for 25 years," he said, as he plunged into rehearsals for *Criminal Genius,* the George Walker play being revived at Factory Theatre, Oct. 3 to Nov. 1 (504-9971).

Greenblatt plays the small time hood Rolly, who with his addled son, botches a kidnapping job and thus sets off a series of hilarious events. It's the kind of comic acting that Greenblatt loves.

"A change is as good as a rest. It's like a holiday," he said of his role in *Criminal Genius,* but quickly acknowledged that "the love that was palpable over the footlights at the Royal Alex still fuels me."

Born in Montreal, and a resident of Toronto since the 1970s, the actor said he was a "red diaper baby," born of Communist parents.

There was no religious element in the Greenblatt home but the family was "culturally and sociologically" Jewish, he said.

Now that he and his wife have three children, he said he is more attracted to the traditional side of Judaism, and Natasha, 13, Michael, 10, and Luke, 8, all went to shul on Rosh Hashanah.

Greenblatt is planning to stay in Canada. "New York is not a place to bring up kids. And there is more freedom artistically in Canada."

With Diane Flacks, he is co-writing *Sibs,* a new play, which will be workshopped in November and open in 1999.

He is an enthusiastic booster of the move by Factory Theatre to buy its old church property at Adelaide and Bathurst streets for $1.5 million from Allied Canadian Corporation, which has already contributed $500 as the first corporate donor supporting the purchase.

The theatre is trying to raise $125,000 for a down payment before Dec. 17 this year, the closing date for the sale of the building.

"We will soon be paying significantly less in mortgage interest than we would be in rent," said artistic director Ken Gass.

Filmmaker/playwright Mitch Moldofsky debuts with a look at The Briss

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Mitch Moldofsky is a young playwright and filmmaker who believes that a 15-minute film is a good way to get people talking about the possibility of pre-marital pregnancy, mixed marriages and the controversy around circumcision.

In *The Briss,* his first film, Moldofsky introduces us to Sonya (Lori Pearlstein) and Graham (Christopher Robertson), who have their families agreeing to the mixed marriage and expecting it to be fruitful. But Sonya is afraid of getting pregnant and uses this as a pretext for breaking up with a confused, but loyal, Graham. At the end, Sonya wonders whether she did the right thing.

The couple is at a briss for Sonya's sister's baby son when Sonya decides to drop her bombshell. The relatives and friends, gathered for the occasion, debate the value and necessity of the traditional ceremony.

Moldofsky's hope is that the film will be purchased by high schools and marriage counsellors to spark discussion among groups wrestling with these problems.

It was premiered at a film evening sponsored by the Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT) at the Royal Cinema, Sept. 16. Ten films were shown at the LIFT program.

Among those in *The Briss,* some with speaking roles and others as extras, are Mel Downey, Tomas Chovanec, Razie Brownstone, Neil and Marcia Schulman, Dani Holden, Leon King, Shana Elman, Judy, Marty and Brian Kates, Al Lopez, Rhoda and Stanley Moldofsky, Brent Perlman, and David Waverman.

Moldofsky is also the author of *Brothers,* a play about two Jewish brothers, one who takes up an Orthodox way of life in Israel, and one who travels the secular path in Toronto.

Jewish Brigade featured

The story of the Jewish Brigade in World War II is a fascinating one and shows that, in fact, Jews were willing to and did fight back against the Nazi regime.

Airing on History Television Oct 5, 9p.m., *In Our Own Hands: The Jewish Brigade* tells this story through candid interviews and archival footage.

The Jews living in Palestine at the outbreak of war wanted Churchill to allow them to form an all-Jewish unit, but bowing to political pressure Churchill was not in favor of the idea.

It was only in 1944 that Churchill went against his advisors, and in a typically dramatic speech said the race that suffered the most should have a chance at fighting back.

And fight back they did. They saw action in Italy and France, proudly wearing their yellow Magen Davids symbolically on their sleeves.

Trained by the British, the Jewish Brigade formed a big part of the Israeli army in the War of Independence. Disciplined and experienced this might explain how – despite being outnumbered – they were able to resist the Arab attack.

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Business Profile

Heather Reisman: Indigo Books, Music & Cafe:

Bookstore has 'interface' with Jewish community

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Heather Reisman takes exception to the accusation made in a Toronto newspaper column ten months ago that Indigo Books, Music & Cafe, the well-publicized bookstore chain she launched last year, is for people who wouldn't normally go to bookstores.

"That's just a ludicrous statement," she says calmly, her pleasant mien barely ruffled as she considers a Dec. 4, 1997 *Toronto Star* column by Jim Coyle, in which he presented the view of an independent bookseller whose store is located near Indigo's Yonge and Eglinton store in Toronto.

As a longtime book lover – her first purchase, after she began receiving allowance at age 7, was a book – Reisman says she is "the natural consumer for whom we are building Indigo.

"Ask any publisher, anybody who shops at Indigo. See what they say about the knowledge of the books, the quality of the books."

To illustrate the care taken in book selection, Reisman notes that Rabbi John Moscowitz has agreed to serve as an adviser on the Yonge/Eglinton store's Judaica section.

That particular store has much "interface" with the Jewish community, including crossover events with the lecture series sponsored at Holy Blossom Temple by Reisman and her husband Gerry Schwartz, chief executive of Onex Corporation.

Each Indigo outlet is similarly geared to its respective community in terms of store design and book selection, according to an Indigo news release.

While it's early to assess Indigo's profitability, the business has been "quite successful on an operating basis," says Reisman. After raising over $25 million in private placement of equity to launch the business, "we're tracking exactly where we want to track, which is excellent."

Since opening its inaugural store in Burlington last year, Indigo has opened two more and is in the process of opening another four. That will soon bring the total to seven stores: three in the Toronto area, and one each in Montreal, Calgary, Burlington and Kingston.

A typical Indigo store has between 50 and 100 employees. By the end of this year, Indigo will have created over 450 jobs.

Reisman expects to have opened about 25 stores in the next three years. That would bring Indigo into the same league as Chapters Inc., which was the result of a 1995 merger between Coles Book Stores and SmithBooks, and which now has over 30 stores.

But "it's not just about creating a big box full of books," notes Reisman, veering from the bottom line to less tangible aspects of business. "The whole idea is to create a haven for booklovers, a candy store for the mind and a spa for the soul and a haven for the heart. This is about creating a place where the sight of it, the smell of it [possibly from flowers or scented candles], the sound of it, the visual, and then of course the service, is a whole experience."

Life is tough and busy, she explains. "There's a sense that we want to create something that is beautiful as best we can. People need some of that."

The name Indigo arose out of a brainstorming session and the idea of "*in*spiring, *in*forming and *in*dulging" customers. Then someone mentioned *Mood Indigo* as a "fantastic" piece of music, and the name stuck.

Although Reisman maintains that Indigo is "about as far away from the standard big-box store as you can get," to the untrained eye a typical Indigo bookstore – with its 18,000 to 42,000 square feet of space, 100,000 or so book titles, comfortable seating and the requisite trendy coffee bar – is not unlike the other "big box" bookstores. The café, however, is licensed, and finishing touches like unusual names for store sections (Wraptures for gift wrap, Fictional Woods for fiction) add a distinctive note.

Indigo is aggressively pro-Canadian, promoting Canadian books and writers in its Indigo Guide and with in-store events like appearances of Canadian authors like Nino Ricci and Ann-Marie MacDonald at the launch of the Yonge/Eglinton store.

One of its store sections – and themes – is The World Needs More Canada, and Reisman points out that the business is 100 percent Canadian-owned.

Reisman's been told Indigo has a feminine touch and even that it's a really heimish place. "Heimish" has never been so upscale.

"They feel the sense of hospitality and home," explains Reisman.

To a certain extent, Reisman has created her own sense of home at Indigo. Half a dozen of her staffers were with her at Cott Corporation, the beverage company she led as president from 1992 to 1994. Some former staffers had approached her about the move; others she sought out herself.

After leaving Cott, Reisman was involved in an attempt to bring the American book superstore Borders Inc. to Canada, but the plan was quashed by the federal government's Investment Review Board.

Heather Reisman

The move from beverages to books was not as big as one might expect, according to Reisman. Serendipity and destiny both played a role, she says. "I am the kind of person who enjoys creating things from scratch...My strength was in the service businesses, in building a great culture, in large-scale distribution and I knew that I wanted to do something where I cared passionately about the product."

Although soft drinks don't inspire the same passion books do, there's a joy in bringing any great product to market, Reisman says.

But her enjoyment of Indigo has been tempered by unpleasantness.

Chapters, which has had a virtual monopoly as the only big-box bookstore chain in Canada, launched a lawsuit after Reisman hired a former manager of theirs. It was subsequently withdrawn; a countersuit by Indigo still stands.

Last year, Reisman dismissed as "absurd" the idea of a book war between Indigo and Chapters in an interview for *Maclean's* magazine. "At best it's David and Goliath, and we don't even have our slingshot fully made yet."

Sitting in her BCE Place office high above Toronto on a hot summer day this year, she amends her statement, but still says there's no war as far as she's concerned. "Let's say our slingshot is ready."

Later in the interview, weighing her words, carefully, Reisman adds, "The level of behavior by Chapters' leadership to literally eliminate Indigo is more extreme than anything I have witnessed in my 25-year career."

Reisman, who turns 50 this year, ran her own strategic change firm, Paradigm Consulting, Inc., for 18 years. By the mid-1980s she had been appointed to four corporate boards, the only woman director at three of the four companies.

Her plans for Indigo include the launch of an online bookselling service. "We're inspired by companies like Amazon," she says in response to a question about the effects on her business of Amazon.com, the phenomenally successful Seattle-based on-line bookseller.

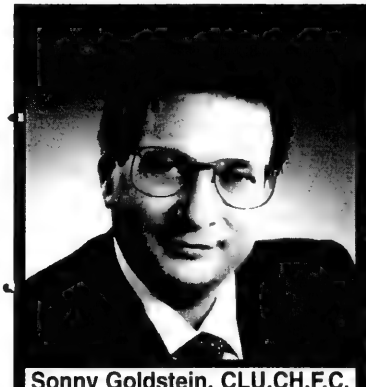
And in turn, it looks as if Indigo has done some inspiring of its own. This summer Chapters launched in-store CD sales at a select stores.

Imitation is "flattering at one level, but it does encourage us to keep certain things under wraps." The anticipated date of Indigo's Internet launch is thus "a secret," Reisman says.

(Subsequent to the interview for this article, Chapters launched its own website.)

She maintains there will always be a place for the small independent bookseller, although she concedes that stores like hers provide a "challenge.

"I would say small booksellers are challenged today by a whole number of things – more demanding consumers, a higher need for choice. Everyone's challenged by that. I think to some extent they are affected when there's more competition in the marketplace, but they're affected, period. Whether or not there are superstores, there would have been an increasing challenge."



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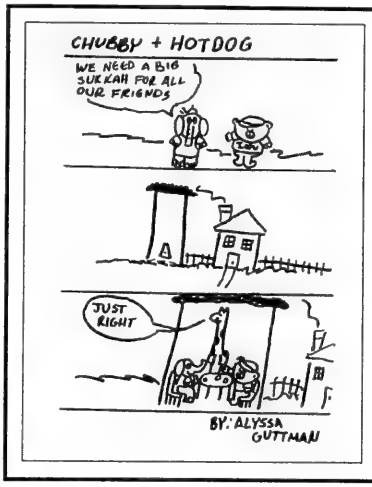
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ISRAEL

Eitan Nacht of Givatayim, waves his flag in celebration of Israel's 50th birthday, but his thoughts seem to be focused on the gigantic birthday "cake" that was used in a recent march from the Rose Garden in Jerusalem to Har Herzl. In lieu of candles, the cake was adorned with 50 flags.
[WZPS photo of the cake by Douglas Guthrie]



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By Alyssa Guttman
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CJ Kids

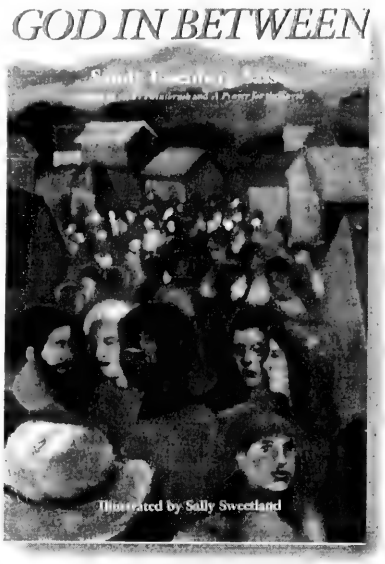
Townsfolk look for God

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Can you imagine what it would be like to live in a town where there were no roads, and nearly all the houses had no windows? Wouldn't you be scared?

Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, who has written several wonderful books for children, including *God's Paintbrush*, a story of the rainbow, and *A Prayer for the Earth*, a story about Na'amah, the wife of Noah, has written a book you will really enjoy, called *God In Between* (Jewish Lights, 1998).

God In Between is about a town which is like the one I talked about. Because there were no roads, it was very difficult for the people to go anywhere because they kept falling over rocks and into holes. Without windows, they never knew what time of day it was, and, what was worse, they could not see their neighbors.



They decided that the only way to get help was to find God and ask Him to do something to make things better for them. The problem was, not only could they not figure out how to make plans with their neighbors, they couldn't even go from place to place to look for God.

Two houses did have one window each, and the people asked those who lived in those houses to find God for them.

The man and woman overcame many difficulties, and went all over the world, but did not have any luck. When they returned, they built roads between their two houses, and made lots of windows. That's when they realized where God was. Can you figure it out?

The pictures by Sally Sweetland are spectacular, full of bright colors and strong details.

God in Between is every bit as excellent a book as Sasso's other books. Your parents will enjoy it just as much as you will.

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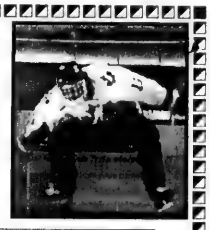

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No halachic objection to cloning: Israeli expert

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There is no intrinsic halachic objection to cloning, according to an Israeli expert in Halachah and medical ethics. However, it is necessary to recognize both the potential benefits and the possible dangers.

Dr. Abraham Steinberg, director of medical ethics at Hebrew University Hadassah Hospital and a pediatric neurologist at Shaare Zedek Medical Centre and Bikur Cholim Hospital, was speaking at the second annual Audey Stanleigh Memorial Lecture, held recently at Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill.

"After all, God Himself did the first cloning – Adam and Eve," Steinberg said.

Some of the benefits of cloning can be to renew the functioning of damaged cells, as in Parkinson's or Alzheimer diseases, where the mature nerve cells have lost the ability to function; to help infertile couples; and to halt the uncontrolled replication of cells.

There is no halachic problem with cloning either animals or humans for organ transplantation, he said. There are even fewer problems growing stem cells; that is, undifferentiated cells which later become specialized.

Since human beings are considered partners with God in improving the world, it is considered obligatory to use whatever technology becomes available to help those in need of it, Steinberg said.

However, he warned, we must be aware of the potential problems. First, he said, there are the eugenic possibilities, such as cloning a Nobel Prize winner, which sounds very desirable. On the other hand, "one could also clone a Saddam Hussein."

There would be the psychological and sociological problems of losing individuality and identity, "when there are 20 people exactly the same as me. Also, it is individual differences that create a healthy society."

The very survival of the human race could be in danger, since "if there is no genetic variation, one disease could wipe out the whole human race."

Steinberg also warned of a potential change in the world social order. "If we create the chance of reproducing in a non-sexual way, it means that we don't need a nuclear family, parents or intimate relations. These are all important from a Jewish point of view."

It is impossible to stop technological development, Steinberg asserted. "If an idea can be formulated, it probably will be. Also, there are powerful lobbies with vested interests in promoting cloning."

The world, he said, is a "global village. If you stop development in one country, it goes to other countries, and comes in anyway." He cited in vitro fertilization, which was originally banned in the United States, developed in England, and then introduced back into the United States.

The world's religions have different opinions on cloning. Roman Catholics are opposed to it, insisting that the beginning of life must be natural. Protestants, he said, disagree among themselves, while Muslims allow it with limitations.

Halachah, he repeated, allows it, with qualifications. First, Steinberg said, "the actual act [of cloning], and the results, must not be contrary to Halachah. For instance, we are prohibited from interbreeding – such as creating a mule, a cross between a donkey and a horse."

If we clone a human being, he said, we must decide if what we have created is a person or a golem, a being without a soul. "A golem can't be counted in a minyan, and killing him cannot be considered murder, since he was not born of a woman."

There is, in addition, the question of whether cloning fulfils the obligation of *peru u'revu*, to be fruitful and multiply, he said. "We have to redefine words we never had to define before, such as father and mother."

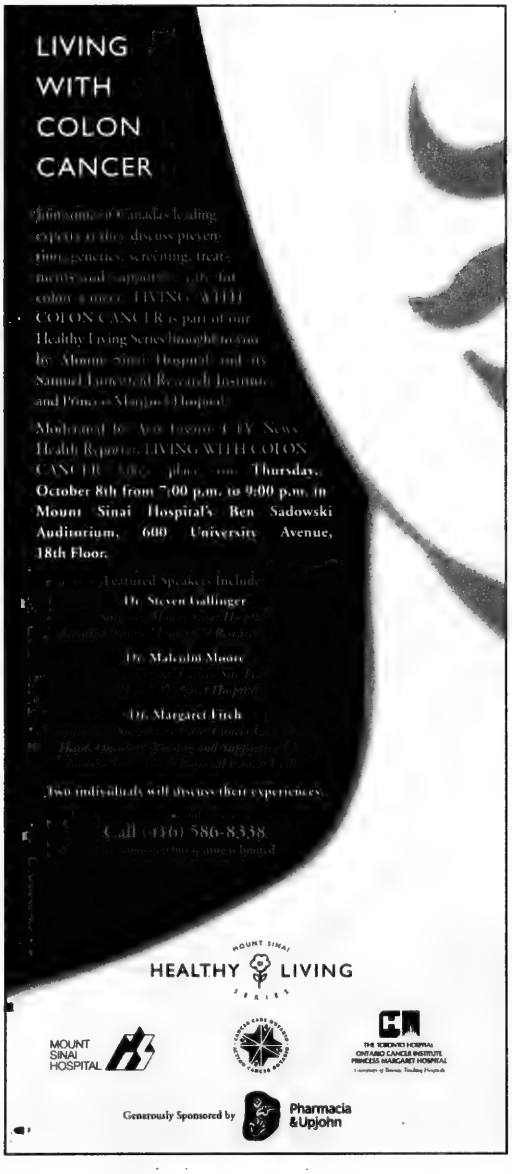
Steinberg considers that there will be halachic solutions to these problems.

Audey Stanleigh died in August, 1996, at the age of 21, after a valiant battle against leukemia, which included a bone marrow transplant. Friends and family have continued the fundraising that began during his lifetime.

Ilan Meister, who has been active in these efforts, presented a cheque for $35,000, partly raised by the highly successful Hoops for Hope basketball tournament, to Dr. Melvin Freedman, an active researcher in the field of leukemia research and treatment. The Audey Stanleigh Leukemia Research Foundation is devoted to finding a complete cure for all forms of leukemia.

The evening was also dedicated to the memory of Mindy Rosenberg, a mother of three and active community volunteer, who succumbed to leukemia last year, at the age of 42.

Rabbi Baruch Taub, the family's rabbi, described Stanleigh's *taharah*, purity, faith in God, love of Torah, as well as his sense of humor and love of having fun.



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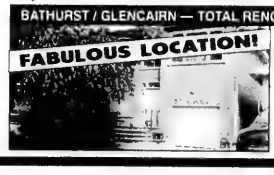
Detached bungalow on 40 x 133 ft. lot, fin. bsmt., close to all amenities, only $244,990. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / BAYCREST — SPACIOUS 3 + 1 BDRM. RANCH!
55 x 132 ft. lot, shows well! Large eat-in kitchen, custom built-ins, only $279,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — TOTAL RENOVATION / ADDITION



8 years new! Quality craftsmanship, 4 + 1 bdrms., family room, library, bird's-eye maple kitchen, loaded with upgrades, only $599,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

YORK DOWNS
East of Bathurst

Spectacular ravine property

70'x 443' irreg. $1,190,000.

ROSALIN KENAANI
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle R.E.
416-222-9707
905-707-8001

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawrence - 2 year old, custom built, 3,200 sq. ft., stucco, 5 bdrm., 5 bth., fin. w/o bsmnt., fully loaded, beautifully decor. $565K. 416-782-2472

Bath./Steeles - 3 bdrm., det., fin. bsmnt., f/p in den, ren'd. krt. & bth. $267,000. 416-588-2894. **A MUST SEE!!!**

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

MARSHALL R.E. LTD.

BATHURST & WILSON
$164,900

Large 3 bedroom, 2 baths, 2 balconies, wood floor under plush broadloom, renovated kitchen, tennis, pool, Shabbos elevator.

Marshall Cohen, Broker
Marshall Real Estate Ltd., Realtor
Real Estate Broker
961-3300

PROMENADE TOWERS
Corner 2 bdrm. & sunden
Priced to sell now!

ROYAL PROMENADE
Spacious 2 bdrm. & solarium, 2nd floor, pkg. & locker

JASON ATKINS
(905) 889-8008
Sutton Group Towne Centre Realty Inc.

Yonge/Steeles - 205 Hilda, 3 bdrm. condo w/upgrades, CA, pkg., $165K. 416-635-5031.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Don Mills/Finch, lux. condo, 2 bdr., 1 1/2 bth, secur bldg, avail. Nov. 20-Apr. 11. 416-499-1955

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Female seeks same to share home at Bathurst/Clark. Private full bath, indoor pkg. $700/mo. 416-720-7494.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BRAND NEW APARTMENTS FOR RENT
BATHURST & WILSON
(905) 764-2808

two - 3 bedroom apts.
2 bathrooms,
modern new white kitchen, double sink, balcony,
2 car parking (each apt.)
$1375 + (each)

one - 1 bedroom apart.
1 bathroom,
modern new white kitchen, double sink,
1 car parking
$975 +

Finch/Dufferin 1 bdr. furn. apt., spotless, undergrnd pkg, n/pets, n/smkr. Nov. - Apr. 630-0579.

3 bdrm. in triplex, 1 pkg., Bathurst/Finch. 416-638-7133.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

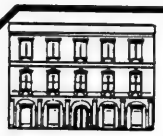
BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditionmg and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171



NEWLY DECORATED 1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS
$799.00 + PARKING

- CLEAN, WELL MAINTAINED BUILDING
- TTC AT FRONT DOOR
- UNDERGROUND PARKING AVAILABLE
- HARDWOOD FLOORS
- LARGE BALCONIES WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS
- FRESHLY PAINTED AND CLEANED
- LAUNDRY FACILITIES ON-SITE
- OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL
- CLOSE TO CONVENIENCES

STERLING SILVER
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
2900 Bathurst St.
(Bathurst & Glencairn)
Call (416) 449-9090
for an appointment

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lge. 3 bdrm. + den, wrap around balc., southern exp., CAC, immediate. 416-783-0542, 416-787-9451.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

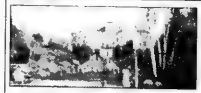
Bath./Steeles - furn. condo, 2 bdr., 2 bth., pkg. Avail. Nov. 1 - April 1. Call 416-665-8303.

Yonge/Finch - 2 bdrm. lux. condo, 2 bth., fully furn., all amen. Avail. Nov. 98 - Apr. 99. Call 416-733-1557.

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Bath./Eglinton - furn. 1 bdrm., balc., excellent bldg., convenient to all. 416-781-8449.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE



LAKE SIMCOE - MAJOR ESTATE $1,888,000 One-of-the-finest on Lake Simcoe's south shore of Kempenfelt Bay High timber beam ceiling, pine flrs., open plan, 9 bdrms. with ens., pool, tennis crt., hot tub, 8000 s.f. Like your own resort!! Sunsets

LAKE SIMCOE - BIG BAY PT. $885,000 Award winning New England sea side arch., spac. array of openness warmed by wide pine/oak flrs., glass, multi w/o dominated by big stone f/p & Muskoka rm. A masterpiece! Sunsets

LAKE SIMCOE - BIG BAY PT. $511,000 Compare this!! Escape to 1 acre paradise, lamplit dr., beautiful - like new with nothing left to do! Glass, Mexican tile flrs. throughtout, big decks, 2f.p., gorg. krt. & baths, pool, boat hs., gr

LAKE SIMCOE BELLE EWART $274,900 Lovely 4 bdrm., nicely renovated! Lrg. guest cott. L-shaped perm pier

LAKE SIMCOE - EIGHT MILE PT. $595,000 A beauty on 150'x550' lot, extremely well done!! Big decks & dock

Call the #1 Waterfront Specialist
Bernice Whelan
BERNICE WHELAN RLTY INC.
(705) 739-8000

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT

Highrise 1/1½	from	$45,000
Senate 2/2	from	$55,000
Tower 2/2	from	$75,000
Tower 3/2	from	$145,000
Consulate	from	$200,000
Envoy	from	$225,000

Call for further details
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aquarius - Hallandale, lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., newly furn. condo on ocean, exc. view. Avail. Jan. 4 for 12 weeks. $2000/mo US. 416-223-1606, weekdays only.

Lauderdale Lakes - Somerset 1+1condo w/encl., Florida rm. Newly reno'd. Fully furnished. 2nd flr. Elev. Pool. Clubhouse. Asking $1200/mo. U.S. 3 mo. min. Call Shelly, 905-737-9937

Boca, Century Village, Guildford, 3rd flr., 2 bdr., 1 1/2 bth., lake view, dishwasher, elevator, Jan. 9 - Apr. 8. 416-932-3303.

Century Village, Deerfield, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth, newly furn. 4 mos. min. 905-764-0549.

Century Village, Deerfield, 2 bdrms., 1 1/2 bath, main flr., close to club house, nr. all amen.,3 mos. Call 638-4070.

Century Village,Boca Raton, spotless 1 bdrm, 1 bth, mn flr, fully furn & equip. 905-625-3189

Clearwater - Prestigious Sand Key, 2 bdrm. + den, 2 bth., condo on gulf, view of bay, newly furn., avail. immed., min 3 mos. Call 905-886-8432.

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on the ocean, 1 bdrm conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. 416-488-9819.

Indian Spring, Boynton Beach, condo, seasonal, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., 2nd flr., overlooks canal and golf course, full golf membership incl. 508-993-8045.

Miami Beach, Mimosa Bldg., 2 bdrm., 2 bth., new decor., close to shul, Shabbos elevator, all season. Call 905-889-6802.

Miami Beach, on the ocean, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., furn. recently, 4-6 months. 416-968-7143.

S. Miami Beach, 1 bdrm. renov'd., pkg, near shops, restaurants, shul, avail. $1100./mo. U.S. Bernice, 416- 667-8045.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

QUADOMAIN, HOLLYWOOD, FLA. Spectacular oceanview, full 2 bedroom on beach for rent, fully furnished, Kosher. 633-4141.

Arlen House East, 1 bdrm. conv., min. 4 mos. 636-6470.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Ft. Lauderdale, 2 bdrm. condo, reasonable. 905-731-0076.

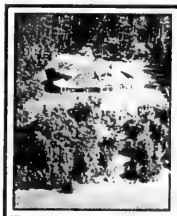
138 FURN. FLOR. PROP. FOR SALE/RENT

WILLIAMS ISLAND. Mediterranean Village Beautiful 2 bdr., 2 bth., decorator furn. condo in low rise villa style bldg. Gorgeous view of private pool/yacht club, 2 balc., concierge/valet, 24hr. sec., priv. pkg., close to restaurants, shopping etc. Avail. for sale or rental on mo./seas/yrly basis or rent to own. Call 416-587-4899.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

2 bdr. condo, fully furn., Jan., Feb. Hallandale or vicinity, must be exceptionally clean, close to Orthodox shul, Kosher restaurants etc. 905-731-9664.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES



ONE OF A KIND!!
Lake Simcoe - 2 km. from Barrie - 1 hr. to Toronto. 2½ acres TOTALLY PRIVATE waterfront estate w/201' frontage, architecturally exquisite home w/cathedral ceilings, soaring 2-way fieldstone FP, spectacular views, south exp. A year-round paradise. $1,495,000.

Call
Adrienne Meier or Krista Alkerton
Sales Reps
Royal LePage First Contact Realty Ltd.
Toll Free 1-877-728-4067

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Puerto Vallarta - Christmas week, 19-26 December, 1998. 6 sleeper, 2 bedroom, 2 baths, $1400/wk. 416-484-4482.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a BIG OPPORTUNITY. Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ASHKENAZ FESTIVAL seeks dynamic project Coord/Executive Ass't. Computer literate, familiar w/Jewish TO, arts admin, fundraising. 703-6892, fax: 703-5489. ashkenaz@echo-on.net

Office person for busy catering firm. Customer service, order taking, knowledge of Simply Accounting an asset. Fax resume to 905-881-2873.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Lady with RPN qualifications seeks work. Call 416-283-8850.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care in my home. Clean, non - smoking mom. Hot lunches. References available. Infants welcome. Bathurst/Steeles area. Call Bev at 905-738-8125.

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in and live-out Caregivers.
Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

DIAMOND PERSONNEL
Professionally Screened
Nannies
Housekeepers and Health Care Companions
Since 1988
416 730-8866

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded. Sylvia, 416-740-3034.

Cleaning lady available with refs. Call Barbara at 253-0523.

Cleaning lady experienced. Maggie, 416-635-8223.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady for any day with references & 8 yrs. experience . Call Wisia at 416-533-9816.

Do you have a demanding career outside the home? Let us help you. Our caregivers, nannies (live in/out) are carefully selected to meet the needs of every placement. Call Honeycomb Human Resources at 416-701-1831 or 416-707-4490

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Exp. cleaning lady avail. for F/T job. Tel: (416) 656-8696.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Polish cleaning lady w/5 years exp. seeks work. 416-694-8301.

Reliable European lady will clean your house or apartment, afternoons only. 416-763-2320.

Senior care in your home provided by an exp., responsible & reliable European lady w/refs. Call Elizabeth at 416-447-7965.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Exp. lady req'd. to take care of 2 kids, 3 days/wk in Richmond Hill. Refs. Only 905-770-5955.

RPN looking for private nursing duty w/Alzheimers or stroke patient. Excellent refs. Please call Monica at 416-494-9181.

Wanted - Au Pair for a Kosher home in Boston area. Call Lisa at 617-761-6718.

Warm family seeks loving babysitter/nanny for one infant. Refs. req'd. 416-630-2276.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

RN, Yiddish speaking, avail for private duty in the home. Also exp. in dialysis. 416-962-3684.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together. No blind dates, view a lrg. selection of photos. Ruth, 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1650 registered. 483-4151

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Desired..Required..Needed A traditional gentleman 60 +, well educated, honest, caring, loving, family and community oriented. Pref. tall, physically fit & sports minded, n/smkr. CJN Box # 7096.

DJF, 50, petite, prof., great sense of humour, romantic, caring, affectionate, loves movies, dining, dancing, long walks, traveling, good conversation. Seeks gentleman 50-58 w/similar qualities & interests, for lasting relationship. CJN Box 7104.

DJF, prof., energetic, modern 90's woman wishes to meet a single man, 45-55, active and prof. for a serious relationship. CJN Box # 7100.

Elegant, beautiful woman looking for man to travel with, 50-65. Must be generous, financially secure, fit in mind/body. CJN Box 7103

Let's start the New Year... SJM, 50, attr, would like to meet a SJF, 38-48 who is intell., attr, romantic, sincere, enjoys traveling and life for a serious relationship. CJN Box # 7098.

A tall, slim, good looking woman, 32 would like to meet an intelligent man. Reply to 1057 Steeles Ave. W., PO Box 81601, North York, M2R 3X1.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

The Meeting Place

To Listen & Respond To Ads call 1-900-451-4552 Ext.# 65
The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute

To Place Your FREE Ad call 905-276-6167 Ext.# 65

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

SOULMATE NEEDED
Single female 41, long red hair vibrant, attractive a dreamer teacher & a writer. Seeking a handsome intellectual male a soulmate to rome the universe with AD#1542

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
Single professional female, 5'6" slim positive outlook on life, enjoy dining & dancing, yoga, exercising sports, outdoor activities. Seeking a well educated, tall, professional male for long term relationship, possibly marriage AD#1548

SOMETIMES SILLY
Single Jewish female, attractive, teacher, sometimes silly, sometimes serious, enjoy bike riding, good conversation, non-smoker, kind, sincere Seeking a Jewish male with similar interests and values AD#1628

DREAMING OF YOU
Professional, ambitious, educated understanding, very attractive, originally from montreal, down to earth spontaneous practical Seeking a Jewish male late 20's-early 30's masculine, classy, sense of style really knows what he wants AD#1638

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish Female, 38, petite non-smoker, easy going, never been married, down to earth laid back with good values Seeking a male, 35-45 for a best friend and a life time partner AD#1528

ROMANTIC WALKS
Single Jewish female, attractive, enjoy theatre, dining out, travelling and romantic walks Seeking a Jewish male, 54-65, with a great sense of humour AD#1531

TO SHARE LIFE WITH
Attractive Jewish mother of 2, brown hair, green eyes, well educated, kind heart, gentle, humorous, non-smoker enjoy dining, long walks, art, music, jogging Seeking a male, late 40's-mid 50's, professional with similar interests AD#1516

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single mother of 1, from Island, 5'5" attractive, brown complexion, enjoy dining out Seeking a male with similar interests AD#1624

COMPASSIONATE
Single female, 5'6", 165lbs, blond hair, Business professional, compassionate, honest, with integrity. Seeking a professional male, 48-58 affectionate romantic AD#1517

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, 33, enjoy long romantic walks, tennis, theater, dining & dancing Seeking a Jewish male, warm caring, sensitive, intelligent, & fun to be with AD#1522

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female 5'6" 128lbs, blond hair, attractive, non-smoker, outgoing, likes to travel, movies. Seeking a male, kind, educated, good sense of humour, for possible long term relationship AD#1509

LOVE IS IN THE AIR
Single white female, 39, outgoing, self-employed Seeking a male, 35-45 Polish or European descent, confident & secure AD#1511

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Attractive, vibrant widow, mid 60's financially secure, enjoy life to the fullest Seeking a male with similar qualities & interests for possible future relationship AD#1535

SPUNKY LADY
Single Jewish female, 40's, spunky, fit,dynamic, terrific smile, enjoy skiing, roller-blading, dining, theater Seeking a male, tall Jewish, 45-55, honest, kind, adventurous generous at heart AD#1622

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single female, intelligent, attractive, traditional, kind, easy going, strong sense of humour Seeking a male, 40-50, with same qualities AD#1360

NIFTY 50'S
Divorced female, 55, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks Seeking a male with strong sense of humour, caring, sincere AD#1507

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, fun to be with, enjoys movies, travelling, swimming Seeking a male, 36+, with strong sense of humour, kind, sincere, intelligent AD# 1602

MEDICAL DOCTOR
Single Jewish female, 36, 5'8", medical doctor, lives in Toronto, enjoys tennis, golfing sailing, cottage life, dinning out Seek a Jewish male 34-52, either in the medical law field or business man AD#1494

WELL ESTABLISHED
Attractive female, widow, professional, educated, well established, non-smoker/drinker, enjoy long walks, reading, travelling, theatre Seek a male 58-65, with similar interests who wants to establish a long term relationship AD#1500

SEEKING SOULMATE
Professional Jewish female, 37, warm, sincere, creative, enjoy reading, walking Seeking a Jewish male, honest, sense of humour family oriented, with a real sense of adventure AD#1508

To renew your ad call
416-236-6644

Questions ???
416-236-6644

Men seeking Women

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times Seeking a lady who is romantic, funloving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group AD#1547

NO HEAD GAMES
single male 40, originally from Montreal handsome, science, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hard-working Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour AD#1543

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38 Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship AD#1523

LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz dancing, singing Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests AD#1527

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded AD#1534

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-faceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tele-a totes lots of T L C to give Seeking a slim, elegant, non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre" AD#1504

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Professional gentleman, Jewish, 52, traditional values, handsome, healthy, successful, enjoy good food, dancing, long romantic walks Seeking marriage minded lady, looks are not important, for a long term relationship AD#1513

ROMANTIC & LOYAL
Gentleman, early 50's, tall, athletic, Canadian, non-smoker, easy to look at & talk to, enjoy life's pleasures Seeking an attractive, fit, single Jewish female, 39-45, for lasting love, no pretenders pls AD#1514

GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER
Single attractive male, 58, 5'11", slim brown hair & blue eyes, great sense of humour, caring, enjoy going away for the winter to Florida, Australia or California Seeking a female, attractive, well kept good personality, great sense of humour AD#1519

JEWISH DOCTOR
Jewish male, 47, 5'7", doctor, honest, slim, fit, European background, has shared custody of his 2 children, keep commitments & promises Seeking a female under 40, slim, nice & intelligent AD#1501

SHY AT FIRST
Single Jewish male, 41, no dependents brown hair & eyes, handsome, sincere, caring, enjoy dining & dancing, travelling music, not a pet lover Seeking a single lady, non-smoker, 32-40, up to 5'3", sincere, no head games pls AD#1525

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship AD#1469

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, early 60's 5'9" 160lbs, fit, enjoy arts, sports, good conversation, good sense of humour Seeking an elegant, slim, non-smoker, proud of her heritage lady AD#1504

COMPANION NEEDED
Single male, handsome, slim Seeking a companion to share expenses for winter trip to Florida for 3 months Pls call AD#1506

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit likes travelling Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile AD#1485

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single male, 50, 5'10", 184lbs, handsome, well built, responsible, financially secure, honest, sincere, non-smoker, non-drinker, well established Seeking a Jewish female, 40-50, with similar interests AD#1465

NIFTY 50'S
Single white male, 56, self-employed, caring and sincere, enjoys travelling, movies, quiet romantic evenings Seeks a compassionate, loving, sensitive lady AD# 1480

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, 45, with a business degree, conservative looking, enjoys dancing, has good sense of humour Seeking a female doesn't have to be slim, children are OK AD#1405

SHARE LIFE'S BEAUTIES
Single male 55, tall, attractive, European non-smoker, passionate, humorous affectionate, enjoys dancing, singing Seeking a petite attractive female with similar interests to share life s beauties AD#1458

KIND & HONEST
Jewish gentleman, sincere, kind, honest not into bar scene, seeking companionship of nice Jewish girl with strong sense of humour, kind & sincere Ad# 1364

CLASSIFIED ADS/
SERVICE
DIRECTORY ADS
- CUSTOMER SERVICE -

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date).
Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

305 ARTICLES WANTED

2 Royal Dalton Plates: Yom Kippur Plate & Chanukah Plate. Call 416-661-4039.

330 OBITUARIES

KATZ, Tena - on Sept. 11, 1998.
MANDEL, Izrail (Igor) - on Sept. 12, 1998, late of 125 Conley St
RAKHMILOV, Iakov - on Sept 12, 1998, late of 4455 Bathurst St
ZIVE, Pearl - on Sept 13, 1998
FLEISHMAN, Anne - on Sept 14, 1998
HOFFMAN, Annie - on Sept. 17, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St
GELFAND, May - on Sept. 17, 1998, late of 131 Torresdale Ave.
KOHUT, Robert - on Sept. 17, 1998, late of 15 Kenton Dr
SHINER, Percy - on Sept. 18, 1998, late of 7440 Bathurst St
CHENCINSKI, Izak - on Sept 18, 1998
KAUSHANSKAYA, Inna - on Sept. 20, 1998, late of 4900 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

TEPPERMAN, Bess - on Sept. 11, 1998, late of 569 Sheppard Ave W. #711
PALTER, Esther - on Sept. 11, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
GOODFELLOW, Selma - on Sept. 11, 1998, late of 355 St Clair Ave. W. #1207
LIPSON, Mickey - on Sept. 12, 1998, late of 25 Bamburgh Circle
HIRSCH, Herbert - on Sept. 12, 1998, late of 85 Skymark Drive #1405
CUTLER, Edward - on Sept. 13, 1998, late of 92 Laurelcrest Ave
WARSHAFSKY, Fay - on Sept. 13, 1998, late of 92 Alexis Blvd
SILVER, David - on Sept. 13, 1998, late of 1925 Steeles Ave East
BALABAN, Ray - on Sept. 14, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St
MANDEL, Lucy - on Sept. 15, 1998, late of 3174 Bathurst St #217
KOFMAN, Eva - on Sept. 15, 1998, late of 10 Fashion Roseway #306N.
MALINSKY, Louis - on Sept. 15, 1998, late of 2395 Bayview Ave.
GOLDHAR, Tanya - on Sept. 15, 1998, late 123 Spadina Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of
DAVID J. C. GORD ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 4th, at 2:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Section EEE Row D

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MILDRED FLEISCHER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 4th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Habonim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX HANDELMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 4th, 10:30 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CLEO FRAGER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 4th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Palmerston Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LILLIAN ROTSTEIN ז"ל
will take place
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Pardes Sholom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
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Roselawn Cemetery
B'nai Moshe Section
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Israel & the Jewish World

An Israeli bomb squad combs through the wreckage of a bus stop in the Hebrew University complex for clues after a small device exploded. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Explosion proves an eye opener for foreign students at Hebrew U

By VIVA PRESS
CJN *Israel Bureau*

JERUSALEM — When a bomb exploded on September 24 at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, overseas students got their first taste of what it's really like to live in Israel. Here for the year to study and live in Israel, students at the university's Rothberg School for Overseas Students were at the site of Israel's most recent bombing attack.

A soldier in the IDF was the only person at the bus stop on the university's Mount Scopus campus, which is also a popular hitchhiking station for soldiers. Jerusalemite Amir Davidian, 20, was moderately wounded, no one was killed.

While security forces called to the scene combed the campus for other explosives, Canadian overseas student, Jenny Lewis was in her dorm room less than a block away.

"I heard a loud blast," said Lewis, who was eating breakfast at the time that the bomb went off. "I knew the minute I heard it that it was a bomb."

Lewis, 21, a third-year Queen's University student studying history and English, arrived in Israel on August 2 for a year of study abroad.

She was getting ready for her class, which started at 8:30 a.m., when the bomb went off.

"I was not tempted to go home [to Toronto]," Lewis, said. "My teacher said not to worry and that life goes on. She said, 'If you live in fear, you're letting the terrorist win.'" Still, Lewis admitted, "I'm living in fear."

Twenty-year-old Shelly Brenner, thought the blast was just another truck driving by her noisy dorms. But when she went outside to walk to her morning class, the explosion really hit home. Brenner described the site where the bomb had exploded as a "big mess."

"It was so close to us," said Brenner, a French and sociology major from the University of Western Ontario in London. "It made a little more of an impact on me.

"I think terrorists want to scare people. I don't want them to win," Brenner said referring to the fact that she would continue to take buses in Israel.

Davidian, the IDF soldier, suffered injuries to his head, and was listed in satisfactory condition at Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem. He was struck by fragments while bent over, tying his shoelaces. Police said he could have been more seriously injured if he were standing up. President Ezer Weizman visited him at the hospital.

While no group claimed responsibility for the attack which totally destroyed the bus stop and shattered its glass everywhere, many people hypothesized that it was an attempt at halting the already fragile peace process.

'If you live in fear, you're letting the terrorist win'

"This is not the way to stop the peace process," said Lewis. "This is not the way to start the [Jewish] new year."

Jerusalem Police Chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki said the bomb was probably placed by terrorists. There had been no specific warnings about the Sept. 24 attack, *The Jerusalem Post* reported him as saying, but police remained on high alert for a retaliatory attack following the security forces' killing of the Awadallah brothers. Imad and Adel Awadallah, Hamas terrorists, were killed by the IDF in Hebron on Sept. 10.

Police are preparing for more serious attacks, added Yitzhaki.

The bomb could have done far greater damage if it had been set off half an hour later. The international school's courses begin at 8:30 a.m., and many students would have been in the area of the explosion. When the bomb exploded at 8 a.m., no one was in the school.

Still, those that were in the vicinity were affected.

"People around me weren't as shaken up as I was," said Brenner. "It's been a rough day."

Meanwhile in related developments Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and U.S. President Bill Clinton made plans to meet at the White House to discuss, among other things, the current developments in the Middle East.

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NFL lineups have some Jewish content

By HARLAN C. ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — The National Football League (NFL) kicked off its season recently with six Jewish players ready for action – eventually.

Only three players suited up on opening game: lineman/long snapper Adam Schreiber of the Atlanta Falcons, tight end Scott Slutzker, recently traded from Indianapolis to the New Orleans Saints, and punter Josh Miller of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Ironically, the other three players have the best chance of starting with their teams, once they get off the injured list. They are former All-Pro lineman Harris Barton of the San Francisco 49ers, fullback Chad Levitt of the Oakland Raiders and defensive end Mitch Marrow of Carolina Panthers.

Starting position with the Raiders

Levitt, a second-year pro who was a star tailback at Cornell, seemed to have won a starting position on the Raiders until he was injured.

Last year, he started the final two games of the season and made two key blocks on Junior Seau on two short touchdown runs by a Raider tailback. He also caught two passes for 24 yards and ran twice for a total of three yards.

The native of suburban Philadelphia stands 6-foot-1 and weighs 230 lbs.

Marrow had his senior season at Pennsylvania limited to four games because of mononucleosis, but he still showed enough to be drafted in the third round.

Standing 6-foot-4 and weighing 285 lbs., Morrow is a defensive end who set Penn records for sacks in one season (16.5) and tackles for a loss (13).

Barton, meanwhile, is in his 12th year with the 49ers but he missed all of last season because of knee surgery. Now 34, the former University of North Carolina All-American was the surprise of pre-season camp before being placed on injured reserve the week before the season's Labor Day kickoff.

Relatively injury-free during his career, Barton was an NFL All-Pro from 1990-93.

Slutzker, a 6-foot-4, 250-lb. native of New Jersey, played his college ball in Iowa. In his second season with the Colts last year, Slutzker started in two games. He had his first career catches against New England (16 yards) and two for 16 yards against the Jets a few weeks later. Other than that, he played mostly on special teams, making 10 tackles and picking up one fumble. He's expected to see more action with New Orleans.

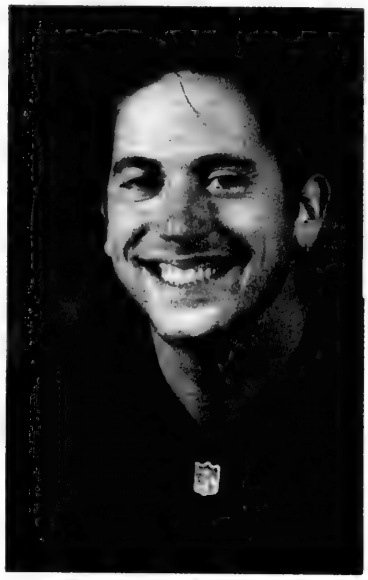
Schreiber, a native of Texas, is in his 15th pro season although he started only 33 of 148 games with Seattle, New Orleans, Philadelphia, New York Jets and Giants, Minnesota and the Falcons. His busiest years were 1987 when he started 12 games with the Eagles and 1993, when he started 16 games with the Vikings.

The 6-foot-4, 298-lb. veteran is credited with the accurate snapping that helped kicker Morten Anderson connect on 23 of 27 field goals and 35 straight extra points. He also helped punter Dan Stryzinski lead the NFL with fair catches forced, with 45.

Miller, a native of Rockaway, NY, began his pro career with Baltimore in the Canadian Football League. Twice CFL punting leader (once with a 45.3 yard average), the University of Arizona hoofer averaged 42.6 yards per punt in the NFL, with the longest soaring 72 yards.

Other Jewish players who didn't hang on this year are rookie free agent defensive end Brent Burnstein, cut by Arizona, offensive lineman Alex Burnstein, who played on Baltimore's reserve squad last year, and seven-year veteran offensive lineman Ariel Solomon, let go by Detroit.

Missing from the sidelines this season will be longtime coach Marv Levy of the Bills and running backs coach Joe Brodsky, who spent eight years with the Cowboys.



Josh Miller

Harris Barton

Scott Slutzker

Chad Levitt

Mitch Marrow

Adam Schreiber

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The Inside Back

Waking up to the IRB's woes

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

Why did it take an infantile, gratuitous and quite stupid incident to rouse our national advocacy organizations into finally seeing that there's a problem at Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB)?

It was deputy IRB chair John Frecker's ill-advised "Sieg heil!" gesture – uttered, as he explained, in response to a management tactic he considered heavy-handed – that finally lit a fire under Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada. The organizations, horrified at Frecker's behavior, demanded an inquiry not only into how the IRB dealt with the incident, but also into long-held allegations of bias and anti-Semitism on the part of board members.

Hello.

The IRB was rife with rumors of anti-Jewish and anti-Israel bias for years before the Frecker foofaraw. While Jewish immigration lawyers or lawyers with Jewish clients will tell you they never experienced overt bias from a panel; what has gone on behind closed doors is another matter.

It began in the early 1990s with a new phenomenon: ex-Soviets who had gone to Israel on Operation Exodus started to spring-board to the West, including Canada, as "refugees" from the Jewish state.

Typically, the asylum-seekers claimed that while in Israel, they were discriminated against, harassed, denied jobs and housing, and even beaten because of their mixed marriages and questionable status as Jews.

Canada was blasted as the only democracy in the world to believe the stories of persecution, and it accepted hundreds of ex-Soviets. IRB panels in Montreal, especially, swallowed tales of horror in Israel, hook, line and sinker.

The issue finally came to a head in 1994, when Jerusalem publicly called on Ottawa to stop accepting the claimants, saying that Israel, a democracy, does not produce refugees, and that stories of persecution were bogus. The IRB's response? Essentially, it was "mind your own business," and panels went right on accepting Israeli refugees, even to this day, albeit in much smaller numbers.

Evidence supplied by the Israeli embassy showed that while ex-Soviets *may* face discrimination, they did not have a "well-founded" fear of persecution in Israel – a requirement under international rules to successfully win asylum. For the most part, IRB panels chose to ignore Israel's entreaties. Was it because the evidence conflicted with their pre-conceived views about Israel?

The flip side of the coin took place in 1994, when an IRB panel denied asylum to an elderly Jewish woman fleeing violent anti-Semitism in her native Azerbaijan. Why was she turned down? Because she was Jewish.

That's right. The panel said that because the woman was Jewish, she could get automatic citizenship in Israel. She was told to apply to go to Israel under that country's Law of Return, whether she wanted to or not, and forget about Canada. The decision was spine-chilling; straight out of *None is Too Many*, and a perverse reading of the Law of Return. What's more, the Federal Court of Canada actually upheld it in a subsequent appeal.

Lawyers and refugee advocates were outraged. But where were Congress and B'nai Brith? If they were working "behind the scenes," as they like to say, it was far behind the scenes – their work eclipsed by mainstream organizations like the Canadian Council for Refugees, whose rich study tore the court's spurious interpretation of the Law of Return to shreds.

Jewish organizations should have been screaming from the rooftops that the rulings from the IRB and the court were nothing short of malevolent. Instead, we got the usual anodyne press releases.

My theory has always been that Congress and B'nai Brith – indeed Jewish advocacy groups everywhere – are great in front-line situations, like swastikas scrawled in elevators or alleged pro-Hitler remarks from a former hockey player, but less adept at identifying and tackling more complex, administrative forms of bias.

Ironically, the "sieg heil" was loud enough for everyone to take notice.

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4 eggplant	pepper
1 lb. fettucini noodles	grated parmesan cheese
1 lb. low fat ricotta cheese	nutmeg
2 med. cans tomato sauce	oregano
salt	garlic powder

Peel eggplant and slice lengthwise. Lightly brush slices with oil and broil 5 minutes on each side. Cool. Boil noodles, drain and cool. Mix ricotta and parmesan cheeses with noodles.

Place small amount of mixture at end of an eggplant slice and roll up. Mix tomato sauce and seasonings. Pour half tomato sauce on bottom of 9x13 casserole dish. Add rollups seam side down and cover with remainder of sauce. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I have been taking care of my 87-year-old aunt in my home for the past 10 years. I also have a family of my own to take care of. My children are teenagers and my husband has arthritis. My aunt has developed a lot of difficulty with her balance and recently has had several serious falls in my home. After a lot of thought, I moved her into a nursing home. The care she now receives is better for her, but she is lonely. I am having trouble coping with my guilt. What do you suggest?

MB

Dear MB,

Placing a relative in a long-term care facility is always difficult, even when it is in everybody's best interest. It is normal to feel guilty and have trouble adapting to this change. However, your role as a caregiver will continue, and in order to cope with the stresses involved, you might find it helpful to join a support group for family caregivers. Support groups provide new methods of dealing with the challenges of caregiving. Also, you can find support from being with other caregivers who are sharing similar experiences to yours. Often the nursing home, your local public health department and/or Jewish family services provide these services.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal*

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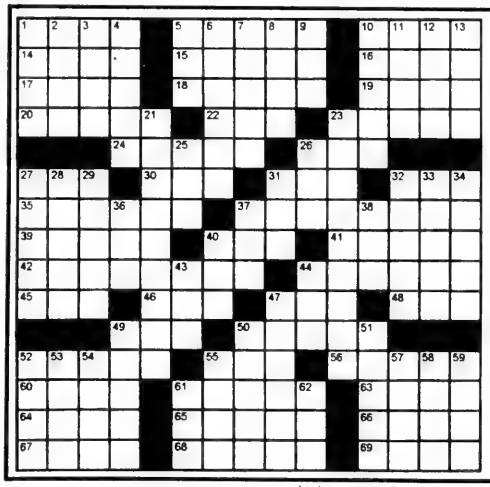

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Bees (Heb.)
5. Hebrew letter
10. Roasted Seder item
14. World (Heb.)
15. Island of entry
16. Gad's boy
17. "__ 18" Uris novel
18. Jerusalem Gate
19. Deceased
20. Jonah's lair
22. Haifa to Eilat (dir.)
23. Woody or Steve
24. Sukkah?
26. Koch or Land
27. Exist
30. Title for Golda
31. Top for Gottex
32. Finance degree
35. Prepares Seder egg
37. Wins the Afikoman
39. Lauder
40. Travel club
41. Give a potch
42. No Clue
44. Game of Dreidel
45. King David __ , Jerusalem
46. Vase
47. Michael Landon role
48. Koppel
49. Tu B' Shevat planting?
50. Desert delight
52. Desert station
55. Shiva clothes
56. Asher's first
60. Mt. Gilboa flower
61. "Let there be __ "
63. Not on Shabbat
64. Sharansky to friends
65. Jacob's boy
66. Oy Vey!
67. Ribicoff and Vigoda
68. Freidan
69. Hebrew letters

Down

1. Teller invention
2. "Day" Writer
3. Goliath
4. K'tonton
5. __ Aviv
6. David's weapons
7. Moses on the mount
8. Sederaction
9. Sin (Eng.)
10. Herman Barron equipment
11. Talmud, __ Law
12. Teruah
13. Garden
21. Yom Kippur (Heb.)
23. Hebrew leap month
25. Freud and Sabin
26. Byzantine or Messianic
27. Son of Gad
28. Baseball MVP
29. Like Eden's apple
31. Golden girl Arthur
32. Daven (Eng.)
33. Imitate Ralph Cooperman
34. Like the first son
36. Portion (abv.)
37. Used his tuches
38. Auditor
40. Abby's sister
43. Noah's craft
44. Jonathan Pollard?
47. Noah's boy
49. Desert cool spots
50. __ makes right?
51. Moses' Dad
52. Actress Louise
53. PLO member
54. Circumcision
55. Make aliyah
57. Bloody river
58. Sixth day creation
59. Myra, pianist
61. Sabin's milieu
62. Nizer pleasure

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. *(Last week's answers are on page 36.)*

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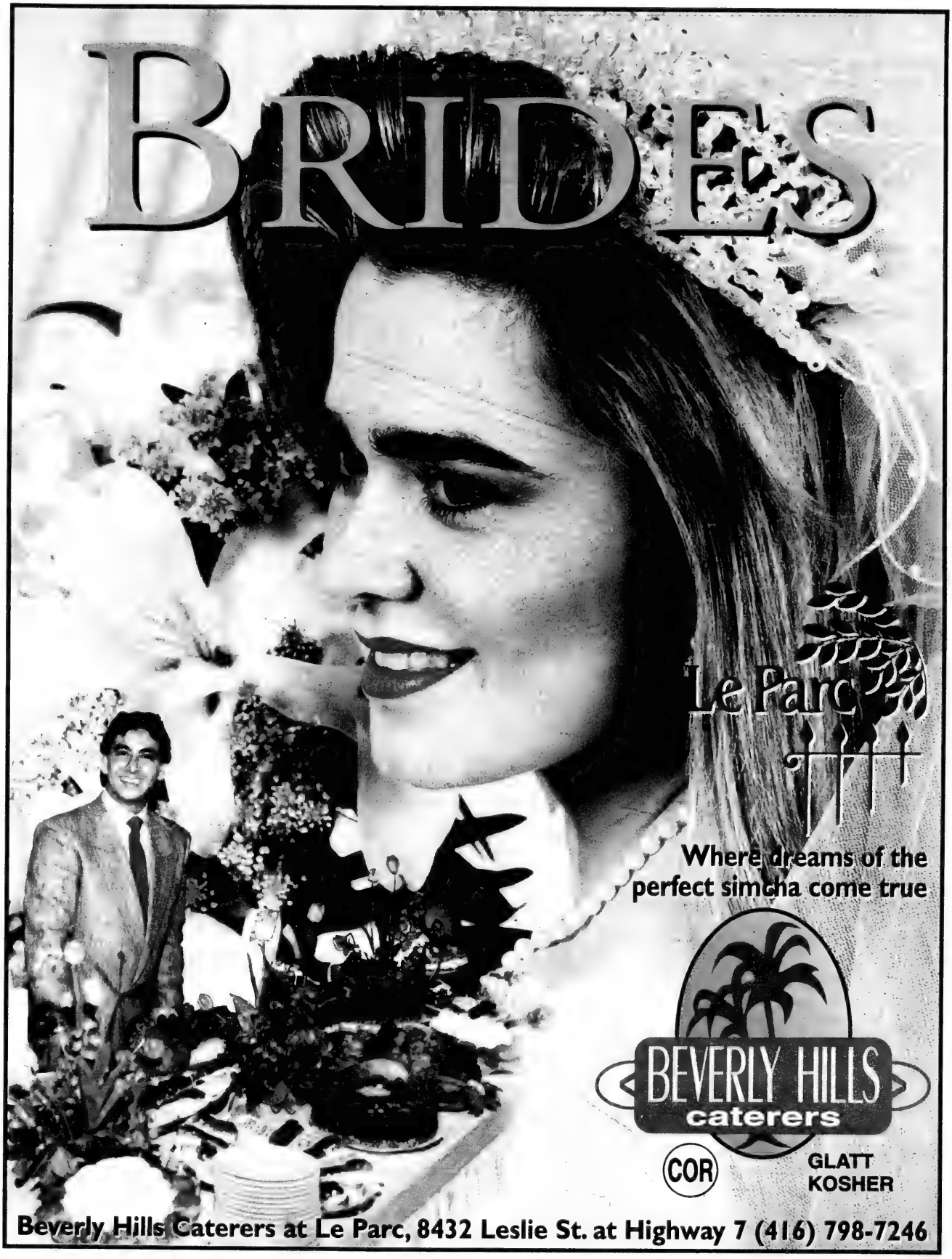
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You are invited to a beautiful new jewellery store on Avenue Road. It is a pleasure to walk through the doors of Belle Etoile to see the exquisitely designed pieces on display. The pieces are all of the finest quality from fine jewellery, fine antiques, precious stones, unique silver, gold, and diamonds.

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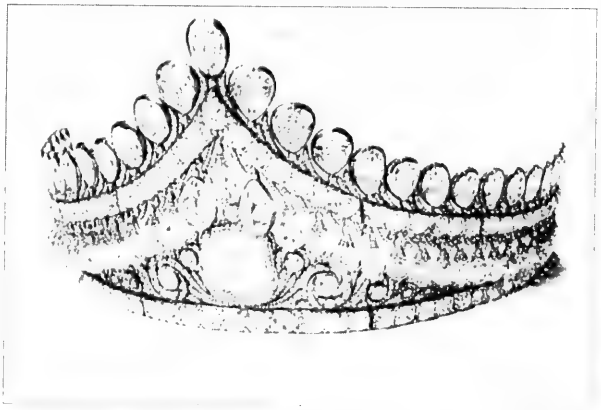
Some of the designers Belle Etoile carry are: Cartier, Piaget, Buccellati, Van Cleef & Arpels, Adler and Chaumet, Asprey, Patek Philippe and Rolex.

For brides and grooms not only do they have an extensive selection of engagement and wedding rings, but also a beautiful selection of gifts for weddings, anniversaries and for every occasion. Also, for gift giving, consider a beautiful antique or perhaps, the ultimate, an exquisite Fabergé.

Belle Etoile has something for everyone. Store hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Sunday & Monday by appointment. Located at 1688 Avenue Road. For more information call 416-781-7500.



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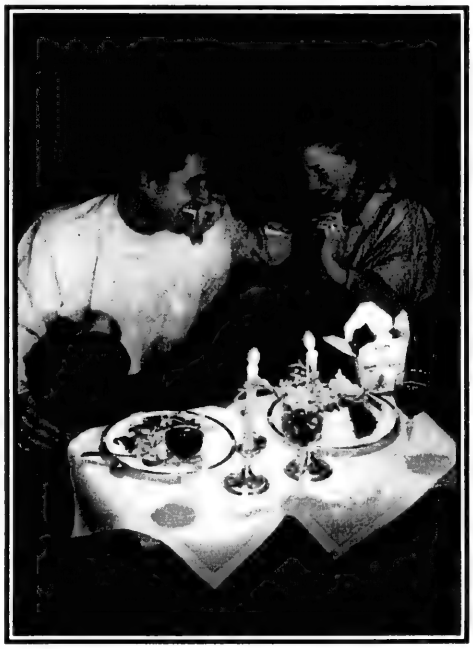

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Vaughan Estate:
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The Vaughan Estate – originally known as Donningvale – was built in 1931 in a simple Elizabethan style typical of a large stone country manor house. The exceptional renovation has retained its historic nature, providing two elegantly appointed ballrooms, each with a capacity of 150.

The grandeur is also apparent throughout the beautifully sculptured gardens, walkways and tiered patio, gardens and stone pathways overlooking the Don River ravine. This makes The Vaughan a photo opportunity for your bridal group, family and friends.

Planning Your Wedding?

With a history of hosting weddings dating back to the 1930s, The Estates' wedding specialists carry this tradition of excellence into the 1990s and the next millennium. Personalized service and attention to detail are the qualities that make The Estates an idyllic backdrop for a memorable wedding.

Wedding couples look to The Estates for personalized service, central location, opulent interiors, free parking and superb cuisine with kosher catering available. Another important benefit when choosing The Estates is knowing that revenues go to research at the world-renowned Sunnybrook Health Science Centre. For more information call The Estates at 487-3841.

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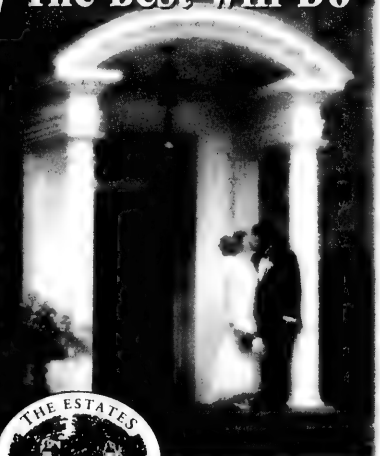

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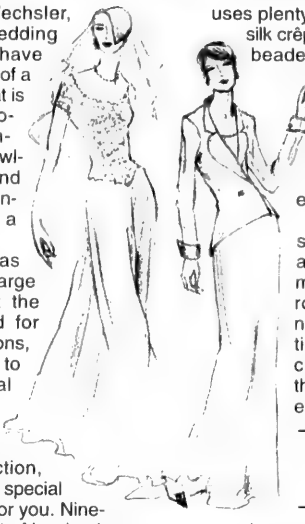
Adele Wechsler for elegant understatement

For Adele Wechsler, quality wedding garments have become symbolic of a 15-year career that is still gaining momentum. Combining extensive knowledge of fabric and design, loving attention to detail and a strong artistic sense, Adele has built a business large enough to meet the growing demand for her unique creations, yet small enough to keep the personal touch.



Rather than offer a bewilderingly huge selection, Adele creates that special gown that's right for you. Ninety percent of her business is custom; and all custom dresses are crafted in-house by a small, dedicated, and talented staff.

Individuality expressed

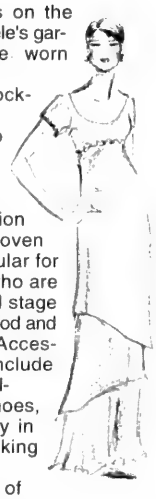
Adele's expanding collection focuses on special occasion and contemporary wedding wear. The woman who's confident in who she is and wants to express her individuality will find herself particularly well-served by the Wechsler approach, whether she's a first-time bride, second-time bride, or Mother of the Bride. Adele Wechsler satisfies this varied clientele with a look that is elegant, understated, and tailored to the individual. Ornament is used sparingly, to emphasize the basic design; and the favorite colors are the softer whites, ivory, champagne and blush tints.

Adele's ideas are gaining currency again. She has noticed a return to cleaner lines, Empire lines, short sleeves, and A-line or bias-cut skirts. Layered chiffon gowns and couture brocade jackets over silk sheath dresses are popular among her clients.

One of Adele's specialties is knit and fabric suiting combinations. She uses plenty of silks, brocades, silk crêpes and satins, pearl beaded chiffons, and layered ombre chiffons. Lace combinations, especially with French laces such as Chantilly, are another specialty.

The Adele Wechsler look is comfortable to wear and move around in, yet romantic and feminine. It's stylish yet timeless, with a charm that evokes the Bogie and Bacall era, or evening dresses on the Titanic. And Adele's garments can be worn many times, as evening and cocktail gowns.

Bat Mitzvah collection



There's also a bridesmaid collection, and a junior/bat mitzvah collection which has proven extremely popular for young ladies who are in a transitional stage between childhood and womanhood. Accessories include hats, headpieces, shoes, and jewelry in various striking designs.

The *style* of service is another plus. You take your time to make the right choices, and you receive as many fittings as you need. "Even if a decision is right," Adele acknowledges, "you're happier when you're not pressured into it."

For her clients, the voice that tells them the garment is now "just right" always comes from within.

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Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto hosts wedding parties of 40 to 180 people, starting at $92.00 per guest, plus gratuity and taxes.

When you book your function at this marvelously mid-sized downtown hotel, which offers self parking after 6 p.m. for all guests of the bridal party, you'll find something special in store for both bride and groom.

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a one-hour cocktail reception featuring complimentary piano player, open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. This is followed by an elegant four-course dinner with imported wine, and sparkling wine afterwards for toasts. There is a four-hour host bar after dinner, and coffee and tea service at midnight.

Also, the bride and groom receive one free room on the wedding night for every $2,000 spent, to a maximum of five nights. For example, if there are 75 guests at $92 each, totalling $6,900, there would be three complimentary rooms for the bride and groom to offer family and friends. (These figures do not include taxes and gratuity.)

Rates start at $210 for a single or double room, with special rates during the slow season. When they arrive on their wedding night, the bride and groom receive a complimentary suite and chilled champagne. Before setting out next morning on their honeymoon, they are served a continental breakfast (sliced fruit, Danish pastry, croissants and coffee).

If you wish, Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will be pleased to organize every aspect of your wedding within the domain of the hotel, from flowers to entertainment. The catering manager will attend to every detail to ensure all goes smoothly. This level of service is in keeping with Hotel Inter-Continental's profile: it's a "boutique hotel" for individual business travellers, families, intimates and small groups (and possibly a celebrity or two in search of privacy and quiet).

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto is located at 220 Bloor Street West, just west of Avenue Road, across from the Royal Conservatory of Music. For more information, ask for the catering manager at **(416) 324-5914**.

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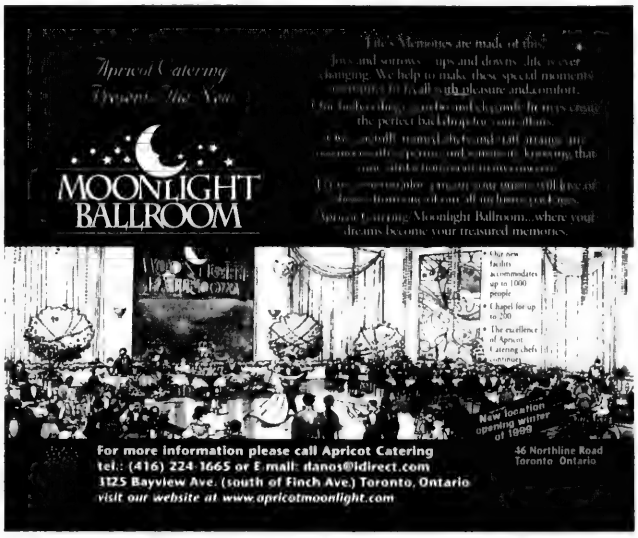
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As to catering, Al Gottfried started making dairy trays at the age of 16, in 1976. On his own full-time since 1996, he created Big Al's Marvelous Meal's Catering Co. to an excellence which sets standards for the industry.

Big Al's full service catering menu includes marinated poached salmon, pasta bars, three stage buffets with stations like hand carved smoked prime rib and pastrami, Chinese and Mexican bars, salads and much more.

The restaurant is set with black and white checkered table clothes, black lacquer Italian chairs, fresh flowers and candles on the tables invite you to relax and savor your meal. The menu tempts you with dishes like 12 oz. and 16 oz. New York steaks, seasoned moist chicken breasts, and fresh catch of the day. Everything is cooked to order, fresh daily, and served to please both eye and palate. Portions are huge; you'll want a doggie bag.

The phenomenal specialties include fresh soups like cheesy onion, fresh chowders, stuffed yams with chicken.

Big Al's marvelous catering company is a one-stop shop, starting with Masha Ami; your own co-ordinator /consultant. Big Al guarantees your party to be a success. We also arrange for DJ's, photographers, flowers, balloons and decor packages.

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The Creative Approach to Bridal Registry

These days, most engaged couples register for gifts. It's a direct way to communicate your preferences. You may not have thought of this, however you can also register for original works of art!

A Show of Hands is a contemporary craft gallery offering truly exceptional one of a kind pieces from hand blown glass, to ceramics, magnificent Judaica to jewellery. They specialize in alternative registries and corporate gifts. *What is an alternative registry?* Gallery director Sara Levine-Petroff explains, "It's a wish list. It either augments a conventional registry, or is chosen in lieu of it. People register for many different reasons; engagements, housewarmings, birthdays, anniversaries, or bar and bat mitzvahs. Today, many couples are getting married after establishing their careers. They may already have the household basics such as cookware and dishes, and are looking for special pieces to accent their homes. Original, signed works that reflect their lifestyle."

When asked about the trend of today's choices in craft works, Sara notes, "It's a marriage between form and function. People are looking for functional craft pieces that can be used when entertaining. Many of the contemporary Judaic artworks such as menorahs and sedar plates are left on display all year round in our clients homes."

A Show of Hands has a truly inspired range of attendants' gifts, and can accommodate personalized commissioned works. Information on the artist is included with every signed piece. When registering, you are extended a **10% discount** on all attendants' gifts.

After 14 years, **A Show of Hands Contemporary Craft Gallery** has become known as *the* choice destination for unique, inspirational gifts. If you have never been to the gallery, be sure to stop in before you consider registering anywhere.

Location: **1947 Avenue Road**, at Felbrigg, 5 blocks south of Wilson. Gallery hours are 10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Monday—Saturday.

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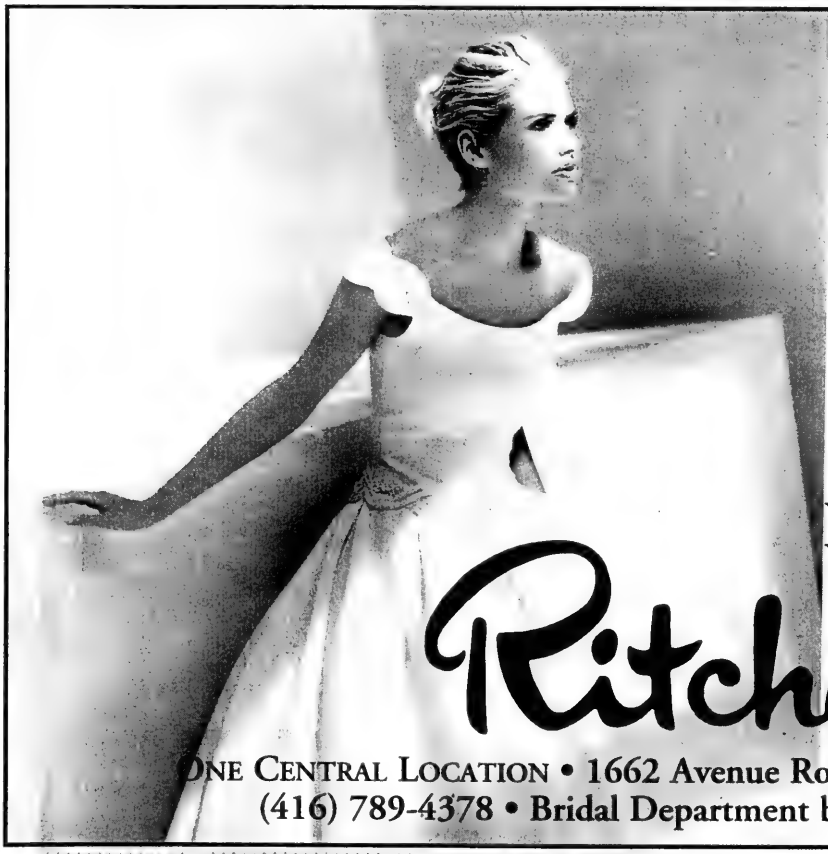

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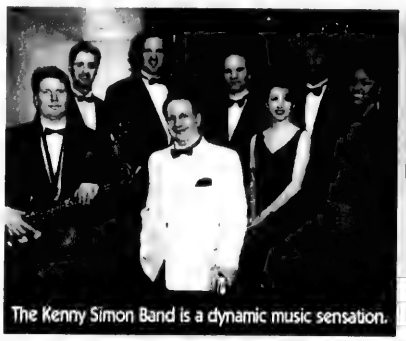

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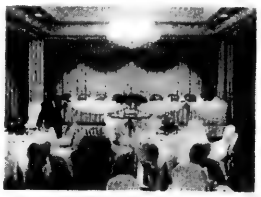

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Ottawa school hit by arson

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Officials at Ecole Maimonides in suburban Ottawa are appealing to all of Canadian Jewry for help following the second arson attack in three years at the Orthodox Jewish day school.

As of *The CJN*'s deadline, fire investigators were combing through the damage at the Nepean school after an attack at about 2 a.m. on Oct. 1 – just hours after Yom Kippur ended.

It was a chilling replay of a similar arson attack at the school in August 1995, after which the building's interior was entirely renovated.

The French immersion Torah day-school has an enrolment of about 100 students from preschool to Grade 8.

Ottawa-Carleton police say a preliminary investigation suggests a suspect or suspects forced open a window and entered a classroom, where papers were set ablaze. The fire then ignited a nearby couch.

The fire was quickly put out. But original damage estimates of $40,000 were boosted to between $65,000 and $75,000 because of smoke damage throughout the school.

Rabbi Yehoshua Botnick, the school's executive administrator, said damage was limited mainly to five classrooms in one wing. Two of the classrooms were "severely" damaged, he said.

The affected wing will be shut down and students will be relocated to elsewhere in the building, he added. The school was closed last Friday.

"The most unnerving thing is that there was a similar attack three years ago, which put us out of business for a month," the rabbi said in an interview.

No arrests were made as of last Friday.

The blaze "came as a deep shock to the community," said Mitchell Bellman, executive director of Ottawa's Jewish Community Council.

Bellman said that as far as he knows, the fire is not being considered as a hate crime.

Continued on page 31

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS; HIS GUESTS LISTEN
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat listen to U.S. President Bill Clinton in the oval office during their visit to Washington on Sept. 28. The leaders announced that they will return to Washington next month for a summit aimed at resolving the final details of the next phase of the Oslo peace process. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Harris in Israel

TORONTO — Ontario Premier Mike Harris will make an official visit to Israel from Oct. 12 to 14 for meetings with government and other political officials.

A meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled. Harris will also meet with Ontario and Israeli business leaders.

A statement from the premier's office notes that more than half of Canada's trade with Israel involves Ontario companies. Israel is one of Ontario's largest trading partners in the Mideast, with two-way trade totalling $314 million last year.

This will be Harris' second visit to Israel. He visited in 1994 as leader of the PC party.

'AND YOU WILL FIND JOY IN YOUR HOLY DAYS'
This quilt celebrating Sukkot was created by the Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework.

This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Celebration of Israel's 50th to be held in Ottawa. ***Page 3***

Torah fair celebrates arrival of two new scrolls. ***Page 6***

On Campus

U of T's Jewish students' union is looking for a new home. ***Page 21***

Arts

Torah discussion show is part of Christian television's programming. ***Page 32***

Role of Italian fascists in Holocaust examined in *The Righteous Enemy*. ***Page 35***

Sports

Jewish athletes still encountering incidents of anti-Semitism. ***Page 42***

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Women, prayer and their spiritual needs.
Please see page 9.

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Washington may upgrade relations with PA — please see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

New President Named

CALGARY — Stephen Krasnow, an ex-Montrealer, is the new president of the Calgary Jewish Community Council. Among Krasnow's priorities during his two-year term are to boost the UJA campaign and to build up the Community Foundation set up several years ago.

Eisen to be Fêted

TORONTO — Wendy Eisen, who was on the front lines of the struggle for Soviet Jewry for many years, will be one of 23 North American Jewish leaders to be honored at a State of Israel Bonds dinner in New York on Oct. 25. All the honorees will be recognized for their struggle for free emigration and cultural expression for Soviet Jews.

ISRAEL

Woman Gets Nine Months

JERUSALEM — An Israeli woman has been sentenced to nine months in prison for failing to tell police about the plot to assassinate Yitzhak Rabin. Margalit Har-Shefi, who expressed remorse for her actions for the first time after the sentencing faced a two-year jail term.

Israel and the Bomb

JERUSALEM — Israel quickly developed nuclear weapons on the eve of the 1967 Six Day War, according to a new book. But as described in *Israel and the Bomb*, which examines Israel's nuclear development during the 1950s and 1960s, other Israeli officials rejected Shimon Peres' suggestion at the time that the Jewish state conduct a test in order to demonstrate its nuclear capability.

Mordechai Rejects Strike

JERUSALEM — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai criticized a Knesset member's proposal that Israel should launch a preemptive strike against Iran. Labor party member Ephraim Sneh urged the strike following the recent display of the Shahab-3 ballistic missile in Tehran.

WORLD

Firm Apologizes

SYDNEY — A leading Australian stock brokerage firm has publicly apologized and accepted resignations from two employees following revelations of anti-Semitism. The moves came after court transcripts revealed that employees of J.B. Were & Sons had made anti-Semitic comments regarding a Jewish-owned company.

Service Ruled Legal

SYDNEY — The Australian Anti-Discrimination Tribunal has ruled that a dating service catering exclusively to Jews does not violate the country's anti-discrimination laws.

Rightist Parties Fail

FRANKFURT — None of Germany's three leading far-right parties received enough votes to enter parliament. The Republicans, the German People's Union and the National Democrats each received less than two percent of the vote in the country's national elections that brought defeat to Chancellor Helmut Kohl. The leader of Germany's Jewish community, Ignatz Bubis, noted that a disproportionate number of younger voters had supported the right-wing parties.

Governor Sounds Off

MOSCOW — The governor of the southern Russian region of Krasnodar is again making waves with his anti-Semitic remarks. Nikolai Kondratenko was sued recently after calling the administration of the region's largest mayor a "Zionist nest" and a "Judeo-Masonic mafia."

Postpone Beatification

NEW YORK — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre has asked Pope John Paul II to postpone the beatification of Alojzije Stepinac, the archbishop of Zagreb during World War II. For decades, historians have debated the role Stepinac played under the pro-Nazi fascist regime that ruled Croatia during the war.

Support for Crosses

WARSAW — Only 15 percent of Poles support the placing of new crosses outside the site of the Auschwitz death camp by radical Catholic militants, according to a new poll.

Shul Survives Hurricane Georges

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Shaare Zedeck Congregation purchased a back-up generator following last year's electrical blackout on Yom Kippur. One year later, that purchase came in handy: The generator allowed Shaare Zedeck, San Juan's largest shul, to hold services last week.

Like the rest of the island, the congregation, which serves the city's 1,800-member Jewish community, suffered the wrath of Hurricane Georges.

After services on Rosh Hashanah eve were held as scheduled, prayers the next morning were at 7 a.m. so that residents had time to go home and prepare for the storm.

The rescheduling was a good idea. By 2 p.m. that day, Georges hit the island, and the storm continued all day and into the night.

The next day's services were cancelled, the first time that Jewish residents of the U.S. territory can remember that happening.

"We consider ourselves really fortunate," said Rabbi Alfredo Winter, the synagogue's spiritual leader.

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IRB response to remark 'insufficient': report

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An independent report into a Nazi salute given by the deputy chair of Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB), and how the IRB handled the resulting fallout, doesn't go far enough, says Canadian Jewish Congress.

CJC renewed its calls for a full and independent probe into allegations of bias, anti-Semitism and homophobia at the board, whose 200 or so government-appointed members determine who gets asylum in Canada.

Congress says in light of the report, it will press Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard for a complete and impartial inquiry into the work environment at the IRB.

The report by Ottawa lawyer David Scott, released last week, confirms that John Frecker uttered "sieg heil," accompanied by some form of salute, but adds the remark by the deputy chair "was neither racially motivated," nor "symptomatic of a racist environment" at the IRB.

Scott says Frecker's remark, made a year ago to two board members, was a "spontaneous, albeit misguided, attempt at humor." Frecker earlier explained that the remark was in response to a management tactic he considered heavy-handed.

The remark sparked a complaint almost a year later from board member Jeanette Goldman, a child survivor of the Holocaust. Despite a written apology to her from Frecker, she called his actions "indefensible."

Scott's report notes that the IRB's own investigation into the incident should have been handled differently.

It says IRB chair Nurjehan Mawani learned of the incident "within a matter of days" of its occurrence, but instead of acting, she opted to monitor the situation — a move Scott calls "insufficient."

"Nothing was done until Ms. Goldman complained," the report states, adding that Frecker's apology to Goldman, while "well-intentioned," was "unduly defensive."

Last week, Frecker issued a public apology "to anyone and everyone who has been offended by what I said. In particular, I am sorry for any pain my words have caused to anyone who may have taken my comment as trivializing Nazi atrocities in the Holocaust."

Frecker incident

Mawani announced that the IRB would implement the following "short term" follow-up actions: looking at ways to "enhance cross-cultural components of its personnel training program to place greater emphasis on sensitivity to intercultural issues;" and strengthening the existing framework for dealing with complaints.

But CJC president Moshe Ronen said Scott's report "was done in a vacuum" because it did not consider allegations of anti-Semitism and other forms of bias on the part of board members.

Mawani "is not properly carrying out her responsibilities. A cloud still hangs over the board," said Ronen.

Rochelle Wilner of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) said her organization is "very pleased" with Scott's report.

However, BBC also wants a thorough investigation into allegations of bias at the board, "which have not been addressed," Wilner said.

Michael Schelew, a Jewish former deputy chair of the IRB, said Mawani's "inaction" following Frecker's remarks shows she was "not concerned" about the trivialization of Nazism.

Schelew said he agrees with calls for an independent inquiry, not only into allegations of bias at the board, but also into how Mawani handled the Frecker incident.

Also last week, IRB member Lubomyr Luciuk, who had been accused of anti-Semitic statements, was not reappointed to the board.

Luciuk was the subject of a complaint by former board member Maureen Silcoff, now a lawyer in private practice in Toronto. Earlier this year, Silcoff herself failed to win reappointment to the board.

In a written complaint last month to Mawani, Silcoff accused Luciuk of inappropriate behavior and making anti-Semitic and anti-homosexual remarks. She also complained about two other board members, and about Frecker for allegedly interfering with a case.

Eric Tetrault, a spokesman for Robillard, told *The CJN* that Luciuk was not reappointed "because he failed to meet our criteria."

Aid for Hurricane Georges victims

TORONTO — UJA Federation of Greater Toronto is collecting donations to help all victims of Hurricane Georges, which swept through the Caribbean and parts of Florida late last month.

The campaign is in conjunction with a major relief effort throughout the continent by UJA Federations of North America.

Donations will be channeled to the general emergency relief efforts now underway, and to long-term needs created by the disaster.

Tax receipts will be issued.

Contributions may be sent to: UJA Federation, Hurricane Georges Relief, 4600 Bathurst St., Toronto, Ont., M2R 3V2, or call a hotline at 416-631-5705.

Ottawa to celebrate Israel's 50th

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Visitors from across the country are expected at a unique week-long celebration of Israel at 50, to be held at the National Arts Centre (NAC) in November.

A committee, co-chaired by Sara Vered and Dr. Norman Barwin, has worked with NAC staff to plan a wide array of events and activities to mark the occasion.

One of the week's highlights will be a lecture, on Nov. 17, by former prime minister Shimon Peres.

The new music director designate of the National Arts Centre orchestra, Pinchas Zukerman, will be conducting concerts on Nov. 18 and 19, and will be joined by his Israeli protege Ariel Shamai.

Throughout the week, the NAC will display art and photography, and science and technology exhibits. The L'Chaim stage will feature Israeli music and dance. Special activities for students are planned as well.

Funds raised at special events throughout the week will go towards funding the NAC orchestra tour of Israel in 2000.

Honorary co-chairs of Israel at 50 are David Sultan, ambassador of Israel to Canada, and Herb Gray, deputy prime minister. Honorary patrons are Senator E. Leo Kolber, Senator Jerry Grafstein and David Berger, Ambassador of Canada to Israel.

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From the editor's desk

Judicial excellence

A small item appeared last month in *The CJN* (Sept. 24) reporting that Warren Soles had been sentenced to serve 10 months in jail, in addition to the eight months he had already spent in custody awaiting trial, for having desecrated 43 headstones last April in the B'Nai Israel cemetery of St. Catharines.

The incident shocked us.

We are unused to these things happening here. It is very rare indeed that we encounter such a vile act of callous, ignorant hatred.

The attack on 43 headstones was not an impetuous, random act. It was not an outburst on the spur of the moment, but rather planned and calculated. It took considerable determination, effort and time to walk from one tombstone to another, 43 times, in the sheltering darkness of night, wielding sledgehammer and crowbar.

It was craven and abhorrent.

Across my desk last week, I received from Bernie Farber, executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, a copy of the reasons given by Justice D.J. Taliano in imposing the 18-month sentence on Soles. Taliano ruled that Soles' behavior was motivated by racial hatred and as a result, a more severe penalty was warranted.

His judgment was an inspiring example of judicial excellence. Moreover, and most importantly, it succinctly yet elegantly expressed the uniqueness of the society that Canadians are trying to build. So insightful and so thoughtful were his reasons, I am reproducing brief excerpts so that the wider *CJN* public has an opportunity to read them.

* * *

"In the face of this overwhelming evidence, the protestation by Mr. Soles that he was unaware that the object of his wrath was a Jewish cemetery is neither credible, nor acceptable. And although he has apologized for his behavior, I am not satisfied that his apology is genuine, given the fact that he has not renounced the beliefs to which he adhered before his arrest. He merely denies that he holds them, and his denial is neither believable, nor under oath... Accordingly, for the purposes of this sentence, I must and do treat Mr. Soles as an ongoing threat to the Jewish community and other minority groups, and I must, therefore, tailor a sentence that will convey, not only to Mr. Soles, but to others that would emulate him, that the penalties are severe for this kind of malicious behavior.

"Canada is a pluralistic mosaic, a country that permits and even encourages its minorities to maintain their distinctive cultural identities. This policy was enshrined in Sec. 27 of the Canadian Charter of Rights...

"The wilful persecution of a visible Canadian is the very antithesis of the essential values sought to be protected by Sec. 27 of the Charter because, in the words of Mr. Justice Cory in R. v. Andrews, "Multiculturalism cannot be preserved, let alone enhanced, if free rein is given to the promotion of hatred or violence against identifiable cultural groups.

"I am satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that this court is clearly and unmistakably dealing with a case of malevolence towards, and vilification of, a group of individuals based on racial, religious or ethnic differences. This court must strongly denounce such behavior, particularly when it becomes the role model for others. It is a particularly aggravating factor that survivors of the Holocaust and their offspring have been made to relive the horror of that period because of the senseless and hateful actions of you, Mr. Soles – a result that you intended to happen. The victims of this crime should be therefore reassured that the criminal laws of this country will be applied by the courts not only to comfort and protect them from this form of hurtful and criminal behavior but to deter others from like conduct. *That is the very least that a free and democratic country can do for its minorities.* (Our emphasis)

"[I]n my view, a sentence of eight months in prison is insufficient to reflect society's abhorrence of this type of hate crime, particularly when the offender has not shown true remorse and continues to be a threat to society. That being the case, I have concluded that a sentence of 18 months in prison is more appropriate...

"In addition, Mr. Soles, I place you on probation for a period of three years, upon the following terms:

1) you will keep the peace and be of good behavior,

2) you will have no association or contact with racist organizations of any kind, nor with people known to you to be a member of such organizations,

3) you will not possess weapons, explosive substances or ammunition for a period of five years from this date,

4) you will report to the probation office as often as required by the probation worker,

5) you will make restitution to the B'Nai Israel Cemetery in the sum of $4,004.47, which restitution is to be paid before the end of your period of probation,

6) you are to stay away from – that means not to be found within 100 metres of – any Jewish cemetery in St. Catharines or in any other community,

7) you will take whatever counselling program your probation officer may recommend with a view to addressing your racist and anti-social views of society.

"You have no reason to hate the Jewish community, none whatsoever. I am hoping that this time in custody will cause you to reflect upon your behavior, the grief that you have imposed on these people."

The Canadian community is well served by the Judge Tahanos of our legal system. *MBD*

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

ETERNAL DANCE PARTNER

Jews from Bukhara danced with the Torah in the Florentin quarter of Tel Aviv, 1959.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Police report rise in hate crimes

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The number of hate-motivated crimes reported to police grew by 19 percent in the first half of 1998, according to a report released recently by the Toronto Police hate crime unit.

Ninety-two hate crime occurrences were reported to Toronto Police in the first six months of 1998, up from 77 events the year before. Thirty of the incidents involved assaults, while mischief (19), threats (18) and promotion of hatred (13) were next in order of frequency. In the six years since the hate crimes unit began compiling statistics, 604 occurrences have been recorded. The peak year was 1995 with 148 incidents.

Altogether, 16 arrests were made in the first six months of the year. Those cases are currently before the courts.

Blacks most victimized

The interim semi-annual report was prepared by the hate crimes unit of the police intelligence services and was submitted to the Police Services Board and to Chief David Boothby. It is not a comprehensive research document but a statistical survey to assist police in determining trends and patterns, explained Sgt. Dino Doria, spokesperson for the hate crimes unit. The unit's annual report will be published in January.

The report found that Jews were the most-often targeted religious group being victimized six times. That number was considerably fewer than the most targeted visible minority, blacks, who were victimized 21 times. Pakistanis and South Asians were next with 11 incidents reported.

Of the six anti-Jewish incidents, one, a telephone hate message, was traced to a paranoid-schizophrenic who will likely not be charged while another incident, involving promotion of hatred, was found by police to fall short of the standard that would lead to criminal charges.

The 19 percent statistical jump in the first half of the year may not represent an actual rise in the number of occurrences, Doria suggested. "I don't think we should look at it entirely as a negative thing," he said. "If we have people reporting these things, the statistics will go up."

Doria said the public is becoming increasingly comfortable reporting hate-motivated crime to the police and officers in the field have been trained to recognize when hate motivates an incident. Each police division headquarters has a liaison officer who forwards reports of hate crimes to the intelligence division, which monitors the activities of hate groups. Those factors could account for the jump in statistics in early 1998, he suggested.

Karen Mock, national director of the B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, agreed with Doria's assessment, adding that in recent years the League has held seminars for police about hate-motivated crimes to sensitize them to the impact they have on victims.

"At first glance, the trends they are showing, especially the rise in wilful promotion of hatred, are consistent with the trends we are seeing," she said.

"The report is an excellent barometer of what's going on. We get to view the bigger picture," said Keith Landy, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario region. He suggested that despite the rising numbers cited in the report, incidents of hate-motivated crimes are under-reported.

"The majority of the hate crime occurrences appeared to be spontaneous attacks by suspects with no affiliation to hate organizations," the police document stated. "Suspects came from varied ethnic and religious backgrounds with no one particular community groups being identified as responsible. Visual differences and stereotypical negative views can be considered primary reasons for acts of violence."

Four organized groups – the Heritage Front, Aryan Blitzkrieg, the Ku Klux Klan and White Aryan Resistance (WAR) – were identified in the report, but only four occurrences were linked to them. The Klan and WAR circulated posters and signs, the Heritage Front was tied to a threatening phone call and Aryan Blitzkrieg members were involved in an assault using mace and broken bottles, the report stated.

Despite the low number of occurrences attributed to hate groups, they are active behind the scenes, especially on the Internet, the report continued. At one time, hate groups recruited young members though rallies, distribution of flyers and meetings. Now they operate through "cyberspace networking... Through the Internet, numerous Toronto based [Web] sites have been created with the objective to disseminate hate propaganda and anti-immigration and multiculturalism policies using the pretense of freedom of speech... Their true goal is to recruit new, young 'foot soldiers'/skinheads while spreading their hateful rhetoric."

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GERDA FRIEBERG

Gerda Frieberg has devoted much of her life to Holocaust Education. In 1998 recipient of the Ben Gurion Negev Award has given countless public lectures about wartime experiences. But [illegible] Silesia she was incarcerated in a concentration camp in Oct. 1942 and until 1945.

GENIA GROSSMAN

In 1941 Genia Grossman, a Polish Jew, and Hitler's forces occupied a Soviet Organization forced to "Germanize" resulting Jews escaped Hungary. When she attempted to escape, she was captured and imprisoned by the Gestapo. Genia is married and the mother of 2 children.

FANNY PILLERSDORF

[illegible] Mauthausen [illegible] Mauthausen, 1945 [illegible] year [illegible] Living Since 1990 Fanny has committed endless hours to educational outreach programs [illegible] Many [illegible] experiences [illegible] Holocaust.

FAYE SCHULMAN

Author of "A Partisan's Memoir – Women of the Holocaust" Faye Schulman has been decorated by several governments for her heroism and bravery. Now a mother and grandmother Faye lectures extensively about her experiences during World War II as a partisan fighter.

ROSE ZINER

Born [illegible] Budapest, Hungary, Rose Ziner [illegible] arrested by [illegible] World War II. Since 1986, Rose has been [illegible] Yad Vashem [illegible] the Holocaust Remembrance Committee.

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BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

At a recent Torah Fair, members of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham carry their newest Torah into the synagogue. The fair was held to celebrate the recent acquisition of two new Torahs. [Carolyn Blackman photo]

Torah fair celebrates arrival of two new scrolls

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

MARKHAM — Hundreds of synagogue and community members turned out for Chabad Lubavitch of Markham's Torah fair, held to celebrate the recent donation of two new Torahs.

"The unique fact that two Torahs have been donated in recent months is a cause to celebrate," says Rebbitzen Goldie Plotkin, wife of Rabbi Avraham Plotkin.

The first Torah was donated about two months ago by Holocaust survivors Morris and Ifa Demon. The most recent Torah, which was completed at the fair, was donated by nine families in the congregation, including Stanley and Janet Dogon, Jonathan and Danielle Jacobson, Saul and Deborah Levy, Michael and Suzanne Metz, Saul and Robyn Quint, Leslie and Ilana Sarak, Brian and Jenny Schwartz, Richard and Carol Steyn and Larry and Beryl Weltman.

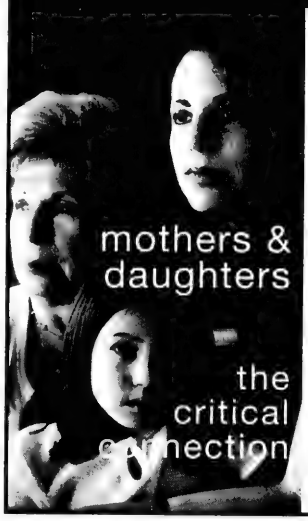
After the synagogue's Torahs were brought out to meet the most recent Torah, which was marched in under a chupah accompanied by members who sang and clapped, the marchers entered the synagogue, which was built on Green Lane in Markham about a year and a half ago.

The fair included a demonstration by Torah scribe, Rabbi Shmuel Zirkind; a Torah workshop where participants could write their Hebrew name using a quill, ink and parchment; and a kiddie corner where children made edible Torahs out of cookies, icing and candy and colored a souvenir Torah.

"This was a special celebration and we wanted to celebrate in a way that was both fun and educational," said Rebbitzen Plotkin.

Rabbi Plotkin said that amongst Judaism's many symbols, "none is more enduring, encompassing and powerful as the Torah itself...The Torah which we complete today, with God's help, is one more in that glorious chain of Torahs."

a special evening with Dr. Harriet Lerner



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Sons of Jacob to celebrate 80th anniversary

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Sons of Jacob Shalom Lodge will celebrate its 80th anniversary on Oct 18 with a dinner dance at the Lodzer Centre on Heaton Street.

Sons of Jacob, a benevolent society, was founded in 1919 by a "handful of young and enthusiastic members who felt that Toronto needed an organization to help in the building of a strong and healthy future for the Jewish community," Simon Elbaum, president and a co-organizer of the banquet, told *The CJN*.

Originally called the Sons of Jacob Benevolent Society, the name was changed some 20 years ago to modernize it and attract younger members, he said.

Calling himself the only "greener" in the organization, Elbaum, who immigrated to Canada in 1948, said he was encouraged to join the society in 1952 by the late Leslie Zack, his landlord on Bellevue Avenue in the Kensington Market. In those days the meetings were held at the Borochov Centre's downtown location.

Meetings still take place at the Borochov Centre, which is now located on Codsell Avenue in Downsview. The monthly general breakfast meeting, is held on the first Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

He said that the lodge has always been active in fundraising for Jewish causes, and their efforts are now directed at a number of local and Israeli organizations, among them, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, Mount Sinai Hospital, Holocaust programs and The Shaare Zedek Medical Centre in Jerusalem.

Elbaum said that members also volunteer at several organizations including the Hebrew Club for the Blind and Kadima School. He said that when members were younger and in better health, they were able to drive visually impaired people to meetings and appointments, and they still organize outings for the students from Kadima.

There are some 100 members, but at one time the membership was more than 300 strong. While they no longer run major fundraisers, members still get together for a weekly night of bowling and socializing.

The Sons of Jacob's women's auxiliary, called the Young Womens' branch of the Sons of Jacob, was established in 1951 and is still active in fundraising. Initially, it was made up of the wives of the members of Sons of Jacob, but the membership is open to anyone who is interested, Elbaum said.

The monthly meetings, which take place the first Tuesday evening of the month, are held on a rotating basis in a member's home.

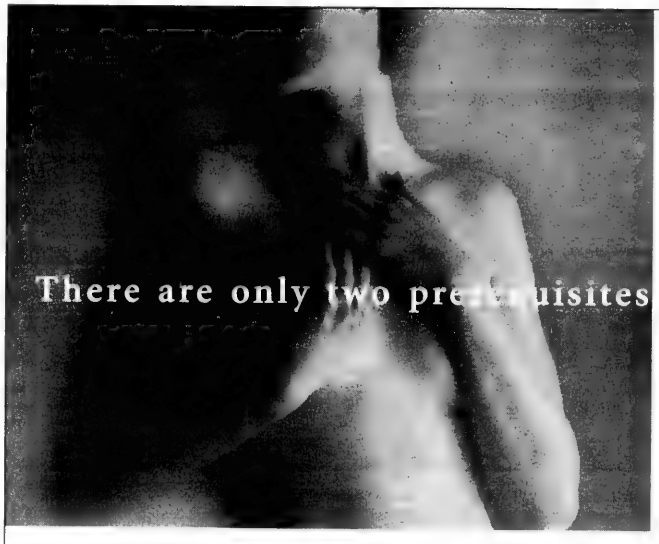
For more information call auxiliary president Liz Bass at 905-737-1887.

Other organizers and executive members of the Sons of Jacob include secretary Harry Banikin and vice-president Harvey Kosloff.

The banquet and bowling league is open to anyone in the community, and new members are always welcome to the lodge, Elbaum said. He can be contacted at 781-5754.

BBYO VOLUNTEERS

Members of the BBYO Greater Toronto Area Council executive volunteered their time at the Israel Pavilion during the Canadian National Exhibition.



It's a disease that claims a life every 12 seconds. And every woman is at risk. That's why Scotiabank is sponsoring the *Dialogue on BreastCancer III* public education lecture, **for breast cancer.** Tuesday, October 20, 1998. Come and hear a panel of experts from Mount Sinai Hospital and its Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute discuss their efforts in the fight against breast cancer.

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As foreign fires rage

One can plausibly make a case these days for seeing parallels with an ancient Rome that burned while a distracted and demented Emperor Nero preferred to make silly music.

Fires are raging throughout the world. In some cases embers are being stoked afresh; in other cases, smoldering brush is being set to the wind. But Washington fiddles, caught up in the twisted strings and sybaritic discord of sex, scandal and political scheming.

Merely one day's glance through the newspaper last week brought the following "flames" to light:

• *Kosovo.* The lead paragraph of the story said it all. "The bodies of 15 women, children and elderly members of the Delaj clan lay slumped among the rocks and streams of the gorge below their village in Kosovo province...shot in the head at close range and in some cases mutilated, as they tried to escape advancing Serbian forces." In the course of one day last week, 34 people were cut down like unwanted chaff by the forces of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic. He is prosecuting a war of terror against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo province who are seeking their independence from him. What is unfolding there has been described by international observers as a humanitarian catastrophe.

• *Hebron.* A Palestinian threw two hand grenades into the heart of the market of this tense, divided city wounding 24 people – 13 Israelis and 11 Palestinians. Like his terror-driven colleagues, this murderous man is more intent on destroying than on building, on seeing blood flow rather than rivers of prosperity.

• *Iraq.* Emboldened by the biteless bark of the UN, Saddam Hussein invigorates his defiance of the Security Council's desire to resume spot arms inspections. Moreover, as he scoffs at the U.S.-led alliance, he demands that sanctions against his country be lifted. One expert comments that Iraq is "just one Russian smuggler away from being able to build a nuclear bomb with illegally obtained material."

• *Sri Lanka.* More than 1,300 government troops and Tamil rebels were killed in fierce fighting in the last week of September. No one knows for certain, but it is estimated that more than 54,000 people have been killed since 1984 in the struggle by minority Tamils for a separate homeland from the Sinhalese majority.

• *India and Pakistan.* Both countries pledged recently to sign the comprehensive (nuclear) test ban treaty; however, the details of their acceptance of the treaty discipline have not yet been worked out.

• *Munich.* U.S. federal prosecutors are seeking the extradition of Mamdouh Mahmud Salim, being held by German officials. Salim has been charged with conspiring to attack U.S. military sites. He was described as a "senior deputy" to Osama bin Laden, the Saudi exile suspected of planning and underwriting a string of terrorist actions, including the August bombings in Kenya and Tanzania. The conspiracy dates to 1992, and covers an ambitious campaign of terror and intended murder.

• *Moscow.* The Russian economy is in virtual collapse. The elevation of Yevgeny Primakov to the post of prime minister essentially signals the end of any effective governance by Boris Yeltsin and the return of Brezhnevist policies to the Kremlin: heavily centralized domestic control over markets, money and production; heavily "mischievous" foreign policy support of anti-western rogues and rogue states.

The preceding was not an exhaustive list of global "hotspots." It was merely the result of one day's reading of the newspaper. Nor was the list compiled to instil a sense of alarm in readers. Rather it was compiled to instil a sense of resolve. We must not sit idly by while foreign "fires" rage. We must demand that the government of Canada take steps to deal with at least the humanitarian problems in a manner commensurate, not only with our military, economic and diplomatic standing in the world, but also and perhaps more to the point, with our moral standing which, we have long believed to be the source of our suasion. In the world of 1998, "foreign" fires soon become local ones.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"They heard the voice of the Lord in the garden in the breeze of the day." ***Parshat Breishit***

Dry Bones
LOOK, THEY ARE SINGING AND DANCING IN THE STREETS!
AFTER GENERATIONS OF SUFFERING, PERSECUTION AND WOES, THEY STILL CELEBRATE THEIR RECEIVING OF THE LAW.
THEY MUST TRULY BE A HOLY PEOPLE OR...
OR?
OR THEY'RE SUCKERS FOR PUNISHMENT!

Editorial Advisory Board
Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Zac Kaye, Lou Ronson, Herb Rosenfeld, Kurt Rothschild, Joseph Steiner, Elias Toby, Elizabeth Wolfe.

Holocaust claimed Alfred Dreyfus kin

I recently had the pleasure of spending a week in glorious Paris, France. One afternoon, a friend and I decided to visit the Montparnasse cemetery to view the headstones of the rich and famous. We were each given a slick glossy printed brochure of the who's who, and among the many names, which included both the Jewish painter Chaim Soutine and singer Serge Gainsbourg, I noticed Captain Alfred Dreyfus.

After great difficulty trying to locate his grave we asked a groundskeeper to help us. With a quick swoosh of his hand the groundskeeper knocked a variety of little stones off the tombstone. Horrified, I told my friend, "please explain to him that he shouldn't do that." A brief conversation ensued and she was told that so many stones were left on the grave that if they weren't occasionally knocked off people wouldn't be able to read the name on the tombstone. As I read the inscription, I couldn't help but notice an added inscription: A La Mèmoire de Madeleine Levy, Deportee par les Allemands, Disparue a Auschwitz A L'age de 25 ans.

I was immediately touched by the ironies of life. Alfred Dreyfus who suffered such indignities from anti-Semitism in the late 1800's lost a loved one in Auschwitz years later. I wondered who she was, a granddaughter perhaps?

Linda R. Goldman
Toronto

Pattison's $1 million gift honored Arthur Fouks

In response to your article acknowledging the departure of Jewish National Fund's (JNF) British Columbia shaliach, "JNF shaliach heads home" (*CJN*, Aug. 13), I would like to set the record straight about the origins of the $1-million donation from Vancouver businessman Jimmy Pattison.

Pattison's gift of $1 million was made to the Endowment Fund of Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver in honor of Mr. Arthur Fouks, for whom a tribute dinner was held in November 1994. It was not until the following year that Itzchak Fuchs arrived in Vancouver to serve as JNF shaliach, long after the gift had been made.

Arthur Fouks has long been an outstanding leader of the Jewish community of Greater Vancouver, and a supporter of a remarkable number of organizations and causes locally, nationally and internationally. Pattison's gift was a result of his close friendship with and high regard for Fouks, and their shared interest in philanthropic endeavors both in Vancouver and in Israel. Credit for the generous gift to the Jewish community should be given where it is deserved.

Dr. Jonathan Berkowitz, President
Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver

Chafes at delay in Canadian restitution process

The other day, I saw an application form to be used by permanent U.S. residents for claims of Swiss restitution funds.

I called Canadian Jewish Congress to find out about a similar form to be used by Canadian residents, and I was told that Canada is not ready yet.

When will Congress be ready to receive Canadian claim applications?

Leo Loebenberg
Montreal

Both Israelis and Palestinians die for peace

I found "Israeli-Palestinian Peace: A Five Year Chronology" (*CJN*, Sept. 17) very concise and informative. However, the author failed to list many events in which Israelis killed Palestinians. Many Israelis and Palestinians have sacrificed their lives to the process and they should both be acknowledged. Hopefully, in the new year, both sides will make concessions, and neither will have to suffer any more losses.

Melanie Takefman
Student, McGill University
Montreal

Auschwitz Catholic survivor against more crosses

I am a 76-year-old eyewitness who was imprisoned in Auschwitz from 1940 till the end of 1944, prisoner number 88. I concur with the Jewish survivors that no religious signs should be permitted in this notorious Nazi camp where 1,500,000 Jews were killed, also 80,000 Polish Catholics and a number of others.

This year, a modern day crusade against "the perfidious Jews" as our Catholic liturgy used to call them, went into a high gear after a widely published Polish press report of Cardinal Glemp's statement that the 40-foot cross under which the Pope prayed during his 1979 visit will remain forever on the Auschwitz grounds.

Recently, more than 80 crosses of different sizes were placed by the so-called society of "Defenders of the Cross" to prevent Jews and Masons from stealing this Papal cross.

I am proud of my Polish Catholic heritage but I feel ashamed and disgusted that neither the Catholic church nor the government of Poland seem to have any solution nor political will to end this holy horror of disrespectful sanctimony.

Sigmund Sobolewski
Calgary

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Women, prayer and spiritual needs

By BARBARA RAUBFOGEL

"...And if women wish to pray three times each day, they are worthy of blessing, and it is appropriate that they so do when time allows...since the one who prays seeks compassion, and our rabbis have taught us... would that people pray the entire day.

— Rabbi Ovadiah Yoseph

Ever since Hannah, mother of the prophet Samuel, prayed her silent prayer and became a role model for future generations, women have sought to express their spiritual needs. Women express their commitment to Judaism and Torah through formal prayer, and indeed, according to one midrash, it is from Hannah's prayer that we derive that women are obligated to pray.

Women's obligation to pray, however, has been differently defined by various rabbinical authorities ever since the rules regarding formal prayer were first instituted. As a result, women have believed that their role in formal prayer was at best secondary. Although women were not precluded from the obligation to pray according to Jewish law, the majority of Jewish women, who remained in the home for most of their lives, had little if any formal education and could not understand the formal prayers.

In the 17th century, *Tchines*, a genre of "women's" prayers first appeared. The *tchines* were written in Yiddish, the spoken language; they could be recited in the home, at any time. Because these devotional prayers were less formal in form and content, they appealed to women in the Ashkenazi communities of Europe. The *tchines* recognized that women had intellectual needs, as well as material ones. For three centuries, European women gave voice to their devotional acts and petitioned for their needs in hundreds of *tchines*.

Tchine writers recognized the distinctions between spontaneous and formal prayer: Whereas *tfillah* in the synagogue is structured, spontaneous prayer flows from the inner recesses of the human spirit. When a petitioner expresses his or her innermost needs and emotions, there are no rules or obligations. Although formal prayer and performing mitzvot are the most acknowledged expressions of Jewish piety, there are many areas of ritual activity which tend to blur the distinctions between the formal and the informal, law and custom. These are essential to Jewish life but are not obligatory. In these areas, Jewish women are the ritual experts.

Sociologist Susan Starr Sered studied how a group of women conduct their religious lives. The elderly women from Iraq, Yemen and Turkey have lived in Jerusalem for many years. The women identify a number of sacred spaces besides the synagogue, where holiness exists in an ascending order: the kitchen of one's home, the senior citizens centre, cemeteries and holy tombs (including the Western Wall). The public spaces are perceived as holier than the domestic ones. Prayers recited at synagogue and at tombs are more effective than prayers said at home.

When they were younger, due to family commitments, these women could rarely leave their houses. During most of their lives, they did not attend synagogue. For their husbands, holidays are associated with special prayers in the synagogue, whereas for them, holiday celebrations are focused in the kitchen. The men do not relate to the kitchen as a holy space. The women however, see in the preparation of special foods an essentially sacred activity.

Sered insists that these women do not reduce the observances, meanings and symbolism of each holiday to food; yet for them, food preparation is the most important ritual activity that they, as women, can perform. For this activity they do not have to consult rabbis – they see themselves as ritual experts in the area of kashrut. Cooking and serving ritual meals (seudot mitzvah) is a holy act. Since meals please God, they are seen as a type of worship.

Sered's study focuses on how the women perceive their religious acts – the notion of *zchut* (merit) is important to understanding the religious lives of these women. Anything that is "Jewish" is pleasing to God and is a potential source of *zchut*. These women do not differentiate between Halachah and *minhag* (custom). The fact that Jewish law does not require women to attend synagogue does not affect the merit that a woman receives for attending.

Also, a woman does not need to be able to read the Torah in order to receive *zchut*. Most of these women are illiterate. Caring and helping are the essence of religion for them. But the women have learned some prayers, and they now sit in the balcony of the synagogue. Because the women are proud and satisfied with their limited new-found knowledge, Sered questions the advantages of their moving from "the centre of the sidelines to the sidelines of the centre."

If this situation is to their disadvantage, it would not occur to them. They see themselves as performing an essential service – traditional Shabbat and holiday foods tie their children and their grandchildren to Judaism at a time when other links have been abandoned. The merit their acts earn guards their children, and the non-halachic, non-literate traditions they transmit guarantee that old country values will not die out.

Old age, and specifically widowhood, allow them extra time to spend at public holy places. Sephardi women have traditionally cared for the graves of their ancestors, and as a result, feel that they have the right to intercede with God on behalf of their living descendants. The actions and beliefs of these elderly Oriental women are by no means unique to their situation or time. Seeing to their family's needs in this world and in the world to come was a religious act that many European women of the 19th century would have claimed as their own.

The important point is that certain acts and observances were considered a woman's domain. Whether she belonged to a chassidic dynasty or was a city woman of Berlin, her life revolved around the family and the home. At the end of the 19th century, the home took on a new religious significance: In those homes where public traditional observances had been discarded for the most part, Jewish women (in many cases) continued to conduct their private religious observances.

Marion Kaplan, who has written extensively on the day-to-day lives of Jewish women, explains that this lag was due to the fact that their private world was more timed than the men's to childbirth, anniversaries and deaths. The women practised private rituals that ran parallel to the ceremonies in the synagogue. Kaplan notes that even in the most secular homes, a woman was loath to give up those acts and observances that afforded her a measure of social power she could find nowhere else.

In Israel, 16 well-known haredi women have been operating a pirate radio station in Jerusalem for the last year. Although their audience is mostly women from the observant Jerusalem community, they claim secular listeners as well. In a short time, they have attracted thousands of loyal listeners, and have upset the status quo.

The former Sephardi chief rabbi, Rabbi Ovadiah Yoseph, felt compelled to reassure their spouses that although a radio is inherently dangerous, and *tameh* (unclean), radio station

A wooden bas-relief by Berel Satt shows an older woman reading the *kinot* on Tisha b'Av.

shuvah Yisrael redeems it.

These women know little and care less about technology, and their Hebrew speaking skills are limited. They understand that they provide an essential service in their community. A popular hostess, the Rebbitzen Leah Kook explains: "Personally, we cannot reach everyone, and the women themselves cannot go to lectures or attend Torah classes. Today the haredi women sit at home, peel potatoes, feed their infants, turn on the holy station, and their kitchens become like synagogues."

Radio 107.1 sticks to a winning format: an informal combination of moral lessons, examples of ideal behavior, the weekly Torah portion and marital advice. Its mandate is to preserve and promote a modest lifestyle. Although one announcer mused whimsically that her husband would prefer her to remain at home, the advice she dispenses to her listeners is conservative in the extreme. Yet she is part of a quiet revolution in the haredi women's community. In a rapidly advancing technological age, observant Jews were gaining access to all sorts of appliances, including radios.

At the outset, the station was a male bastion. Rabbis identified their target audience – men and women who usually stumbled upon a son's hidden radio and listened in secret. Since they already had radios, why not make them kosher, the rabbis reasoned. Within a few weeks of operation, it was noted that women made up 90 percent of the audience. Women were calling the rabbis for advice, and their wives asked to take over. However, modest behavior precluded women's speaking out.

Then Rabbi Yoseph was consulted. Not only did he allow the station, he gave his blessing and a *psak Halachah* (a special dispensation) that the women could speak (but not sing – as women, their voices are a source of temptation). The radio manager brought in his wife, she brought in her friends, and within a week, the men were out.

At first some rabbis were appalled; a man might stumble upon the station, hear the voice of a woman and transgress the laws of modesty. As soon as it became apparent that the women wanted their radio regardless of their husbands' apprehension, however, an accommodation was made. While most concessions to modernity are not allowed, the women's station serves a higher purpose. On the station wall is a huge sign which reads: "Did you buy a new radio [to hear] the holy station?" The sign suggests that a woman who buys a radio earns *zchut* for her ancestors and helps redeem the world.

In this traditional community, the different religious obligations for men and women are clearly defined. Throughout history, perhaps because women were excused or excluded from performing most time-bound mitzvot, a religious pattern emerged that appears to be connected to a female sub-culture. In this subculture, interpersonal relationships and mutual aid are highly valued. This "female" activity is an avenue of spirituality, which women value, and it enriches their lives.

Women cannot be credited single-handedly for Judaism's staying power through the ages, although the fact that women may be more resilient to the forces of change, may have been a determining factor. In their role as mediators between family and society, women generally choose to emphasize traditions in which they play an active part. For traditionally observant women and men, Judaism intrudes into every area of secular activity making it "holy." Judaism is also defined as "law," and that law's endurance is affirmed by how challenging values are met and dealt with. Women reinforce the law with their observances, and they play an active role in cushioning the impact of change. Nowhere is this more apparent than in Israel today.

A nostalgia for mother's food and its connection with Shabbat and holidays almost defines these occasions for modern secular Israelis. Even the most secular Israelis recite blessings over the Shabbat candles and challah. This emerging Israeli culture is strongly influenced by the Jewish religion, as well as by the traditional values of Jews originating from Muslim countries. On an ideological level, Israeli women esteem food preparation as a paradigmatic women's religious activity. What defines holiness here is nurturing, and self-esteem resulting from, among other things, having a healthy, happy family.

Whereas these women have taken large steps into the public sphere, the seniors and the radio women have chosen to take smaller steps. Both are finding fulfilment.

Opinions

Halifax – a kind of home

Three room-mates and two cats lounge on beat-up sofas, watching TV. Dishes for four dinners are clean and waiting to be put away. Outside, the rain is about to break free from the clouds. A quiet Halifax evening at home.

By Jennifer Fox in Halifax

Routines are in place now that a month of school has passed. I can sleep in till mid-morning every day except Thursday, when I have to drag myself out of bed and head off to the journalism school. Friday is designated as grocery shopping day; Sunday is perfect for studying since all the stores are closed.

Halifax feels familiar. Buses regularly pass my house and I know where they're headed. I can get around the Dalhousie campus without being late for my classes. I recognize faces at the synagogue where I attended High Holy Day services, and I know some names to go with the faces. People wish me Shanah Tovah and good Shabbat and ask how I'm finding school. School is fine, thank you for asking.

My room-mates have also adjusted to patterns. There are three shelves of dishes in our house. One for milk dishes, one for meat dishes and one for my room-mates' dishes, which are used for either of the above. I wanted to explain to them the correct use of the milk and meat dishes. I imagined a long drawn-out discussion on why fish was considered dairy, and where neutral foods such as pasta and vegetables go but the problem was resolved before I said anything. Two of them were now vegetarians, and the third didn't want to mix anything up so she only uses the other dishes.

High Holy Days approached and my family was hours away, but I knew what to do. I asked the Atlantic Jewish Council to place me with a family for Rosh Hashanah. Turkey, kugel, chalah, and apples and honey sat on a dinner plate before me. Instead of going home to pasta and sauce from a can, I was saved from a mundane meal by a generous family who fed me and two other "displaced" students. As part of the Halifax Jewish community, I was welcomed into their home.

The King's College community looks the same as last year. Eager first-year students sit on the warm grass of the King's quad with works by Homer and Plato in their hands. I walk by them and smile to myself. In the next seven months, their lives will be altered, but they don't realize it yet. I hope that last year, some upper-year student saw me scribbling notes in my copy of *The Odyssey* and smiled, knowing what was ahead.

There has been a small change in the picturesque quad. Approximately 30 Jewish students attend King's – four percent of the student population. This year, the student day-planner has Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur marked in the calendar, and Chanukah is on the right day; last year, it was three weeks off. Even the president of the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation is a King's student and the first event will be held on our campus. Maybe I can become adviser to some lost Jewish Foundation Year student so that she won't feel as isolated as I did.

The cats are now asleep and the television has been turned off for the night. Tomorrow, I will once again walk to the King's and Dalhousie campuses. I will sit through classes, take some notes, put on my rain jacket and lug my backpack home. Home, because that's what Halifax is – a kind of home.

Finding that happy medium

I woke up the other morning, called my friend and told him, "I want to buy a brick."

"You want to buy a what?" he said, as though he were talking to some woman calling his house in the middle of the night looking for a chimney sweeper.

By Erica Horn in Montreal

"A brick. It costs only $300," I answered.

"What is it, a golden brick?" At 11 a.m. his critical edge was kicking in.

"It's great. You pay $299 and you get your name engraved on a brick of Labatt Park, along with numerous tickets to see the Expos play in both the Big O and the new ball park. And it's a risk-free investment, because, if they don't build it, then you get all your money refunded."

There was dead silence.

"If I go half-half with you, do you think we could get both our names on the brick, and maybe even our Hebrew names included?" he asked.

What did he think this was, an inscription in the Book of Life? I disregarded the second part of his question and asked, "So, are you going to synagogue tomorrow morning, or are you going to sit home glued to CNN?"

Once again, he was willing to go half way and told me he would do a bit of both.

* * *

I am embarrassed to tell you what I did on the first morning of Rosh Hashanah, and it is unrelated to my food intake, which never seems to cease during the holidays. I am not certain whether I should be more ashamed of the fact that I was watching TV or of what I was watching. Make no mistake, I went to synagogue – because I wanted to go. Then, I went home and watched Clinton.

At shul, I overheard people telling their friends how surprised they were at the turnout. One lady in a big hat, which surely no one sitting behind her could see over, whispered, "It's amazing. When people woke up this morning, they decided to come pray, when they could be sitting home, watching Clinton."

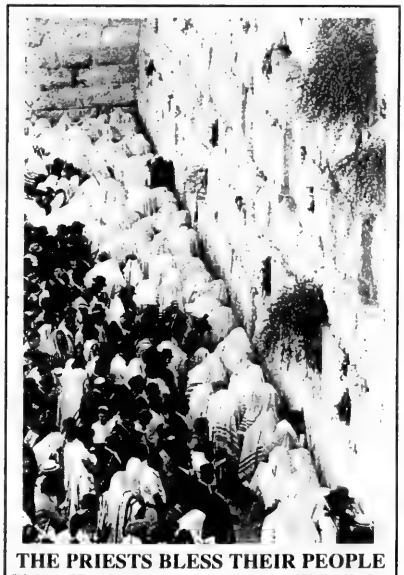
My answer: People realized they could do both. They could make their appearance in shul, and then run for possession of the remote control. I really don't think the details of Clinton's relationship with Monica Lewinsky are any of the public's business, but there was this overwhelming sense of curiosity. If it's being shown, let me see it.

My analysis: With all that Clinton seemed to forget during his testimony to the grand jury, it surprises me that he remembers he is president in the morning!

I didn't agree with the rabbis who made appearances on TV, claiming that it was wrong for the tape of the testimony to be aired on Rosh Hashanah. I think it is chutzpah for Jews to assume that the world should come to a halt for us to celebrate our New Year. I do believe, however, that we deserve respect, as do other religions. It was considerate of municipalities to be lenient with parking around synagogues, thus making them more accessible to those who might otherwise not be able to attend. And it was considerate of some of my professors to say that failure to attend class on the holidays would not be penalized by a deduction of grades.

One of the hardest things these days is to be able to find a happy medium between religion and secular daily life. It is important for us to be aware of the world that surrounds us. It is also important for us to respect others, if in turn, we expect to be respected. As the saying goes, "different strokes for different folks." Religion makes guest appearances in different parts of different people's lives.

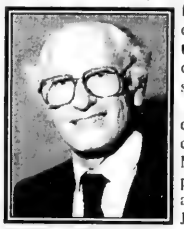
So, do you want to buy a brick? I am sure we can arrange to have your Hebrew name engraved on it too!



THE PRIESTS BLESS THEIR PEOPLE
Birkat Hacohanim at the Western Wall during Sukkot 1972. [photo courtesy of Keren Hayesod-UIA]

The poverty of affluence

The turmoil on the world's stock exchanges is often attributed to a fallout from the "Asian Crisis." It all started in Japan, so the analysts say, and it is therefore of some interest to look behind the scenes and find out why this should be so.



By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Here are some excerpts from an essay by Prof. Mark R. Mullins, published in a Japanese magazine. Japan, says the author, was sometimes lauded as number 1 for its postwar success: the economy was growing; there were stable families and a lower divorce rate; and the country prided itself on a splendid educational system that produced a steady stream of loyal and informed workers.

Says Mullins, who teaches in Japan: "Now the economy is in disarray, and we are beginning to realize that the postwar modernization process was achieved at considerable human cost. Many families had to sacrifice normal relationships and healthy communications between parents and children, as the primary breadwinner departed each day for excessively long work hours or even relocated to another city and lived alone.

"The absentee-father syndrome is only one example of the negative impact of government and business policies aimed at rapid economic development. Today Japan Inc. sits on an abundance of things, information and technology, but very little thought has been given to the basic moral question of what kind of society should be created with these rich resources. In short, the moral development of Japanese society has not kept pace with its economic development.

"Each day we are bombarded by the news media with reports by various government agencies on widespread social problems that reflect a fundamental moral deficiency in young people: a steady increase in the number of children refusing to attend school, the problem of buying in schools across Japan, the increase in suicides by children who see no other way out, the number of teenage girls engaging in prostitution with older men, and the increase in the number of students buying and carrying knives. These are clearly not isolated problems but reflect a wider breakdown in social order and morality."

The author makes the point that the same problems have surfaced in Japan as in North America, because of a decline in moral education. Schools are supposed to do what parents have neglected to accomplish: to instil in their children a firm sense of right and wrong and the understanding that success is not dependent on some vague environmental influence called "affluence."

Susumu Shimazono, a professor of religious studies at the University of Tokyo, recently put it well: "Until we find a genuine response to the dilemma of modernity and the crises of contemporary civilization, we will lack an effective basis to counter the destructive side of freedom. And can we ever find such a way without religion?"

What goes on in Japan goes on here as well. We Jews have a long tradition of teaching moral values and religion in the home, and that responsibility has very little to do with economic fluctuations and must never give way to a "poverty of affluence."

The Kirshner File

Polish shtetl commemorated in memorial book

By Sheldon Kirshner

Memorial books, compiled by Holocaust survivors to commemorate destroyed Jewish communities in Eastern Europe, are usually published in Yiddish. This is perfectly understandable, Yiddish having been the lingua franca of the majority of Jews there before World War II. But this very fact, regrettably, makes Yizkor books all but inaccessible to readers without a sound knowledge of Yiddish.

The survivors of Luboml, a shtetl in Poland close to the old Soviet border, have solved that problem. Keenly cognizant of the responsibility of passing on their heritage to postwar generations, they have translated their memorial volume into English.

The result, *Luboml: The Memorial Book of a Vanished Shtetl* (Ktav Publishing House), is a remarkable achievement. Composed of deeply-felt essays, evocative photographs and instructive maps, and infused with equal parts of nostalgia and grief, it is a window into a lost world.

Luboml (Libivne in Yiddish), one of the oldest Jewish communities in Poland, was settled by Jews in the 12th century. The Jews were devastated by the Chmielnicki hordes in 1648 and 1649, but they rebounded and prospered. By the 18th century, Luboml was the best-established Jewish community in the entire Chelm-Belz region.

Austrian troops occupied Luboml during World War I, and in the two decades prior to World War II, there was a great Jewish cultural and social renaissance there.

With the 1939 German invasion of Poland, chaos and tragedy ensued. Armed Ukrainian bands ran wild, robbing Jewish homes and stores. Then Polish gangs went on a killing spree, murdering a dozen Jews.

The Germans marched in for a brief period, leaving Luboml to the Red Army, according to the terms of Germany's non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union. With the German invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941, the end drew near. The Nazis oppressed, persecuted and, finally, shot the 12,000 Jews of Luboml and surrounding villages. Only a handful of Jews survived the murderous rampage. With one crushing blow, six centuries of Jewish history were wiped out.

Traditionally, the Jews of Luboml were craftsmen or small businessmen. Few were wealthy. The rich, known as *gvirim*, were not well liked, being regarded as exploiters.

Until the last years of the 1930s, the economy was mainly in the hands of Jews. But with the encouragement of the Polish government, which was not favorably disposed toward Jews, marketing cooperatives were established for the benefit of the Christian population. These cooperatives, and the heavy taxes levied on Jewish craftsmen and entrepreneurs, had the desired effect.

As might be expected in a society bound by tradition, virtually all of Luboml's Jews were religious. On the eve of the Sabbath, the men could be found in bathhouses, and the women at home, cooking and cleaning. On the Sabbath, the synagogues were full.

Secular books, referred to as "unkosher" by the pious, were fairly rare, and those who read them did so in private. But in the 1920s, secular texts in Yiddish, Hebrew and Russian became more available, and under their impact, some men began to trim their beards and earlocks.

Luboml itself was susceptible to change. Electrical street lighting, for instance, was introduced in 1925. Yet the market adjacent to the main shul never ceased being the heart and soul of Luboml.

Every shtetl had its "characters," the folks-mentschen, and Luboml was no different. Elye Kepke, the porter, was a coarse person, but he possessed a kind heart, and was the first to help a Jew in need. Chaymike, the water carrier, was illiterate, and let his customers tally up the cost of his labor.

Disaster came to Luboml on Sept. 1, 1939, when a column of German tanks and halftracks suddenly appeared. "Instinctively, every Jew was filled with terror," writes Yisroel Leichter, "but the behavior of the Germans was a great puzzle to us. They behaved entirely correctly towards the Jews."

With the German withdrawal, the Soviets poured in. The new rulers closed all Jewish institutions, banned charitable activities and desecrated the old Jewish cemetery.

When the Germans returned, they revealed their true colors. On Oct. 1, 1942, after robbing the Jews and herding them into a ghetto, they shot them en masse with the assistance of Ukrainian, Polish and Lithuanian collaborators.

Of those who escaped, only about 30 succeeded in hiding and remaining alive. Among them were 10 children between the ages of 10 and 12. They were raised as Catholics, and after the war, they chose to remain with the Christian families who had saved their lives. Apart from the survivors who no longer reside in Poland, they, ironically, are the last living "Jewish" links to Luboml.

Yom Kippur War post-mortem

Oct. 5, 1973, Jaffa: Cancellation calls were coming in, and suddenly, my farewell party had to be postponed. All the men – reservists in the Israeli army – had been unexpectedly ordered to report to their units. Something ominous was brewing on that Friday night. My wife Etti and I went downstairs for a walk. Excitement and anxiety filled the air. All able-bodied males were being called up.

Oct. 6: Early on Yom Kippur morning, we heard the roar of jets overhead. By 10 o'clock, the roads were already clogged with military vehicles. What was going on? At 2 p.m., we turned on the radio to listen to the news. In sombre tones, the announcer disclosed that Egypt and Syria were attacking Israeli positions in the Sinai Peninsula and on the Golan Heights. A siren went off. The Yom Kippur War had begun.

Twenty-five years later, a few post-mortems are in order.

Judging by the frantic call-up of reservists on Oct. 5, the war was not a failure of Israeli intelligence, but a failure to evaluate the data correctly. Blinded by its victory in the 1967 Six Day War, and led into complacency by its ability to fend off Egypt and Syria in the 1967-70 War of Attrition, Israel refused to believe that the Arabs would launch hostilities without air superiority. The assumption was badly flawed.

In all probability, the war might have been avoided if Golda Meir, Israel's prime minister, had appreciated the significance of President Anwar al-Sadat's proposal for a pull-back of Israeli forces from the Suez Canal. Ministers in the cabinet urged her to accept the plan, but she demurred. If Egypt and Israel had signed an agreement, Syria most likely would not have gone to war.

Egypt's and Syria's objective was limited: to regain the Sinai and the Golan, not to conquer Israel itself. Gunner Jarring's peace mission, sponsored by the United Nations, had collapsed. To Egypt and Syria, there was only one way to break the political logjam: war. In retrospect, Sadat and Hafez al-Assad of Syria were right. The war – which cost Israel frightful casualties but which lifted Egypt's and Syria's self-esteem – spawned a series of disengagement agreements in the Sinai and the Golan, all brokered by the United States. These, in turn, eventually prompted Sadat to visit Jerusalem and to sign a historic peace treaty with Israel. Thereafter, Washington played a central and indispensable role in Mideast peacemaking and peacekeeping.

Militarily, the war was essentially a draw. Egypt and Syria pushed Israel to the brink. Israel regained the initiative on the Golan, but faced a war of attrition there. In Sinai, Israel surrounded the Third Army, but could not dislodge Egyptian forces. The short-lived myth of Israeli military superiority was punctured. The war also discredited Golda Meir and catapulted a sabra, Yitzhak Rabin, into power for the first time.

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Yizkor books get new readers

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Where might you expect to hear a tale of an enchanted Passover seder where all participants fall asleep at the table before even the first glass of wine is consumed? Or of a blind cantor who, during a brief visit to town, sings so sweetly in synagogue that the whole community is mesmerized for weeks?

How about an old woman obsessed with sewing her own burial shroud and trying it on for a perfect fit? Or an account of a melee that erupts during a wedding party because young men and women dare to dance together?

One would think such colorful stories may have come out of a book of Jewish fairy tales and legends, or perhaps from a novel by Isaac Bashevis Singer or Chaim Grade. Instead, they may be found in *From A Ruined Garden*, a wonderful compendium of excerpts from Polish memorial books (Yizkor *bucher*) which recently came out in a second printing (Indiana University Press).

First published in 1983, *From A Ruined Garden: The Memorial Books of Polish Jewry*, contains some 60 excerpts from Yizkor *bucher*, translated from the original Yiddish or Hebrew into English by American sociologists Jack Kugelmass and Jonathan Boyarin.

Besides the various warm and often humorous tales of prewar shtetl life, the book carries sombre accounts of political activities in the shtetl and, ultimately, the criminal devastation that occurred after 1939.

In the half-century since the Shoah, more than 600 Yizkor *bucher* have appeared, chronicling communities large and small, at least 450 of them in Poland. The others deal with an uneven sprinkling of towns in Belarus, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Ukraine and the former Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

Although a respected scholar once cavalierly dismissed these earnest monuments of love and grief as "tombstones, not books," Kugelmass and Boyarin remind us that memorial books capture the life as well as the death of many a town. From *A Ruined Garden* also contains YIVO head librarian Zachary Baker's updated bibliography of Eastern European Memorial Books, as well as an index of places mentioned in the text.

New and improved, *From A Ruined Garden* remains an excellent means by which readers with no Yiddish or Hebrew may sample the contents of memorial books.

***

Two Internet sites associated with JewishGen [www.jewishgen.org] offer more useful resources for researchers investigating ancestral shtetls. First, the ShtetLinks project offers detailed information about dozens of former Jewish communities in Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Modlova, Romania, Bessarabia, Slovakia, Ukraine and elsewhere.

Second, portions of roughly 36 Yizkor books are available in translation under the JewishGen section on Yizkor Book Translations. In many cases, the contents are summarized and several chapters presented in English. Towns and regions include Bobruisk, Belarus; Debica, Poland; Kisvarda, Hungary; and Yampol and Transnistra, Ukraine.

Two related bibliographic resources have proven invaluable to researchers in pinpointing ancestral shtetls that may be hard to pronounce or spell. *Where Once We Walked*, by Gary Mokotoff and Sallyann Sack presents a system of shtetl location involving a phonetic numerical code that has proven remarkably effective. *The WOWW Companion* by Mokotoff allows researchers to draw accurate maps of the regions where their ancestors once walked. (Both books are published by Avotaynu, Inc., 201-387-7200.)

***

Suzan Wynne, co-author of the published index to the Russian

Continued on page 14

Concluding the holidays

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

As we approach the final days of Sukkot, we celebrate three days with their own unique traditions. While Hoshanah Rabbah, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah don't enjoy the popularity on the Web as other holidays, there are some sites on the Jewish Highway well worth the visit.

The seventh day of Sukkot is called Hoshanah Rabbah because on that day the word Hoshanah (please save) is recited frequently **[http://www.virtual.co.il./city_services/holidays/sukkot-8Atzeret/simchat.htm]**. For a very interesting article on how the word Hoshanah found its way into the English language, see Eliezer Siegel's Hosanna **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/930929_Hosanna.html]**.

Although Hoshanah Rabbah is considered a very special day, it does not share the same work prohibitions as other Jewish holidays. That's why you can watch an online video taken of the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach as he conducted a two-hour Hoshanah Rabbah service at New York City's Congregation Kehilath Jacob **[http://www.613.org/video.html]**.

From there we move on to Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah, celebrated for one day in Israel and for two days elsewhere. Considered a separate holiday from Sukkot, it marks the annual completion of the reading of the Torah and the celebration of its start with the story of Genesis **[http://www.torah.org/learning/yomtov/sukkos/]**.

Surely one of the holiday's highlights for any child is dancing around the Torah while waving a flag – maybe even adorned by an apple. If you want help making your own flag, you may want to use some of the images that you can download at The Gallery of Free Jewish Clip Art **[http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Gallery/6844/images.html]**. There are several images of Torahs and other seasonal graphics of sukkot, lulavs and etrogs. Just print them out, color them in, glue them to a stick and add one apple. For more holiday links, see the Simchat Torah Link L'cha **[http://bethel-sudbury.org/linksimc.htm]**.

After the holiday winds down, you are faced with the task of taking down your sukkah, and trying to remember just how you were able to fit it into your garage last year. If your sukkah has seen better days and won't last one more year, you may be wondering how to dispose of it.

According to Ohr Somayach's Ask the Rabbi, holy items such as Torah scrolls, tfillin and mezuzot should be buried, while sukkot wood should be burned, perhaps with your chametz or placed in your fireplace for a Shabbat fire **[http://www.jer1.co.il/education/education/ohr/ask/ask100.htm]**. The Web site points out that it is disrespectful to merely throw items of holiness in the garbage, and then concludes with a personal anecdote that it suggests could only happen in Israel:

"I was once walking to yeshiva when I passed a garbage truck moving slowly down the street. The garbage man standing in back of the truck was trying to get my attention. Then I noticed he was holding something long and black in his outstretched arm, and he was motioning for me to take it. 'Burnt spaghetti?' I wondered. I reached out and took it. It was a tfillin strap. 'This shouldn't be in the garbage,' said the garbage man. 'You'll know what to do with it.'"

Chag samayach.

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Yom Kippur in Tangiers

By MESSOD BOUSSIDAN

Having left Morocco at the age of four, I have precious few memories of that period in my life.

There is, however, one memory of Yom Kippur, in particular, that has remained with me despite the passage of time. I am in a small synagogue in Tangiers, standing next to my grandfather, and we are both draped beneath his tallit. Everyone in the sanctuary is standing, and the sound of rhythmic and impassioned chanting fills the room.

With the benefit of experience and education, I have come to conclude that this long-subsisting image in my psyche was a moment during the Neilah or the closing service of Yom Kippur.

For those of you unfamiliar with a Moroccan Neilah service, this column will not do justice in fully describing it. It is a solemn and powerful service that concludes a day of prayers that are clear and direct in their message of individual supplication, repentance and forgiveness, and at times, searing in their imagery.

By the time of the Neilah, the sanctuary is usually filled beyond capacity. The men cover themselves in their tallitot and the men's section spreads out like a sea of white. The service opens with the congregation reciting in unison a piyut authored by Rabbi Moses Ibn Ezra (11th century Spain) whose first two stanzas, translated below, articulate the mood of the people at this momentous point in the day.

"Oh God who is awesome in deed/ Oh God who is awesome in deed/ Grant us forgiveness/ At the time of the closing of the Gates/ Those who are called "few in numbers/ Lift an eye to you/ And tremble fearfully/ At the time of the closing of the Gates."

This is not the first occasion during a Moroccan Yom Kippur service in which the liturgy draws upon the imagery of gates.

Earlier on in the Minuhah service, the congregation has recited the famous piyut *Et Shaare Ratzon*, likely authored by Rabbi Yehudah Ibn Abbes. This piyut is based upon the account of the binding of Isaac in Genesis and begins with an open request to God to recall the merits of our forefathers Abraham and Isaac when judging each of us:

"At the time that the Gates of Favor are to be opened/ On the day that my hands are spread to God/ Please remember now on my behalf/ On this day of rebuke/ The one who bound, the one who was bound and the altar."

Relatively brief as it may be, our Neilah service creates an ambiance of solemnity for the congregants. This is achieved, not only through the words of the selected piyutim and selihot, but also through the specific music utilized in this service. The Neilah concludes with the entire congregation exclaiming heavenward in one compelling voice the 13 Attributes of God. At the same time, the piercing wall of multiple shoferot resonates through the sanctuary.

That moment in the Neilah has always been a very moving experience for me, in which our connection with God, and recognition that the heavenly gates are in fact "closing" is pristine in its clarity.

This year, for the first time, I intend to have my 3-year-old son by my side during the Neilah service. As we are both cloaked beneath my tallit it will be my fervent hope that his memory of this service will be as much of a guide in his developing relationship with God as it has been with mine.

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

The categorical imperative

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

Some two centuries ago, perhaps in his habitual daily walks at 4:30 p.m. (people would set their watches by his appearance), Immanuel Kant devised the categorical imperative, which basically states that whatever action you are about to take in life, ask yourself what would happen if everyone in the world acted in a similar fashion.

Many Jews with whom I have spoken in the last number of years have engaged in a tragically fascinating assault on this maxim. "I am not a practising Jew, but I want the religion to survive," they will say.

The inconsistency inherent in this message, especially when it is directed at children – "I do not want to sacrifice my lifestyle to Judaism, but don't you dare marry a shiksa" (with all the ugliness that word conveys) – is not in the least misunderstood by Jewish kids. Their antennae are always on the alert for the crack in their parents' world view, which the children then split wide open as adults and cross through to the other side of assimilation.

Besides the self-evident contradiction in hoping and expecting Judaism to flourish while not personally engaging in its perpetuation, there is an even more poignant aspect to this abandonment of religious observance. (Yes, that's *observance* – not playing in the Jewish hockey league or eating at the "Jewish style" deli, or laughing at Jackie Mason jokes, or a dozen other substitutions that we have somehow managed to rationalize as an authentic Jewish identity.)

The greater damage is simply the loss of spiritual possibility for each Jew, as this chassidic tale illustrates: A certain Rabbi Yechiel went to visit his teacher in the town of Kotzk. When he returned home, he was asked by his father-in-law what he had learned. He answered by asking his father-in-law to interpret the words "you shall not steal."

That's obvious, his father-in-law answered. "It means you shall not steal from your fellow man."

"Well," replied Rabbi Yechiel, "in Kotzk they interpret it to mean, you shall not steal from yourself."

As if to bring this story to life, a very intelligent and gifted psychiatrist once said to me, as we were casually talking about religion, "Well that's your department." As if somehow the notion of God, of meaning in human life, of the development of a moral order and a community of human beings who learn to cultivate spiritual values, is left only to the clergy and the religious faithful.

He meant his comment kindly, but at that moment he was really stealing from himself. "Don't leave it to me," I said, "you are fully capable of entering that world, too."

There will be Jews around, many of them, well into the next century and beyond, assuming the Messiah is delayed. But it is the nature of Judaism itself that will look different. The question is not Jewish continuity, but what kind of Judaism.

There is a feeling one gets today of the middle ground dropping out, of either a kind of insular monasticism at one end or the great assimilated masses at the other end. My fear is, quite frankly, with those Jews who haven't yet officially thrown in the towel, but whose life choices are taking them and their children further and further away from Judaism.

There is no institution – not a shul, not a day school, nor a Jewish summer camp – that can truly compensate for the living Judaism carried out within the family. The spiritual yearnings of our children are knocking, but the blinds are drawn, the lights are out, the car has left the driveway. Nobody's home.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family. There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah. They cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, 1998.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50. Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 4, 1998.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 10, 1998. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Drug Crazy, by Mike Gray (Random House, $33.50).

Some weeks ago, a special United Nations conference on drugs took place in New York. More than 600 individuals, many of them internationally well known, delivered an open letter to the conference urging the United Nations to reconsider its traditional position on drugs.

Canadian signatories included New Democratic Party leader Alexa McDonough; Perry Kendall, former head of the Addiction Research Foundation; Nobel Prize-winning chemist John Polanyi; lawyers Clayton Ruby and Edward Greenspan; former Ottawa mayor Marion Dewar, and a dozen MPs.

The message of Mike Gray's hard-hitting book is that the war against drugs is being lost. He argues that despite an 80-year battle in the United States to fight drug use through prohibition, and despite expenditures of $300 billion (US) in the last 15 years, drug production, sale, and use continue unabated. He further contends that this unremitting battle is tearing apart the social fabric of the United States.

Few are the government anti-drug agencies not contaminated by corruption. While the vast majority of drug users are white, those convicted of drug sale or use are overwhelmingly black and Hispanic. Already, 400,000 persons convicted of drug use languish behind bars.

Moreover, the U.S. Constitution is regularly disregarded in the search for drug convictions. Warrantless searches and the seizure of property often take the place of due process. With "zero tolerance" the goal, civil liberties are blatantly disregarded.

The customary weapons against drugs just don't work. The author is convinced that prohibition encourages organized crime, distorts the market place and hinders health care. Despite massive efforts, the annual illicit drug industry is worth an estimated $400 billion – an astonishing eight percent of total world trade.

Forced onto the black market, drug sales inevitably fall into the hands of the most ruthless criminals. In the search for profit, these criminals will produce those drugs that are the most profitable and the easiest to produce.

Thus, when the price of cocaine goes up, crack (very cheap and highly addictive) is created. Gray argues that control, not prohibition, is the answer. Hard-core drug addicts must be allowed treatment that includes legal access to the drugs on which they are dependent. A tightly controlled legal drug market would end illicit drug trafficking and its costs in blood and money.

The author records the words of former Colombian high court judge Gomez Hutado, who told Americans at a drug-policy conference in 1993 "Forget about drug deaths and acquisitive crime and addiction and AIDS. All this pales into insignificance before the prospect facing the liberal societies of the West. The income of the drug barons is greater than the American defence budget. With this financial power they can suborn the institutions of the state and, if the state resists…they can purchase the firepower to outgun it. We are threatened with a return to the Dark Ages."

Gray is sure that "a tightly controlled legal market, offering clean, unadulterated pharmaceuticals, would instantly terminate the cash flow to the street bazaar, and the river of money that has fuelled the most brutal collection of criminal combines in the history of the planet would dry up."

Drug Crazy, simply but effectively written, is rich in examples of how the drug trade affects people in high and low places, and offers profiles of villains and heroes, profiteers and victims.

World going drug crazy

Russian Consular Records

Continued from page 12

Consular Records which were the subject of last month's column, advises that the index shows only names collected in the United States, not Canada. The Canadian consulate collection, known as LIRA-MA, is subject to more strict privacy regulations.

"When it came time for Canada to decide how to handle [its] part of the consular records collection, [it] opted to create an elaborate index but not to release the records themselves until the 100-year rule was met," Wynne says.

Wynne, incidentally, is the author of a new and very useful genealogical guidebook. *Finding Your Jewish Roots in Galicia: A Resource Guide* (also published by Avotaynu) is by far the fullest and most encyclopedic treatment of the subject to date. A resident of Maryland, Wynne is the founder of Gesher Galicia, a special interest group for persons with Galician ancestry.

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MINYANIM IN THE GTA
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Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	6:27 AM	8:45 AM	7:00, 8:00 & 8:45 AM	6:30 & 7:15 AM	6:25 PM
Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:45 AM	7:45 AM	6:00 PM
Darchei Noam (Rec.)	15 Hove St. (416) 638-4783	----------	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	6:30 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	59 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	6:35 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:30 AM	6:25 PM
Solel Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	7:00 AM Tuesday	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

For Yom Tov times, please call the synagogue you wish to attend. This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad Harabonim and the Toronto Board of Rabbis will periodically revise the listings.

Community Matters

Campaign Target Within Sight

The Campaign for Fifty is seeing 20/20 as it enters its fifth week. Average pledge increases of over 20% from more than 9,000 donors have propelled the community's largest fund-raising drive well past the $20 million mark.

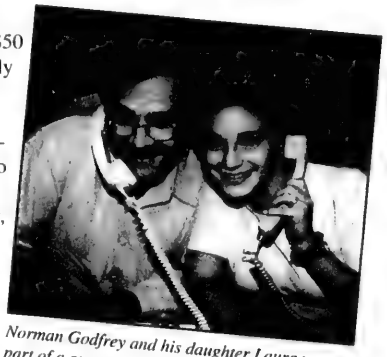
"With this incredible momentum and the community's continued generous response, we are well on our way to our $50 million goal," enthuses Howard Price, Vice-Chair of the community Campaign for Fifty. "People are recognizing the need and throwing their support behind UJA Federation," adds Price.

Campaign for Fifty Co-Chairs Brent Belzberg and Larry Tanenbaum and a record number of UJA Federation volunteers have raised $22 million to date, including what Price calls "an amazing $4 million in increased giving."

Glennie Lindenberg, who is also Vice-Chair of the Campaign for Fifty with Abe Glowinsky, attributes the campaign's early success to a strong leadership and an increased awareness about UJA Federation in the community. "Not only have Brent and Larry been successful in canvassing our leading donors," notes Lindenberg, "their tremendous commitment and energy have filtered down and inspired others to do the same."

"I continue to be impressed with how much we've accomplished in such a short period of time," adds UJA Federation Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel. "In my long association with UJA Federation, I've never seen so much support from our veteran volunteers and contributors, as well as our first timers."

UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty, to raise $50 million annually by 2001, will provide $13.5 million in additional dollars to strengthen Jewish identity, provide more assistance to the vulnerable and rescue Jews from unstable regions around the world, such as the former Soviet Union.



Norman Godfrey and his daughter Laura were part of a group of 70 March of the Living alumni who participated in UJA Federation's Super Week telethons helping to raise more than $135,000 in one night.

Voices from the Heart
Guns Bolts and Diplomacy

The following is an edited excerpt, the third in a series, from Voices from the Heart: A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel, *edited by Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, published by McClelland & Stewart Inc. The book, a collection of personal reflections by Canadians about their experiences in Israel, was produced as part of Toronto's Israel at 50 celebrations. This unique 395-page volume is available at a special price by calling UJA Federation at (416) 631-5685.*

By Edwin Goodman

Because I grew up in a Zionist home, my personal connection with Palestine and Israel goes back to my early youth. But my first trip to Israel came in 1963. After a boat trip in the Aegean with friends, Ann Dubin, my late wife Suzanne, and I flew on to Israel.

The day we arrived and checked in to the King David Hotel, Ann and I went for an evening stroll. We were not more than two hundred yards from the hotel when we heard a guttural shout and the noise of a gun bolt being drawn back. We looked up quickly and saw a huge pile of sandbags and a shouting Arab sentry. We beat a hasty retreat.

Another vivid memory also dates from the 1960s, and is one of many examples I could give of Canadian politicians helping Israel. I received a telephone call from the late Yaacov Herzog, Israel's Ambassador to Canada at the time. He asked whether I could persuade Prime Minister John Diefenbaker to invite David Ben-Gurion to Canada. He explained that President Kennedy was in the midst of discussions with the Arabs, and would not allow Ben-Gurion to come to the United States. However, Yaacov Herzog went on, if Ben-Gurion were in Canada, the Americans could not very well stop him from continuing across the border.

I approached Mr. Diefenbaker and he agreed. The Americans raised hell, but "Dief" told them he was the prime minister of Canada and made the decisions, not them, and Ben-Gurion did indeed come. Our Prime Minister entertained him - and then he went on to the United States.

Eddie Goodman with two Bedouin friends.

Photographs & Memories

Noted Professor and Historian Irving Abella and his wife, Ontario Court of Appeal Judge, Rosalie, examine an enlargement of one of the photographs featured in Voices from the Heart *at a recent reception attended by over 350 community members. The book, edited by Jaclyn Shulman and Bonnie Goldstein, was published in commemoration of Israel's 50th anniversary. Professor Abella is one of more than 250 Torontonians who contributed personal recollections, rare photographs and historic documents to* Voices from the Heart, *which can be obtained by calling UJA Federation at (416) 631-5685.*

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Wednesday, Oct. 14, is deadline for Oct. 22, and Monday, Oct. 19, is deadline for Oct. 29 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Oct. 8

PIANO CONCERT

Romanian-speaking Dr. Filderman Lodge, B'nai Brith, piano concert with **Alberta Alexandrescu** 6:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Presented by **Luisa Apostol**. For information, **Felicia Levy** 631-0634.

Saturday, Oct. 10

THE GREAT DEBATE

Rabbi Wayne Allen of Beth Tikvah Synagogue and **Rabbi Steven Saltzman** of Adath Israel Synagogue debate the issues expressed in **Prof. David Weiss Halvini**'s book on theology, *Revelation Restored* 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah sukkah.

Sunday, Oct. 11

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. Come listen, come tell. All welcome. Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. $4. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

Monday, Oct. 12

SIMCHAT TORAH

Sephardic Educational Centre invites all young adults to Abir Yaacob's Simchat Torah celebration, 6:30 p.m., Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Yonge St. Reception following. 905-669-765

AISH HATORAH PARTY

Come and sing, dance the horah – parades, flags, food and fun at Aish HaTorah Thornhill's Simchat Torah celebration, 7 p.m., 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

WITCHCRAFT & SORCERY

Orah chapter, Jewish Women International, presents Witchcraft, Superstition and Sorcery with **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, 7:30 p.m. **Jennie** 783-9527.

TEXTILE DESIGN

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting, 8 p.m., Lodzer Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton St. Topic is Kaleidoscope of Textile design with **Dixon Chan**. Call **Sarita**, 789-1145.

LAUGHTER IS MEDICINE

Golda Meir chapter, Jewish Women International, membership meeting (most members are former Montrealers), 7:30 p.m. **Dr. David Saul**, family physician, speaks on Laughter is Good Medicine and It Doesn't Taste Bad! **Marcia** 905-881-8557.

MARKHAM/UNIONVILLE

Jewish Women International Markham/Unionville chapter's first meeting this year. Food, fun and a mini-auction. **Sheryl** 905-305-7026 or **Susan** 905-940-0286.

Thursday, Oct. 15

ISRAEL & MIDDLE EAST

Beth Tzedec lecture series, Israel and the Middle East with **Prof. Aurel Braun** continues with Israel and the Middle East. 7:30 p.m.

THE RIGHTEOUS ENEMY

Toronto Jewish Film Society and Italian Cultural Institute present director **Joseph Rochlitz**' documentary, *The Righteous Enemy* , depicting the efforts of Italian soldiers and diplomats to protect 40,000 Jewish refugees during the Holocaust. Event is organized with cooperation of **Rick Bartolucci**, MPP, Sudbury, the Bloor Jewish Community Centre and Bathurst Jewish Centre,7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $5. 924-6211. Lecture and reception included.

And What Else Is New

TRANSNISTRIA SURVIVORS

The executive committee of Transnistria Survivors Association invites members and friends to the

Continued on page 17

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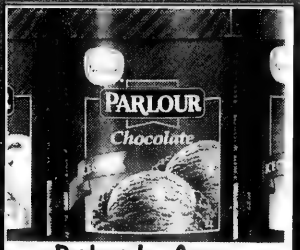

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From The Tropics
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Strub's Horseradish
250 mL jar
159

Ruffles Potato Chips
Assorted Varieties
170 g bag
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Pumpkin or Apple Pie
From The Bakery
600 g
249

Bilkes Challah
From the Bakery
625 g loaf
199

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What's New

Continued from page 16

commemoration service, Sunday, Oct. 18, 2 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, lower chapel. Social gathering follows. 638-1291

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation, Mississauga: Brotherhood breakfast Sunday, Oct. 25, 9:30 a.m. Regular Friday night services Oct. 23 (Grade 7 dinner) and Oct. 30 (speaker on Holocaust Education), 8:30 p.m. Family Friday night services Oct. 9 and 16, 7:30 p.m. Regular Saturday services Oct. 10, 17, 24 and 31, 10 a.m. Tuesday morning minyan continues at 7 a.m. 905-820-5915.

PARENT AND BABY TIME

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, Parent and Baby Time program, starts Tuesday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m. to noon, six consecutive Tuesdays at Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. $48. Register. **Rachel** 905-731-7216

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult education at Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Tales of the Hasidim, **Rabbi Wayne Allen,** following Minchah on Shabbat afternoons, Oct. 10, 17, 24 and 31 and Nov. 14, 21, and 28 – until the end of February.

Lech L'cha: Where Are You Going? Exploring Personal Journeys Through the Life Stories of Our Matriarchs and Patriarchs, with **Rachael Turkienicz** Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m. until Dec. 2

Shabbat morning Torah study, approximately 10-11 a.m. study of parshat hashavuah. Oct. 10 teacher is **Prof. Alex Pomson**.

Cantor Moshe Stern

CANTOR MOSHE STERN

Cantor Moshe Stern will officiate at Adath Israel Congregation Shabbat morning services Saturday, Oct. 17, 8:45 a.m., accompanied by Adath Israel Professional Choir with guest conductor **Bram Goldhammer**. Presented by the Adath Israel Jewish Music Endowment Fund which was established in honor of **Cantor A. Eliezer Kirshblum**. Kiddush follows.

NCSY HAPPENINGS

National Conference of Synagogue Youth events, 905-761-6279, ext. 23.

Sukkah party – Open House, Saturday, Oct. 10, relax and hang out at **Rabbi Glenn Black's** sukkah. Starts 9 p.m., 73 Gailcrest Circle, Thornhill.

Simchat Torah dinner – Monday, Oct. 12, dancing and dinner, live entertainment, at two locations, Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto, Thornhill, and Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

A BISL ZUN

Friends of Yiddish (FOY) presents *A Bisl Zun*, an evening of Yiddish song and dance with **Michael Smolash** (of *Forever Plaid*) accompanied by guitarist/pianist **Brian Katz** and clarinetist **Jonno Lightstone**. Sunday, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Auditorium, 15 Hove St. FOY members no charge, guests $8. RSVP by Oct. 14. **Min** 905-709-4602.

ST. JOHNS CPR COURSES

St. Johns CPR courses offered under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. To register, call **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

Infant and Child (0-8 years) CPR, excellent for nannies, caregivers, new parents, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., $35 including light lunch, Nov. 1 or Nov. 8.

Heartsaver CPR, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Nov. 15, $30. Receive certificate.

DYSAUTONOMIA TEA

Annual fundraising tea of Toronto chapter, Dysautonomia Foundation, Sunday, Oct. 18, 1-4 p.m. at the home of **Lori** and **John Ulmer**. Tea, fashions by Adele Wechsler, music, boutiques. Funds go towards research for a carriers' test for the general population. 449-3314 or 905-882-7725.

U. C. BOOK SALE

Join in the bibliomania at the annual University College Book Sale, University of Toronto campus. Browse through thousands of titles at bargain prices. Find the perfect Chanukah gift in the Jewish Studies area, Oct. 17-21. Queen's Park subway. 978-0372.

KENSINGTON EXHIBIT

Did you live in Kensington? Heritage Toronto is looking for stories, pictures and artifacts from the Kensington area for an oral history and exhibit project. Heritage staff and volunteers are recording personal histories and collecting material for a display to be held in the Kensington Lofts. Exhibit may travel to other spaces later. **Mike Lipowski** of Community Programs, Heritage Toronto, 392-6827.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting When Your Child Has an Eating Disorder, begins Oct. 29; Living With Teens, begins Oct. 21; Adult Children Losing a Parent, begins Oct. 20; Parenting the Young Child, begins Nov. 5; Social Skills Groups for Children begins Oct. 26.

SINGLES SCENE

Singles events for ages 25-35 and 36-55, under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Community-wide singles Shabbat service Saturday, Oct. 24, 10 a.m., speaker, luncheon. $10 633-3838. All welcome.

Fame, Tuesday, Nov. 24, Royal Alexandra Theatre. Tickets now on sale. $38, $58, $62. 633-3838.

THE CHORALAIRS

The Choralairs of North York, a volunteer choir singing for seniors and disabled persons, welcomes singers of all ages, all voice ranges. rehearsals Tuesdays 8-10:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre. Membership fees $45 per person, $70 per couple (tax receipt). **Fay Cohen** 633-7233 or **Judy** or **Myer Gordon** 221-3161.

To book a concert, **Rose Terrance.**

FOR SENIORS

Senior and adult drawing and painting classes run by the Toronto District School Board Seniors Program: Wednesday mornings at 2565 Bathurst St., and Thursday mornings at 2567 Yonge St. Register. **Sandra** 781-8855.

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group members **Ted Benyovitz, Dez Schonberger** and **Moish Weingarten** will participate in the Life to Remember program, Monday, Oct. 19, 8 p.m. $2 members, $3 non-members.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Oct. 15, 28 and Nov. 11, 25; Shaw Festival, *You Can't Take It With You* Oct. 22, Lady *Windermere's Fan* Oct. 29, *The Shop at Sly Corner* Nov. 10 ($65 including lunch at Foxhead Hotel); Atlantic City Trump Hotel Nov. 22-25. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Oct. 8, bingo and games; Oct. 10 Simchat Torah dance, for reservations, **Malka Colla** 630-5771; Oct. 15, games; Oct. 22, **Hannah Laslo** and **Tiki Dyan** Hebrew Theatre; Oct. 29, members meeting. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Israel trip Nov. 22-Dec. 9, with nine full days touring and entertainment; opening meeting Monday, Oct. 19, 12:30 p.m., Stress Management workshop, **Dr. Michael Brickner,** chiropractor. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami Trip 1999 for four, six or eight weeks. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Fashion Fantasia, a comical fashion show, Wednesday, Oct. 14, 1:30 p.m. Members $3, non-members $4. Tickets at Ticket Sales Desk.

Simchat Torah dance, Wednesday, Oct. 14, 7-10 p.m., dancing, entertainment, light supper. Members $10, non-members $12. Reserve.

Alf Kwinter, lawyer and humorist, presents Laughter is Not a Crime, a collection of jokes with a Jewish twist, Thursday, Oct. 15, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Closed Oct. 13 for Simchat Torah. **Anna**.

Movie, *The Postman*, Sunday, Oct. 11, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Two-Day Hebrew Marathon, Sundays, Oct. 11 and 18, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Study the alphabet, learn basic skills necessary for reading, practise reading key Hebrew prayers. Instructor **Nurit Gruber.** $60. Register. **Cheryl Wetstein**.

Bi-zarre Autumn Affair show and sale of gifts and decorations, Sunday, Oct. 11, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday Wellness Night features two health professionals every Wednesday, 7 p.m. Women's Month is topic for October.

Bloor JCC Seniors are invited by Jewish Student Union at the University of Toronto to visit the Helen Gardner Whelan Playhouse at 79 St. George St. Thursday, Oct. 15, for the Intergenerational Afternoon Tea and program prepared by the students. Walking from Bloor JCC 2 p.m. or meet at the Playhouse 2:30 p.m. Register by Oct. 13. 924-6211.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880

For information on the following programs, call ext. 229.

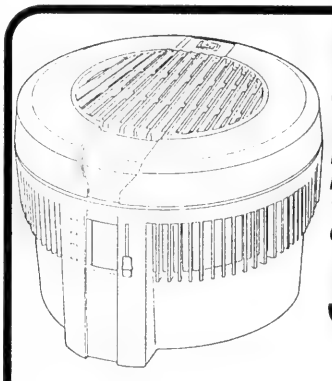
Mount Sinai Hospital and BJC Pre-Natal Course at BJC begins Oct. 19.

Family Fun Days: Register now for Oct. 25, 1-5 p.m. $18 per family.

Act II Studio – Ryerson Polytechnic University Drama Centre for older adults, Oct. 19-23 at BJC. Register now.

Fun Centre, Sundays 10 a.m. to noon.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20



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Greater Toronto Area

Toronto ORT Golden Circle lunch honors authors

Ruth Druxerman (center), ORT's Golden Circle co-chair is seen with Bonnie Goldstein (left) and Jaclyn Shulman, editors of *Voices from the Heart.*

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, editors of *Voices from the Heart*, a collection of personal stories, anecdotes and reflections celebrating the first 50 years of Israel, were honored recently at Toronto region of ORT Canada's Golden Circle Luncheon.

ORT, with 260,000 students worldwide, operates 800 schools and programs in 50 countries. It is dedicated to technical and vocational training in a Jewish environment.

Funds raised at the luncheon, held at the home of Maxine Granovsky-Gluskin and Ira Gluskin, provide scholarships at the Joseph Harmatz ORT School of Engineering on the campus of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. A perpetual scholarship will be awarded to a needy student.

'Great storytellers'

"Pound for pound, story upon story, *Voices from the Heart* is an important literary contribution to the Toronto community," said Ruth Druxerman, co-chair of the event with Helen Friedman.

"We are great storytellers, and these vignettes and pictures must be passed on from generation to generation. All of us here today are indebted to Bonnie and Jaclyn for capturing so many memorable moments for posterity," said Druxerman.

In August 1997, Goldstein and Shulman were approached by Julia Koschitzky, chair of Israel at 50, and Karen Morton, chair of Israel at 50 Showcase at the CNE's Israel Pavilion, to undertake the creation of the commemorative book, which was published by McClelland & Stewart.

"We took the risk – and the response was overwhelming," said Goldstein. "The Toronto community took our project to heart, immediately responding with great feeling."

She added that they looked for stories that would reflect the rich diversity of the community. Within 60 days, they had 500 submissions.

"We had only a few months to gather and give structure to these stories. And by the time we realized how impossible this all was, we were almost finished," said Goldstein.

Shulman said that the book grew from 200 to 400 pages. "For us, receiving these stories produced moments of surprising coincidences." They discovered that several people had been at the same place at the same historic moment, each unknown to the others.

"Extraordinary events unfolded before us, often producing those shivering goose-bump moments," said Shulman. "We had the privilege of preserving the individual voice of each of these storytellers. Together, their many stories have created a story that is truly universal. We have assembled the book, but the stories are theirs."

In recognition of their efforts, Goldstein and Shulman were presented with inscribed book holders and commemorative pins created by Toronto sculptor Al Green.

A special tribute was paid to the late Bertha Dermer, founder of Golden Circle. "Bertha Dermer was Golden Circle," said Friedman. "It flourished under her leadership. It was Bertha who introduced me to ORT's Golden Circle. We worked together for almost 20 years. She was my mentor."

Gord Berger, recently elected president of Toronto ORT, talked about the upcoming launch of ORT Navigating the Bible – a World ORT Union's Web site, which contains the Five Books of Moses.

Kathleen Crook, national president of ORT Canada, spoke of the expanding work of ORT, and thanked Koschitzky and Morton "for their participation in making this Golden Circle a success." She introduced the new Golden Circle patrons and thanked them "on behalf of the ORT students who will benefit from your generous support."

The luncheon raised more than $50,000.

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Congregation Iyr Ha-Melech	Solel Congregation	Temple Har Zion	Temple Tikvah
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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish academic fascinated by German studies

Academia

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Mark Joel Webber, a specialist in German language and literature, has heard the pointed questions before.

"What are you doing in this field? Doesn't it disgust you? How can you go to Germany? Stuff like that."

In short, what business does a nice Jewish boy like himself have in German studies after an unprecedented and unique disaster like the Holocaust?

The short answer is uncommonly straightforward. The discipline fascinates him. The longer answer is a bit more complicated. " I try to understand different worlds, to jump over borders. I try to figure out and explain Germans to Jews and Jews to Germans."

As interim co-director of the Canadian Centre for German and European Studies at York University, he is ideally suited for that role.

Officially inaugurated last November after a nation-wide competition among Canadian universities, the centre is a cooperative venture of the German Academic Exchange Service, a German government agency, York University and the University of Montreal. (There are similar centres in the United States and Britain.)

Its mandate is three-fold: to educate the next generation of Canadian experts – scholars, journalists, diplomats and entrepreneurs – in German and European affairs; to stimulate and conduct research on Germany and Europe, especially in areas where Canadian and European interests intersect; and to promote an awareness of German and European issues.

Not surprisingly, the centre, which offers a graduate diploma in German and European studies, has close academic and administrative ties with York University's Centre for Jewish Studies, headed by Michael Brown.

"There are many points of common interest," said Webber. "The topics – the Holocaust, immigration, Diaspora relations, the history of Jews in Germany, right-wing extremism – are intertwined."

Webber, who's affiliated with B'nai Brith Canada's League for

Mark Joel Webber

Human Rights and Institute for International Affairs, recently helped organize a teachers' trip to Israel to deepen their understanding of the Holocaust.

And just as Brown is on the board of the Canadian Centre for German and European Studies, so Webber sits on the executive of the Centre for Jewish Studies.

Webber, who co-directs the centre with the University of Montreal's Hans-Herbert Raekel, plans to leave his current position after a joint permanent director is appointed later this year.

"I don't want the job," he said. "I want more time for reading, writing and family."

Webber, whose wife Janet is a York University instructor in English literature, was born in St. Louis, Mo. Today, he holds dual Canadian-American citizenship.

In the high school he attended, it was mandatory to take a modern language course. He chose German. The teacher had an excellent reputation, and Webber wanted to solve a puzzle. The final movement in Beethoven's ninth concert, which his father Joseph was fond of playing on the piano, contained German words that had piqued his curiosity.

Joseph, a salesman who had served with the American army's historical corps in Germany during World War II, reinforced Webber's interest in German by recounting stories of his days as a soldier.

"My parents," he added, "encouraged me to study German. But I never thought the German language course would lead me to German studies."

Webber, 53, was hired by York University in 1972. He came to Canada after completing a BA at Harvard (where he decided to become a Germanist) and postgraduate degrees at Yale.

"German language and literature was what I enjoyed most. I was good at it."

In retrospect, ignorance may well have been a factor in his career choice, conceded Webber, whose Russian and Lithuanian ancestors settled in the United States in the 1880s.

"It's debatable whether I would have pursued German had I been fully aware of the Holocaust. But I'm still fascinated by [German studies] on emotional and intellectual grounds. I have something important to offer, to myself and others."

Jews, he disclosed, are prominently represented in German studies in the United States and, to a lesser degree, in Canada.

In 1997, he taught a course on critical issues in Germany (as well as a humanities course on the place of animals in Western literature), and this year he is lecturing on

Continued on page 20

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October 18, 1998

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Breakfast: 9:30 a.m. *(nominal charge)*
Lecture: 10:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker: ***Dr. Avi Sadeh***
Department of Psychology
Tel Aviv University

Topic: **"Terror, Media and the Response of the Israeli Public"**

Public Cordially Invited *Free Admission*

Reform summer camp planned

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — A summer camp run by the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ) is scheduled to open in 1999.

The 200-acre camp, which includes a five-acre island, is located on Maple Lake near Parry Sound, and will cater to children ages 8 to 16. The site will also be available for adult retreats and conferences throughout the year.

Financing for the project, which is expected to cost between $2 million and $3 million, will come from private donors.

"The question was raised [four years ago at a board meeting], of our desire to establish a camp in Canada, which would be the same as the nine camps that our parent body, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, has been running in the United States," says Gavin Herman, chair of the camp board and a member of the CCRJ executive.

"Some of these camps have been in operation for more than 45 years. Many Canadian kids have been going to the United States, and we wanted to build the same [type of camp] here," says Herman.

Currently, the site includes a kosher kitchen with a large dining room, a lodge with 30 private rooms and several meeting rooms, several staff/faculty cabins and two dorms. All of the buildings are winterized.

There is also an outdoor chapel, a recreation hall and a beach. The lot is fully serviced with plumbing and electricity.

Organizers say there are enough accommodations for staff and campers for the summer of 1999. However, infrastructure will be built to include sports facilities, such as basketball and tennis courts, and soccer fields.

"The difference at our camp [from others that attract Reform Jews] is the Jewish education that we provide. For example, we offer Torah study; full Shabbat observance; rabbis, cantors and educators as faculty; Israeli dance and song; and Hebrew learning for older kids...[There is] a strong sense of being and living as Jews – of course, mixed in with all of the traditional aspects of summer camping in Ontario.

"We have a great deal of support from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) – the parent body of Reform Judaism," says Herman.

Great deal of support from UAHC

The camp is to be run on a non-profit or cost-recovery basis. According to Herman, UHAC will underwrite any losses that may be incurred during the start-up phase.

"There could be a loss in year one. We're in for the long haul, not just a couple of years," says Herman.

SINGLES EVENTS
is an advertising feature of
The Canadian Jewish News
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles 35-55, Brunch N' Mingle with guest speaker "Andrea Moses" Topic: "Choosing a Relationship That Will Make You Happy." Sun., Oct., 25 at 11:30 a.m. Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Cost: $20. Must be prepaid by Oct. 20. RSVP Ellen 905-731-7348 or Anne 416-495-0734.

Co-ed Volleyball. Metro Toronto Sports presents its 6th annual co-ed volleyball season. **Recreational and competitive** divisions. For information call 416-222-7111.

Darren, Mark & Ari Present... Thanksgiving Weekend Affair, Sun. Oct. 11, 9pm-3am @ Courthouse Chamber Lounge, 10 Court St. (416-224-9379) $10-adv., $12-door. TicketMaster: 870-8000 or Dana Ryckman Ticket Agent: 271-3854, DM&A Hotline: 713-0024.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1650 registered. **416-483-4151.**

www.jmatch.com Free to register, free profile page, free to browse.

"How To Find A Special Someone In Your Life." Group startsWed., Oct 14, 7:30pm. For info: Sol, 905-889-6135.$5 Coffee, dessert served. Proceeds to Baycrest Hospital.

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Webber in German studies

Continued from page 19

Franz Kafka, who wrote his novels and short stories in German.

In his field of specialization, 19th century literature, Webber deals with such writers as Karl Gutzkow and Heinrich Laube, who even today are not widely known in Germany. Although they were heavily influenced by Heinrich Heine and Ludwig Boerne, both of whom were of Jewish origin, the writings of Laube and Gutzkow are contaminated by anti-Semitic elements.

Webber, whose other speciality is interculturality in German as a foreign language, scoffs at the notion that anti-Semitism in Germany is any more serious than, say, in France or Britain. There is, however, one huge difference. "Germany is where the Shoah started," he said, noting that the language, the culture and the symbols can be jarring to Jews.

Webber, whom the German government has honored for promoting German-Jewish understanding, is doubtful whether Germans and Jews can put their relationship on a "normal" footing in his own lifetime.

Yet he praises Germany for its efforts to come to terms with the past. "On the whole, Germany has done a better job in this respect than almost any other country."

He is skeptical about the value of Daniel Goldhagen's best-seller, *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust.* "What was good about the book – some of the archival work on police battalions and death marches – wasn't particularly new. What was new – his theory of exterminationist German anti-Semitism – wasn't especially good."

Considering himself an objective observer of Germany, he hews to the belief that there is no such thing as collective guilt or collective forgiveness.

Although he views right-wing extremism with concern, he doubts whether it poses a fundamental threat to democracy in Germany.

As far as Germany's Jewish community is concerned, he thinks it will keep on growing if new immigrants from the former Soviet Union continue to pour in.

But Webber, who has lived in Germany twice during sabbaticals in the 1980s and 1990s, said, "It's still hard to be a Jew in Germany."

On Campus

JSU planning to relocate its premises at U of T

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's not much to look at, but it's home — at least for now.

The University of Toronto's Jewish Students' Union (JSU) is still headquartered in a University College basement with alarmingly low ceilings, but the director of Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto, the umbrella group for post-secondary campuses here, is optimistic about relocating by the beginning of the year 2000.

Discussions have been finalized regarding the leasing of a house at the northwest corner of Huron Street and Harbord Avenue, said Zac Kaye. "We're in the final negotiating stages."

Jewish Campus Services is working in tandem with UJA Federation through the latter's Legacy Campaign, to raise funds for the new site and other campus projects, he added.

Meanwhile, the JSU calendar is full, and a steady – if modest – stream of students continues to drop by to eat lunch, shmooze, study or listen to music.

Chayim Newman, a student who transferred to U of T this year, says the JSU is a place to chill or hang out. On a large campus, he believes, "everybody's just a number. This is where you find a sense of community."

Michelle Lackie, a 26-year-old native of St. Catharines who was hired as JSU program director in August (replacing Lance Davis, now JCS' director of education), hopes that more students will find that same sense of community.

An updated JSU database has almost 700 names, despite U of T's estimated 3,000-strong Jewish student population. (By comparison, York University's Jewish Student Federation, with similar Jewish demographics, has over 1,200 names.)

The large percentage of commuter students and stereotypes about the JSU both account for the relatively small number of involved students, Lackie believes.

She wants students to know that the JSU is "not just a religious venue. We're a pluralistic group. We try to program for everyone."

Upcoming activities include a Lunch and Learn program on Jewish battered women, an intergenerational tea in conjunction with the Bloor JCC seniors' group, a wine-and-cheese for graduate students, and events for Holocaust Education Week in November and Israel Week in March. A charity beer bash was set for this past weekend.

For University of Toronto students Alex Greenberg, left, and Chayim Newman, the JSU is a place to hang out and find a sense of community. [Frances Kraft photo]

In addition to Lackie, the JSU has two staff program associates who work part time with residence and graduate students, as well as the Jewish Campus Services team that includes an arts and culture coordinator. Lackie said, however, that the programs are student-run and student-driven.

Although one student expressed "disappointment" to *The CJN* over a perceived loss of student autonomy since JCS was established three years ago, JSU president Ilan Barda, who heads the 22 person JSU student board, said, "It's definitely our show. [The staff] know that, and they're cool about that."

Programming is geared to satisfying the needs of Jewish students and also to educating non-Jewish ones, he noted.

Lackie, a teacher by training, who much prefers informal over formal education, sees her role as a facilitator or adviser.

"We're an open and welcoming group," she said. "We're open to new ideas. If you're looking for a place to meet, or to question or challenge your Jewish identity, or be a part of something, then come."

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Saturday: Dinner 4:30 PM – close ... $12.99/per person
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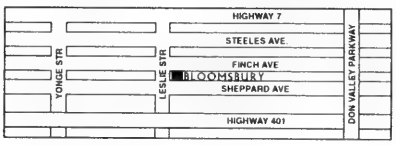

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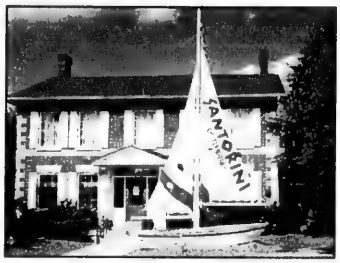
THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

SANTORINI GRILL



Santorini is a Mediterranean restaurant with a Greek flavor, featuring grilled steaks, souvlaki, mezes, pasta, seafood and fresh fish. Enjoy a fresh salmon, swordfish or sea bass fillet, or a whole red snapper or sea bass. Every dinner includes taramosalata, pickles and salad appetizers, and a homemade loaf you slice to your taste; birthday or anniversary parties of more than four receive a free cake. In this fine house built in 1855, the private rooms with their inviting decor and electric fireplaces can seat 15 or 45 dinner guests; why not celebrate your special occasion here?

Open Mon.–Sat. 11:30–3:00 for lunch, after 3 for dinner. Sun. 12–5 for private parties, after 5 for dinner. Reservations recomended, required Fri. & Sat. Parking Thornhill Sq. in front of restaurant

288 John St., Markham
Phone 905-731-4400

ROSEWATER SUPPER CLUB

Rosewater Supper Club is situated minutes from the heart of Toronto's financial and theatre district. Renowned for the beauty and elegance of its historical landmark building, it's perfect for enjoying cocktails, an exquisite meal or a special event. The diversity and décor of the restaurant will amaze you, whether you're in the main dining room, private Boardroom, the Mezzanine, the Supper Club or the Ember Lounge. Executive Chef Christopher Klugman's menu is an eclectic palette of culinary styles and achieves harmony with the elegance of the heritage structure. The highest standards of quality and meticulous attention to detail are ahered to by all staff.

Call for reservations
Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30-2:30
Dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:30-10:30

19 Toronto Street
Phone 416-214-5888

LOBSTER ROYALE

Seafood and lobster lovers, come and enjoy. Dine at The Lobster Royale where lobsters range from one to three pounds, live from the tank, prepared for you either broiled or steamed. Start your meal with a superb Lobster Bisque or a divine Clam Chowder. Other fine fish delicacies are Alaska King Crab Legs, Orange Roughy and Fresh Atlantic Salmon and the meat menu includes Filet Mignon and New York Striploin. There is a certain tone here, not too formal; smart-casual dress goes well with fine table linen.

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 5:00-10:00 pm
Reservations advised for groups of 4 and up
Wheelchair access

7323 Yonge Street
Phone 905-707-0546

ABBONDANTE RESTAURANT

Come savor Abbondante's light fall menu, full of delectations like braised lamb, T–bone steaks, grilled shrimp, and seafood pastas. Portions are abundant, desserts are home-made, and the wines, grappas, cognacs and liqueurs are the finest. Patrons love to meet and chat amid the vibrant colors of this relaxed open-kitchen ambience; and they're open seven days a week now, with live jazz Sunday evenings. There's an Australian wine tasting dinner on Oct. 19, and a cooking class Oct. 26. Limited seating; call now. Available for private and corporate functions.

Hours: Mon.–Fri. 11:30-11;
Sat. 5–11; Sun. 5–10
Ample free parking. Wheelchair access. Reservations recommended

10620 Yonge Street, Unit 16
South of Elgin Mills
Phone 905-780-0183

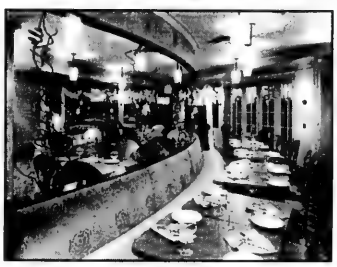
BUMPKIN'S

Bumpkin's, under the same owner since 1971, is situated in a Victorian house with an inviting atmosphere and warm fireplace. The huge menu includes duck a l'orange, quails and breast of chicken; for seafood, try the best-selling Shrimps Bumpkin's, fresh Atlantic salmon, stuffed rainbow trout, or fresh catch of the day. The choice of tender, juicy meat items includes roast beef, sirloin, filet mignon and sirloin butt steak; there are also fine vegetarian dishes, like pasta primavera. Daily specials include tiger shrimp, pasta aux fruits de mer, and surf 'n turf. Appetizers are from $2.95, entrees from $8.95; lunches include soup or salad. Best escargots & mussels in town! Newly renovated with wall to wall famous paintings

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 12:00-2:30 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:00-11:00 p.m.
Reservations requested for 5 or more

21 Gloucester Street
Phone 416-922-8655

SPEZZO RISTORANTE



Spezzo Ristorante offers the very best in Northern Italian cuisine with a Mediterranean flair. Surrounded in opulence, and meticulously cared for, you may enjoy an incredible antipasti selection, innovative pastas, thin crust, stone baked gourmet pizzas, fresh fish, rack of lamb, a succulent 10 oz. Angus steak and desserts to die for – all masterfully prepared using only the finest and freshest market ingredients. Compliment your dining experience with fine wines and complete your night out in the lounge, featuring select live music Friday & Saturday nights. If you are planning a private affair, Spezzo Ristorante is available Sundays for exclusive use.

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11am-11pm; Fri. 11a.m.–midnight
Sat. 4:30p.m.–midnight;
Sun. available for private functions
Reservations recommended, Buon appetito!

140 York Blvd., Richmond Hill
Phone 905-886-9703

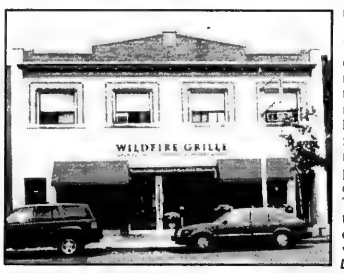
MARS UPTOWN

The Mars tradition has moved north; the Uptown recreates the downtown style and flavor, with three or four generations sitting together at the counter. Favorites like corned beef hash or salami and eggs are still prepared at the open grill; you can still savor the famous rice pudding, muffins and hearty homemade soups. There's a light menu now too, with delectations like eggwhite omelets and French toast, chicken pocket sandwich (grilled chicken breast and platina bread with veggies), low-fat bran muffins and baked apples with yogurt. So drop in and enjoy breakfast, lunch or DINNER.

Open Fri.–Sat. 24 hrs.; Sun.–Thurs. 7 a.m.–11p.m.
Licensed; Office party catering
Ample parking in area

2363 Yonge Street
Phone 416-322-7111

WILDFIRE GRILLE



The Wildfire Grille, Toronto's newest, most exciting restaurant, specializes in Portuguese churrasco cooking over real charcoal. Choose from chicken, B.B.Q. back ribs and steaks, seafood, fresh fish, fine pastas, and appetizers like grilled Portobello mushroom salad; and there's a new fall steak house-style menu, and a Continental buffet for Sunday brunch. This menu is available for takeout and catering, too. The atmosphere is Mediterranean-Californian, with dixie, swing, and some live Brazilian music. The main room, with its booths and big tables, seats 200; it's also available for banquets. The meeting room, available for private functions, seats up to 40.

Lunch Mon.–Fri.; Sun. brunch;
Dinner 7 d/wk. from 7p.m.
Reservations. Fully licensed. Wheelchair access
Free parking at David Share Associates

3438 Yonge Street
Phone 416-483-4800

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

The Lobster Trap Restaurant

Still serving satisfied patrons after 35 years. The Lobster Trap is Toronto's original lobster house. Unique in Canada, The Lobster Trap offers live lobster in the tank from one pound up to four pounds, prepared the way you like it; and the lobster bisque sets the standard for all others. Besides our delicious lobster, scampies, Alaska king crab legs, shrimps and mussels, there is also a selection of other fine fish dishes. Casual dress goes with the cozy atmosphere; and there is a special kids' menu. Lunches start at $4.95, dinners at $16.95. The Lobster Trap accepts all major credit cards.

1962 Avenue Road
Phone 416-787-3211

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Dinner 5:00-10:00 p.m.,
7 days a week

Lick's

Licks is excited to be in Thornhill, preparing gourmet burgers with fresh ingredients that put "food", i.e. nutrition and taste, back into "fast food". Try the six-ounce ground steak Homeburger; the Chick'n Lick'n; the ground turkey Gobbler; or the vegetarian Nature Burger with its special spice blend. There are kids' meals, a Value Menu with combos, many ice cream flavors, and desserts like hot fudge or fresh fruit sundae. This upbeat restaurant, with music recalling the '50s and '60s and staff that chant your order, also hosts kids' birthdays. Want to cook for yourself? Order Licks' barbecue six-pack.

8187 Yonge Street, Thornhill
Phone 416-362-5425

Open 11a.m.– 11p.m. every day
Wheelchair access
Reservations for large parties only

Garlic Pepper, Szechuan Cuisine

In a casual, family atmosphere, Garlic Pepper offers you spicy Szechuan cuisine with plenty of garlic, good for body and soul all year round. The one-price All You Can Enjoy special, with over 60 soup, appetizer and entree selections, is served a la carte , so you can relax over your meal; Mon.-Fri. $12.99, Sat., Sun. and holidays $13.99. Try General Tsao's chicken, or chicken chunks in honey garlic sauce; and there's dim sum all day long. There's home pickup and delivery, and a private dining room for up to 80. Fully licensed; smoking area.

Thornhill
7335 Yonge Street, (at Glen Cameron)
Phone 905-882-7836
Midtown
3330 Yonge Street, (at Fairlawn)
Phone 416-481-6363

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am-midnight
Sat.-Sun. 10:00 am-midnight
Wheelchair access
Reservations welcome

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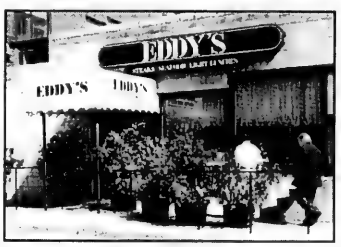
Furama House

Looking for ambience, fine dining and a varied selection of Cantonese and Szechuan cuisine? Look no further than Bobby Peng's Furama House, which boasts all of the above plus the city's most spectacular Dim Sum, available from 10 to 4 seven days a week for your dining pleasure. Ongoing specials include Live Lobster (buy 1 get 1 free, $18.95 eat in or $20.95 take out), and Live Lobster & Whole King Crab, $25.50. Mon. to Fri. except holidays, enjoy 20% off the Dim Sum if paying cash, and 15% off the dinner menu, not including specials.

100 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-731-3288

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.,
7 days a week. Dim Sum 10-4 daily.
Eat-in or take out.
Fully licensed. Wheelchair Access.
Reservations recommended.

Eddy's Dining Lounge



For ten years, Eddy's Dining Lounge has been a landmark in Thornhill. Eddy, Angelo and the friendly staff offer you a pleasant dining experience in a relaxed family atmosphere, in the 35-year tradition of Seniors at St. Clair and Yonge. You'll enjoy the finest steaks, ribs and seafood; and every steak comes with pan-fried mushrooms. There's a great luncheon menu too, including light cooked meals. The appetizers are delectable; every dinner includes caviar, cottage cheese, olives and pickles; and there's garlic bread with every lunch and dinner. And on Sundays, Eddy's hosts some private functions.

8199 Yonge Street,
2 lights S. of Hwy. 7, N. of Royal Orchard Blvd.
Phone 905-886-6566

Open lunch & dinner Mon.–Sat.,
Dinner on Sun.
Reservations accepted

Shopsy's Midtown

Shopsy's menu features the classic favorites like all beef hot dogs, corned beef, celebrity triple-decker sandwiches, cheese blintzes & New York cheesecake – along with comfort foods like cabbage rolls, meatloaf & shepherd's pie, just like Mom used to make. Order from our low-fat Healthy & Hearty section introducing new ideas like grilled vegetable & fresh roast turkey sandwiches; don't forget to check out the tempting new desserts. The take-home counter offers foods Shopsy's is famous for. The atmosphere is family-friendly, with pictures of sports and entertainment celebrities, and booths equipped with Sony PlayStations. Choose your favourite Cuban Cigar from the well-stocked humidor boutique.

1535 Yonge Street
N. of St. Clair
Phone 416-967-5252

Open Mon.–Fri. 7a.m., Weekends 8;
Closed Tues.–Sat. midnight,
Sun.–Mon. 11p.m.;Wheelchair access.

La Bussola Ristorante

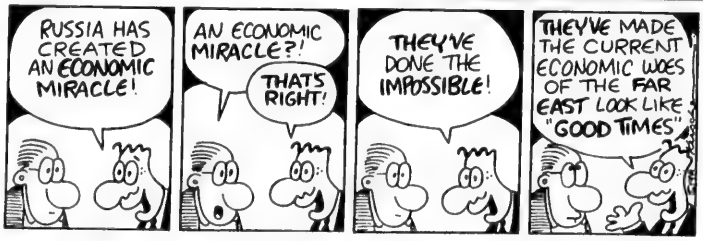
La Bussola's new owners, Luigi and Eduardo Beccati, formerly chefs of Gamberoni, create a tempting, flavorful variety of moderately priced fresh seafood, meat, pasta and vegetable dishes. Sample the superb grigliata mista and paella mediterranea or try the tricolor penne with smoked salmon and vodka in a rosé sauce. The tender veal medallions topped with sauteed mushrooms, rack of lamb flambed in brandy or veal Bussola make excellent choices. This cosy, enchanting ristorante with its homey, quaint decor offers an extensive wine list with over 60 Italian reds. Located near Highway 401 and Bathurst.

3434 Bathurst Street
Phone 416-789-4444

Lunch: Tues.–Fri. from 11 a.m.,
Dinner 7 days a week from 5 p.m.
Reservations recommended on weekends.

Yiddish Corner

Dry Bones



ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

דאָס ליד איז פאַרבליבן

(מרדכי נעבירטיג'ס נעזאַנגען און זיינער אָפּקלאַנג אין דער וועלט)

פון ש. סימכאָוויטש

מרדכי נעבירטיג איז אַן שום ספק דער באַליבסטער ייִדישער פאָלקס־דיכטער פון אונדזער יאָרהונדערט. אין פולן, צווישן ביידע וועלט־מלחמות, זיינען זיינע לידער געווען ברייט באַקאַנט אוּן זיינען געזונגען געוואָרן דורך פשוטע פאָלקס־מענטשן אוּן פראָפעסיאָנעלע אַרטיסטן צוגלייך. אַליין אַ פשוטער פאָלקס־מענטש, האָט ער פארמאָגט אויסער דעם איינגעבוירענעם טאַלאַנט פון אַ דיכטער אוּן וואַרט־מיסטער, אויך אַן איידעלע, פילבאַרע נשמה, אַ רחמים־געפיל פאַר יעדן מענטש, יִיד אָדער ניט־יִיד, ספּעציעל פאַר די שוואַכע אוּן באַוווּסטע אין דער מענטשלעכער גיזעלשאַפט: דאָס קינד, דעם יתום אוּן די אלמנה, דעם אַרבעטסמאַן אוּן אַרבעטלאָזן, דאָס אַלץ באַרייכערט מיט אַן אייזעלע, שפּילעריקן הומאָר אוּן טיפן גלויבן אין דער היליקייט אוּן ווערטיקייט פון מענטשלעכן לעבן. נישט קיין וואונדער, וואָס דאָס פאָלק האָט זיין שירה אַזוי וואַרעם אויפגענומען אוּן אים גיזאַלבט פאַר זיין שליח־ציבור.

מרדכי נעבירטיג (אַדער בערטיג) איז געבוירן געוואָרן אין 1877 אין קראָקע אוּן דאָרט אומגעברענגט געוואָרן, אין עלטער פון 65 יאָר, דורך די נאַציש־רוצחים. ער איז געווען אַן אַרעמער הערש־פאַשניק, אַ מעבל־סטאַליער, אוּן בלויז אין דער וויניק־פאַרבליבענער פריידער זייט זיך געקאָנט אָפּגעבן מיט זיינע לידיש־מחיקאַלישע שאָפּונגען. זיין פרוי אוּן די דריי טעכטער האָבן אים געהאָלפן אין פאַרפאַסן די מעלאָדיעס צו זיינע לידער אוּן אַ פּרינט אַ מחיקער האָט פאַרשריבן די נאָטן. די לידער זיינען איבערגעשריבן געוואָרן.

ערשט אין 1920, וועַן נעבירטיג איז אַלט געווען 43 יאָר, האָבן אַ צאָל פון זיינע פּרייַנט אַרטיסטן זיך ערשטע לידער־זאַמלונג אונטערן נאָמען „פאָלקסטימלעך", אַ באַשיידן ביכעלע פון 32 זייט־לער. מיט זעכצן יאָר שפּעטער, אין 1936, האָט אַ קאָמיטעט אין קראָקע אַרויסגעגעבן נעבירטיג'ס צוויייט בוך, „מיינע לידער", וואָס האָט איינגעשלאָסן נאָך 53 נייע לידער, אין צוגאָב צו די 17 פון דער ערשטער זאַמלונג.

אונטערן איינדרוק פון די רדיפות קעגן ייִדן אין פוילן אין די דרייסיקער יאָרן, ספּעציעל נאָכן פאַלאַאָם אין פּשיטיק, האָט נעבירטיג אין 1938 אָנגעשריבן זיין באַרימט ליד „עס ברענט", אין וועלכן ער האָט גערופן נישט צו שטיין „מיט פאַרלייגטע הענט", נאָר פרויבירן ראַטעווען דאָס שטעטל פון די שטיינדיקע פלאַמען. דאָס איז געווען אַ נביאישׂ ליד, וואָס איז לידער איינגיבן מקוים גע־וואָרן. מיט אַ יאָר שפּעטער זיינען די דייטשן אַריין אין קראָקע אוּן פאַרטריבן די ייִדן אין געטא. אַ שטיקל צייט האָט נעבירטיג מיט זיין פרוי אוּן די טעכטער פאַרבראַכט אין לאַגעוווניקי, נישט וויַיט פון קראָקע. אַנהויב 1942 זיינען זיי צוריק אַריין אין קראָקעוווער געטאָ אוּן אין „בלוטיקן דאַנערשטיק" (4־טער יוני, 1942) אַרויס־געפירט געוואָרן, צוזאַמען מיטן רוב קראָקעווער ייִדן, צום טויט קיין בעלזשעץ. אויפן וועג איז ער געפאַלן פון אַ דייטשער קויל.

אין משך פון די איבער צווויי יאָר אונטער דער דייטשער ממשלה האָט נעבירטיג טראָץ אַלעמען געשאָפן אַ גאַנצע ריי לידער אוּן נעזאַנגען, וואָס שפּיגלען אָפּ די טראַגישע ייִדישע וויִדקלעקייט פון יענער תקופה. אין אַ ליד, „מיין חלום", מאַלט נעבירטיג זיך אויס דעם טאָג פון נצחון אייבערן נאַציזם, וועַן די גאַנצע וועלט וועט יובלען אוּן זיך פריַען, אוּן מען וועט שפּייַען מיט פאַראַכטונג אויף די, „וואָס האָבן אונדזער וועלט פאַרסָמט".

לידער האָט נעבירטיג אוּן קיינער פון זיין משפּחה נישט דער־לעבט צו דעם גרויסן טאָג. עס איז אַבער געשען אַ נס, וואָס יולא האָמאַן, אַ טאָכטער פון נעבירטיג'ס פריַנד, האָט אויפגעהיטן זיינע צעטא־שריפטן אוּן זי איבערגענעבן אין אַרכיוו „מורשת", אין קיבוץ גבעת־חביבה, ישׂראל. אויסגאָבעס פון נעבירטיג'ס אָרום 90 פאַרליבענע לידער זיינען אַרויס אין פוילן, אַמעריקע אוּן לעצטנס אין ישׂראל, מיט אַן אַריינפיר פון נתן גראָס אוּן צייכענונגען פון אַלעקסאַנדער באַגוּן.

אין 1992 האָט אַ יונגער דייטשער זינגער אוּן קאָמפּאָזיטאָר, מאַנפרעד לעם פון וואופּערטאָל, דייטשלאַנד, אַרויסגענעבן אַ פאַרבּאָוּועס פון אַלע ביז איצט באַקאַנטע נעבירטיג'ס לידער. דאָס בוך שליסט אויך דעם ייִדישן טעקסט, אַ לאַטיינישע טראַנס־ליטעראַציע, אַ ווערטלעכע דייטשע איבערזעצונג אוּן די מחיק מיט אַראַנזשירונגען פון מאַנפרעד לעם. לעם מיט זיין אָנסאַמבל טרעטן אויף ביי נעבירטיג קאָנצערטן, טאָקע אין ייִדיש, אין פאַרשיידענע שטעט אין מערב אוּן מזרח אייראָפּע. ער באַזוכט אויך אָפט שולעס אוּן זינגט אוּן דערציילט וועגן לעבן אוּן שאַפן פון מרדכי נעבירטיג.

נעבירטיג'ס ערלעך ייִדיש לידּ אוּן זיינע האַרציקע מעלאָדיעס זיינען נישט פאַרשטומט געוואָרן.

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Parkinson's Early Intervention Program

Education and exercise for people diagnosed with Parkinson's within the last three years and in the early stages of the condition. Call (416) 785-2500, ext. 2683.

Social Work Community Counselling Service

A fee-for-service counselling program to assist elderly people and their families. Call (416) 785-2379.

Wheelchair Rental and Service

For information about wheelchair and walker rental and service, call Joe Medeiros (416) 785-2500, ext. 2898.

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

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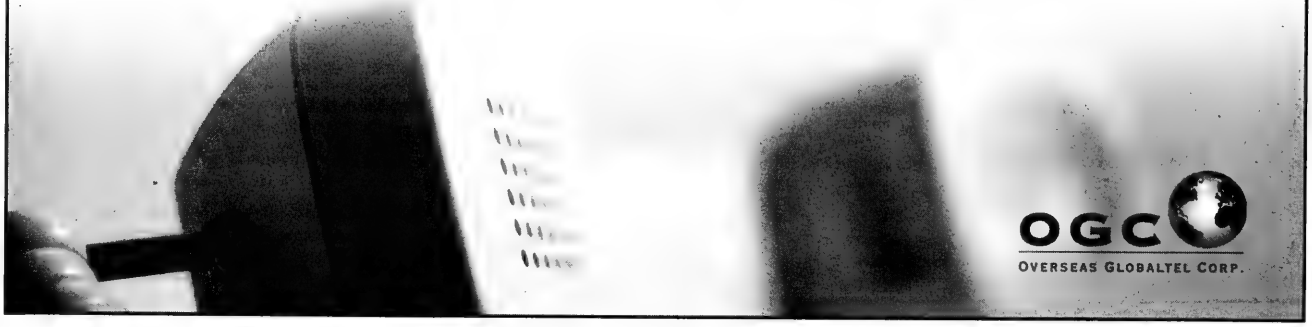

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From coast to coast

Arab-Israeli conflict a 'local issue,' says Kissinger

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The notion that if Israel would only give up a little more territory all would be quiet in the Middle East is "ridiculous," said former U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger.

Speaking to a standing-room only audience at Congregation Beth Israel Beth Aaron, Kissinger said the Arab-Israeli conflict, while still intense between the Palestinians and Israelis, has become a "local issue" in contrast to the central place it occupied in the region in the 1970s.

"Today, for most Arab nations, the Arab-Israeli conflict is more of a nuisance than a challenge, and many would like it to go away," he said.

Kissinger, who was secretary of state to presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, described himself as "one of the few people who does not find it incompatible to have been a friend of Yitzhak Rabin and to respect Benjamin Netanyahu."

The Oslo accords were right because they made Israel "a legitimate member of the international community. But the step-by-step approach [to territorial negotiations] is at an end. There's not enough territory left to deal with in stages," he said.

Kissinger thinks Netanyahu's "basic strategy in the overall negotiations is correct. He's just not as good at tactics as at strategy."

In response to a question from Canadian-Israel Committee Quebec chair Thomas Hecht suggesting Israel has been the subject of a double standard because the world has pressed it to take "security risks for peace," Kissinger said, "Certainly, the question of Israel's survival depends on margins [of land] so narrow it is very hard for a continental country like the United States to understand."

Much of the pressure for concessions, he said, has stemmed from the fact that many of the experts are "Arabists," who have viewed Israel as "an element that has disturbed Arab equilibrium. If it was not for Israel's intransigence, the Middle East would be calm [they think]."

The impact of the Oslo agreement was to "reduce this illegitimacy of Israel in the world. Israel became widely recognized as a force for peace, so not all the pressure is on Israel," he said.

The only two routes for the coexistence of the many states of the Middle East are "the hegemony of one or a balance between them. I think hegemony is extremely dangerous and a balance is desirable."

An alliance of Turkey, Israel, Jordan and maybe other states could contribute to this equilibrium, said the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

One thing is sure, with so many of the leaders getting old, major changes are going to take place over the next decade as they are replaced, Kissinger said.

About 2,000 people attended the free lecture, sponsored by the synagogue's foundation in memory of Mike Dym, including those who watched on closed-circuit television. The line-up started outside the synagogue two hours before the lecture's start.

Rabbi Reuben Poupko, in introducing Kissinger, commented that "wherever he went, he was a strong American patriot and never forgot he was a Jew."

The introduction reminded Kissinger of the story of an American Jew who told Golda Meir that he didn't like Kissinger because "he was an American first, a secretary of state second and a Jew third.

"Golda said, 'I don't care. I read from right to left.'"

Kissinger, who has been chair of his own consulting firm since 1982, and was a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board from 1984-90, gave a wide-ranging overview of international affairs.

Renowned N.Y. cantor to appear at Ottawa concert

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Joseph Malovany, the world renowned cantor of New York's prestigious Fifth Avenue Synagogue, is coming to Ottawa.

At the concert, sheduled for Nov. 4 at the Agudath Israel Congregation, Malovany will be the featured performer and will be joined by Ottawa Cantor Stephen Chaiet and the choirs of both Agudath Israel and Montreal's Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue under the direction of Stephen Glass.

In addition to his cantorial duties, Malovany is currently Distinguished Professor of Liturgical Music at Yeshiva University and Dean of the J.D.C. Moscow Academy of Jewish Music.

Described as "the Pavarotti of the synagogue," Malovany performs to rave reviews around the world as a soloist with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and other acclaimed orchestras.

Chaiet, a tenor, has performed with the Canadian Opera Company and the Opera Company of Hamilton and has given recitals at the National Gallery of Canada, the Canadian Museum of Civilization and the National Arts Centre.

As cantor of Agudath Israel, Ottawa's largest synagogue, Chaiet's renditions of liturgical music reflect his years of study with world famous master Cantor David Bagley.

The concert, in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, will be sponsored by the Lieff Foundation. Advance tickets are available from Agudath Israel, and a limited number of tickets will be available at the door, 1400 Coldrey Avenue.

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	7:30 - 8:30 pm	*The Desert Years* (Oct. 19 - Dec. 7) with Rabbi Sacknovitz
	8:30 - 9:30 pm	*Joshua & Judges* (Starting Oct. 19) with Rabbi Shulman
TUESDAY	9:30 - 11:00 am	*Chumash, Parshanut & Midrash* (Sept. - June 1999) with Dr. Shoshana Zolty - Fee
WEDNESDAY	9:45 - 11:15 am	*Chumash, Parshanut & Midrash* (Sept. - June 1999) with Dr. Shoshana Zolty (Women Only) - Fee

TALMUD & MISHNA

MONDAY	8:00 - 9:00 pm	*Mishna Makkot* with Rabbi Hoschander
WEDNESDAY	8:30 - 9:30 pm	*Talmud Pesachim* (Starting Oct. 21) with Rabbi Shulman

JEWISH THOUGHT & PRACTICE

TUESDAY	7:30 - 8:30 pm	*Body and Soul* (Oct. 20 - Dec.8) with Dr. Elliott Malamet
	8:30 - 9:30 pm	*Pirkei Avot - Ethics of Our Fathers* (Oct. 20 - Dec. 8) with Rabbi Diamond
	7:30 - 8:30 pm	*A Tapestry of Customs - The Minhagim* (Starting Nov. 17 to Dec. 15) with Chazzan Motzen
WEDNESDAY	7:00 - 8:15 pm	*Spiritual Journeys: 13 Principles of Faith* (Starting Oct. 21) with Rabbi Shulman
	8:30 - 9:30 pm	*Learn How to Lead Davening* (Oct. 21 - Dec. 9) with Chazzan Sheni Shloimo Sufrin
SHABBAT	9:30 am - Noon	*Pray and Learn* with Dr. Elliott Malamet

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Continuing Study - PM (Sept. 9 - Oct. 28)

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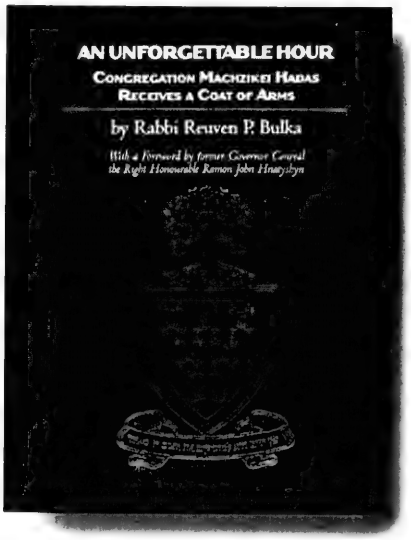
AN UNFORGETTABLE HOUR
CONGREGATION MACHZIKEI HADAS
RECEIVES A COAT OF ARMS
by Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka
With a Foreword by former Governor General
the Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Congregation Machzikei Hadas recently hosted a unique launch for a book commemorating the day it became the first shul in the Commonwealth to receive a coat of arms.

The book, *An Unforgettable Hour: Congregation Machzikei Hadas Receives a Coat of Arms*, by Rabbi Reuven Bulka, records that historic day in November 1994.

Among those present at the book launch were Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray, former governor general Ray Hnatyshyn, Chief Herald of Canada Robert Watt and Ottawa Deputy Mayor Allan Higdon.

In his greetings, Watt remarked that "being here this evening gives me a fresh and welcome opportunity to thank Rabbi Bulka for giving me a deeper understanding of your faith."

Stephen Greenberg, vice-president of the Jewish Community Council/Vaad Ha'Ir, told Rabbi Bulka: "You bring honor not only to your congregation but to our entire community."

Gray spoke of the symbolism of the coat of arms which "shows a tree with maple leaves, intending to show the deep roots of this synagogue of which I am proud to be a member... It shows how the people of our community, the people of this congregation led by Rabbi Bulka are not only deeply rooted in Alta Vista [in Ottawa], but in Canada."

Hnatyshyn charmed the audience with his warmth, humor and obvious affection for Rabbi Bulka and the members of the congregation whom he had come to know through the coat of arms project.

Members of the audience who had contributed to the coat of arms project received copies of the the book, which Rabbi Bulka and Hnatyshyn autographed upon request.

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Hamas planning attacks

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

GAZA — Hamas is planning a massive terrorist attack within the Green Line to avenge the killing of two members of its military wing, according to warnings received by Israeli security officials.

With the discovery of a bomb laboratory in Hebron and the explosion of a car belonging to Hamas activists near Ramallah last week, security officials say it has become clear that preparations for a larger terrorist attack are underway.

Meanwhile, two Hamas leaders have admitted that the recent security measures taken against the movement's military wing have led to a drop in its activities.

"Our military wing is encountering many difficulties, mainly as a result of American-Israeli-Palestinian cooperation hindering Hamas fighters' activity," Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin said at a news conference in Gaza last week.

Yassin, who was released from prison a year ago, confirmed that two Hamas members were arrested last week by Palestinian security services as they tried to cross into Israel, apparently on their way to carry out a terrorist attack. He pledged that "even if it is delayed, a response will come at the appropriate time."

Other Hamas sources said dozens of activists were arrested last week in the Gaza Strip.

Top Hamas leader Khaled Meshal made similar statements in a newspaper interview published last week, attributing the recent drop in the number of attacks carried out by the movement to "the difficult circumstances of the struggle. Three sides have come together to fight our heroes – the Zionist enemy, the Palestinian Authority's [PA] security forces and U.S. intelligence services, which are directly supervising the cooperation between the PA and the enemy."

Meshal, who was the target of a botched Mossad assassination attempt in Amman last year, said Hamas objects to the declaration of a Palestinian state as proposed by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

U.S. considers upgrading ties to Palestinian Authority

By NITZAN HOROWITZ
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd

WASHINGTON — The United States is considering upgrading ties with the Palestinian Authority (PA), in light of the renewed momentum in the peace process, a White House spokesperson said.

U.S. President Bill Clinton discussed the issue at length with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat last week.

The two leaders "talked at some length about the arrangements that will exist. And they went back to an idea that has been broached in the past, of a U.S.-Palestinian committee that could formally work on, in effect, bilateral relations," spokesperson Mike McCurry said last week.

Clinton, McCurry said, favors the idea, and the Palestinians view the establishment of official ties with the United States as very important. The Palestinians have representation in the United States, but it is defined as a representation of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Official American documents still define areas under the Palestinian Authority as the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which are under Israeli occupation, and the status of which are to be determined in the Israeli-Palestinian interim agreement.

Clinton and Arafat also discussed the level of U.S. aid to the Palestinians.

"The president and the chairman focused on what is arguably a very important part of the future for the Palestinian people under the peace agreements that have been reached – and that's the level of economic assistance that will be there for the people of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip," McCurry said.

In the meantime, the White House and State Department are examining various options for an Israeli-Palestinian summit meeting in about two weeks.

According to the U.S. initiative, the summit would last several days and will include expanded teams of aides and experts on every side, in addition to the leaders.

Such a summit, during which the United States hopes to reach an agreement, requires the delegations to meet in as isolated a venue as possible, far from the eye of the media, but also close to Washington. The site must allow for direct contact between the delegations, but must be big enough to house the teams comfortably, and to allow each side to hold separate and closed consultations.

The White House has not ruled out the possibility of holding a summit in Maryland at Camp David or at the Wye Plantation, which have hosted dramatic summits in the past, but other possibilities, such as military camps or other government installations in the Washington area are also being considered.

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Israel & the Jewish World

German vote creates new situation for country's Jews

By ELIAHU SALPETER
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper

Opinion

Whenever elections are held in Germany, the attention of the country's Jewish community is invariably focused on the number of votes received by right-wing extremists.

But from the Jewish standpoint, the recent elections have produced an entirely new situation. It is, of course, important that no extremist right-wing party received the five-percent minimum for obtaining a seat in the Bundestag, Germany's lower house of parliament.

However, the triumph of Gerhard Schroeder's Social Democrats after 16 years of Christian Democratic rule under Helmut Kohl is chiefly significant because it represents a genuine upheaval in German politics: not only has there been a change of parties and ideologies, there has also been a generational change. For the first time since the Holocaust, Germany will be led by someone who has no recollection of the Nazi regime.

Another factor to be considered in this context is the fact that a demographic change has also taken place in the composition of German Jewry. The Jewish population of Germany, which for decades consisted primarily of the elderly, and was numerically insignificant, is now one of Europe's larger Jewish communities. Thanks to Germany's policy of opening its gates to Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union, today's Jewish community is now 70,000-strong.

There were some young German Jews who before the elections said that if the neo-Nazi parties managed to win seats in the Bundestag, they would consider that a signal that it was time for Jews to pack their bags and leave Germany. But as election results demonstrated, the neo-Nazis were kept out of parliament; furthermore, if the severe crisis that Russia is undergoing continues, Germany will receive new waves of immigrants and the Jewish community can be expected to grow to near the 100,000 mark. Indeed, the most important item on the German Jewish agenda is the continued immigration and absorption of Russian Jews.

The Social Democrats have a more liberal immigration policy than the Christian Democrats. During the election campaign, the Social Democrats promised that if they were elected and their immigration policy became the official policy of the German government, the attitude of the public at large towards immigrants would undergo a change and there would be an end to the general impression that the government tacitly accepts the current wave of xenophobia.

It also appears to be a relatively safe bet that the Social Democrats, who will likely set up a coalition government with the environmentalist Green party, will upgrade the war against right-wing extremists.

Over recent years, new Jewish communities have sprung up in dozens of German cities and some of the members of these new communities are Russian immigrants whose absorption is creating a major financial headache for German Jewish organizations. The Social Democrats favor increasing welfare payments to the unemployed and for lower income brackets and its leaders have said that the party also supports similar increases in the financial assistance extended to recent immigrants.

Three other issues were of importance to Jewish voters in this election.

The first was restitution payments for the Jews from the former East Germany. Under the Communists, they were unable to submit applications for payments before the deadline. The leaders of Germany's two major parties have expressed support for the creation of a special restitution fund for East German Jews.

Both the Social Democrats and the Christian Democrats favor a plan under which German firms would make restitution payments to concentration camp inmates who were forced to work in their plants during the war.

A second issue divided the two major parties: the construction of a major memorial in downtown Berlin in memory of victims of the Holocaust. Kohl was strongly in favor of the idea, while Schroeder was much more low-key, and his candidate for the post of education minister in the new government is vigorously opposed to the project.

The third issue is German-Israeli relations, which are perceived as a "Jewish topic" by most Germans. The conventional wisdom – even if not explicitly stated – is that the change in government will also lead to certain changes in the nature of the ties between the two countries.

There are many who think that the Schroeder government will be cooler towards Israel – and especially its present leaders – than the Kohl regime.

Lawyer target of anti-Semitic campaign

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS — Ever since the extreme-right National Front won control over the Mediterranean port city of Toulon, French prosecutor Albert Levy has been working in a war zone.

But after police showed up at his home early one Sunday morning last month and dragged him off to jail, he has been living a nightmare.

A determined enemy of corruption, in the area of France with the highest rate of white-collar crime, Levy's work over the last eight years has often resulted in his establishing links between an organized corruption network and local politicians.

When the xenophobic and anti-Semitic National Front won control of the Toulon municipality in 1995, Levy began receiving death threats, and the extreme-right press launched an anti-Semitic campaign targeting him.

Yet he persevered in his work.

When the wife of National Front mayor Jean-Marie Le Chevallier was found to be discriminating against non-Front members in filling city jobs, Levy refused to turn a blind eye, and won her conviction.

Earlier this month, a local magistrate succeeded in doing what the anti-Semitic diatribes had failed to: taking Levy out of action.

The prosecutor, who is Jewish, has been placed under investigation for "violating judicial secrecy." He is suspected of giving a local journalist court documents suggesting that members of the National Front municipality took bribes from a company awarded a contract to supply city school cafeterias.

Breaking judicial secrecy is a misdemeanor, although it is general practice in France, particularly in political corruption cases, with confidential court papers frequently appearing in newspapers.

But violators are rarely prosecuted, and few, if any, have ever been punished.

Nevertheless, Levy has been subjected to a series of humiliating measures entirely out of proportion with the accusations against him, including a ban on practising his profession pending trial, his lawyers say.

He has been released from jail, but is under judicial surveillance, and has been ordered to consult court-appointed psychiatrists following an initial, summary examination which found he was "paranoid because he sees fascists everywhere."

"Is it odd to see a lot of fascists in a city controlled by the National Front?" his lawyer, Alain Jakubowicz, said in an interview.

"He is the victim of a political vendetta. They are not only trying to get revenge and keep him from pursuing his work, but they want to destroy him."

The Magistrates' Union issued a statement supporting Levy, and denouncing "the psychiatric alibi and the professional ban. Such measures are a troubling reminder of the practices used in authoritarian regimes."

Moreover, when the court psychiatrists examined the 47-year-old prosecutor last week, their questions focused on the fact that he is Jewish.

"How do you experience your Judaism?" they asked. "Did any of your relatives die in the Holocaust?"

While there is no clear proof regarding who may have orchestrated the campaign against Levy, his lawyers believe the National Front is behind it, with justice officials simply giving in to political pressure.

"These people are saying he's paranoid because he's Jewish. So what they really mean to say is that there shouldn't be any Jewish prosecutors in cities controlled by the National Front," Jakubowicz said.

Claims Conference Goodwill Fund Deadline Extended to December 31, 1998

Individuals who failed to register claims for restitution of Jewish property in the former East Germany by the December 31, 1992 German Government deadline may apply to the Claims Conference Goodwill Fund.

The Claims Conference Goodwill Fund shares net proceeds from the recovery of properties which it obtained as the legal successor to unclaimed Jewish property.

Applications to the Goodwill Fund will be accepted through December 31, 1998. Please write to the address below, indicating:

- The address of the property
- The name of the original property owner
- Your relationship to the original owner
- Your name and mailing adress

Claims Conference Successor Organization Goodwill Fund
Sophienstrasse 26
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To aid applicants who do not have complete information, the Claims Conference is establishing a Department for Property Identification. If you believe that you or your relatives may have owned Jewish property in the former East Germany, please include as much information as possible in your application and the Department will endeavor to identify such property. Please write by December 31, 1998 to Mr. Peter Heuss, Department for Property Identification, at the above address. There will be no charge for this service.

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Israel & the Jewish World

The Week in Israel

Sept. 28

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is planning to appoint Ariel Sharon as foreign minister according to media reports. Netanyahu has held the portfolio since David Levy resigned the post in January.

• Palestinians fired on a group of Israelis visiting Hebron. An Israeli woman was hit in the leg. In response, several Jews later beat some Arabs.

Sept. 29

• A Hamas militant was killed and two others wounded when a car rigged with explosives blew up prematurely near Ramallah. Security forces imposed a closure on the West Bank and on Gaza until after Yom Kippur.

• Netanyahu returned to Israel from Washington amid threats from the National Religious Party to topple him if he concludes a deal with the Palestinians.

• Israel reportedly gave UN inspectors many of their best leads regarding Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, according to the *Washington Post*.

Sept. 30

• Two Jewish teenagers were convicted of killing an Arab farmer who was hit with a plank of wood from a moving car. The driver of the car in the June crime was acquitted. Sentencing of the youths is scheduled for Oct. 20.

Oct. 1

• At least 13 soldiers and 11 Palestinians were wounded after a Palestinian threw two hand grenades at an Israeli patrol in Hebron.

• Palestinian Authority officials arrested a Hamas activist after finding nearly a ton of explosives in his home near the Palestinian police headquarters in Hebron.

Oct. 2

• The IDF concluded that the Skyhawk jet crash in July near Hebron was caused by a technical failure, but there was also "severe" pilot error involved.

• Ehud Barak was assured by the chair of the Knesset's constitution committee that the bill to dissolve the Knesset and advance the general elections will be on this month's legislative agenda.

Files from the JTA

Greenpeace activists recently erected a symbolic dam on the Kishon River in Haifa to protest the high level of pollutants entering the Mediterranean. The Kishon River is Israel's most polluted waterway. Tonnes of untreated heavy metals and other waste are dumped into the river by the refineries and chemical plants located in the Haifa Bay area. [Israel photo]

Pollution said to kill 293 a year in Tel Aviv

By ZAFRIR RINAT
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

TEL AVIV — Some 293 people died last year from particle pollution in Tel Aviv, and experts blame most of the pollution on diesel engines used in buses, trucks and taxi cabs.

According to a report published in the *World Transport Policy and Practice*, and prepared by a panel of Israeli experts, particle pollution from diesel engines accounts for some 350 tons of an estimated 427 tons of particle pollution dumped into the air in Tel Aviv annually.

Particle pollution is pollution involving liquid or solid particles that are emitted by engines. The particles do not dissipate in the air, and when breathed into the lungs get trapped in the respiratory system, causing infections and other respiratory problems.

The 293 deaths represented seven percent of the 4,048 deaths (not counting accidents) recorded last year in the city.

The report says that particle pollution was responsible for 134 new cases of chronic bronchitis, and estimates that the total health costs of particle pollution tops $600 million (US) a year in lost work and hospitalizations.

The report, prepared by Dr. Gary Ginsberg, Joshua Shemer and Eric Karsenty of the Health Ministry, Aharon Serri of the Environment Ministry, Dr. Danny Koutik of the Electric Corporation, and Elaine Fletcher, an investigative reporter, is the first from official sources in Israel to link deaths to pollution.

According to the report, the number of people who died from pollution in the city last year was 10 times the number of those who were killed in automobile accidents in the city, more than the total of unnatural deaths, including murders, car accidents and work accidents.

According to studies overseas, particle pollution is particularly dangerous for the elderly, children and those with chronic respiratory problems. Unlike pollution from specific events, like fires, industrial accidents and accumulated smog, exposure to particle pollution is a daily occurrence.

To bring down the level of pollution, the report's authors recommended a campaign for the use of natural gas in commercial vehicles, and on the basis of "the polluter pays," they recommend a substantial increase in the price of diesel fuel both to reduce its use and to raise money to help pay for the health expenses resulting from the pollution.

School hit by arson

Continued from page 1

In the meantime, the school is asking all of Canadian Jewry to donate toward renovations.

A local, anonymous benefactor has agreed to match half of all funds raised between now and Oct. 25.

"We're turning to the entire Canadian Jewish community for help," Rabbi Botnick said.

Donations may be sent to: Ecole Maimonides, 25 Esquimault Ave., Nepean, Ont., K2H 6Z5. Tel.: 613-820-9484. The school's Web site is at [www.ottmall.com/maimonides].

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Travel, Arts & Business

New TV show to feature discussion of Torah

BY ADAM BELLO
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — A Torah discussion show will be part of a new Christian television station's programming.

Making its premiere on Oct. 4, *Passages* will be broadcast Sundays 8 p.m. on Crossroads Television, Station CTS on UHF Channel 36, and Rogers Cable 9.

Host-moderator Michael Kigel says the one-hour talk show gives audiences the opportunity to become closer to the truths of the Torah.

"Many of us read the Torah like a piece of literature, when in fact it is more like [the Jewish people's] photo album," says Kigel, a former philosophy professor at York University, and teacher at Yeshiva Bnei Tzion of Bobov.

"The Torah knows us better than we know ourselves. Through *Passages*, we are striving to make Scripture an intimate experience again by letting our distant family speak. This show invites our ancestors to teach us about our worst fears and most intimate hopes and aspirations."

Discussing Torah passages in the context of current Jewish and western society, the first 26 episodes of the show will focus on the Book of Genesis with emphasis on the dynamics of family relationships.

Keeping with a theme of "back to basics," Kigel says the show's format will be grounded in the traditional manner of Torah study, namely the *hevrusah* (friendship) between two students.

Most shows will feature a rabbi and a university professor of Jewish studies, who will present different viewpoints on scripture. Scheduled panelists for the first three programs are Rabbi Benjamin Hecht of Nishma, Prof. Howard Adelman from York University, and Prof. David Novak, director of Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto.

"We want to create a healthy intellectual tension that will bring fresh insights into Torah discussion for both novices and scholars."

The first Jewish content television show in Toronto since *Canadian Jewish Focus* in 1996, *Passages* was initiated as a condition of CTS' licensing application with the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission, to show alternative religious viewpoints.

Richard Landau, executive producer of balanced programming at Crossroads Television, says *Passages* is a milestone in national Jewish media.

"This is the first time in Canada that we have a broadcast program on the study of Hebrew Scriptures for a Jewish audience," Landau says.

Ecuador home to tiny Jewish community

By GERALD SCHWARTZ
Special to The CJN

Ecuador, with about 11 million predominantly Roman Catholic inhabitants, has a small Jewish community of about 1,000 families, mainly in Quito and Guauaquil.

Prior to 1933, there were only a handful of Jews in the whole country. In the late 1930s, however, Ecuador was one of the few countries in the world to admit Jews fleeing Europe. By 1945, there were nearly 3,000 new Jewish immigrant-refugees, the vast majority of whom were Orthodox Ashkenazim. A sprinkling of Sephardi Jews with family names like Montero and Cristobal had also arrived.

At its peak in the 1950s, the Jewish population was estimated to be over 4,000, and there were small communities even in the highland cities of Cuenca, Ambato, and Riobamba.

The Asociacion de Beneficia Israelita, founded in 1938, is the central body for Ecuador's Jews. It is based in the capital of Quito in the Andes Mountains, where it operates a synagogue, a cultural and recreational centre, and a home for the aged.

In Quito, I visited the shul at 18 de Septiembre no. 954, not far from the Colon Hilton hotel. This was once a Jewish neighborhood, although at present, most Jews live in the nearby suburbs at the base of the mountains that ring the capital. There is also a Jewish cemetery in the suburbs.

After passing through a security check outside the synagogue and leaving my passport with the Ecuadorian guard, I entered to find a modern, well-kept sanctuary where a bar mitzvah was scheduled to take place on the following Shabbat. The community has a rabbi from Colombia and arranged to bring a cantor from the United States for Rosh Hashanah.

I met an interesting longtime Quito resident, a survivor of the Holocaust from Poland, and we conversed in a mixture of Spanish, Yiddish and English. The synagogue has gone from Orthodox to Conservative to Reform, he said, to accommodate its changing membership and keep younger people coming. The Jewish population is aging, as young people often go to study and live in the United States.

A door in the old city of Quito. [Gerald Schwartz photo]

Quito's Jews are mainly businesspeople involved in the retail of food and hotel supplies, mall-leasing and supermarkets. A small souvenir shop on Amazonas, Quito's fashionable main street, welcomes visitors with a hearty Shalom and Magen David on its sign. With a non-renewing population, however, the future of the Jews of Ecuador as a community is uncertain.

Continued on page 33

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Travel, Arts & Business

Community's future uncertain

Continued from page 32

Cuenca, Ecuador's third largest city, which had a thriving synagogue at one time, has only one remaining Jewish-German family.

As for the Israeli connection with Ecuador, there is a history of mutual support and friendship dating back to 1946. At that time, the Ecuadorian representative at the League of Nations suggested that the Jewish Agency in then-Palestine should be recognized as the "Jewish Government in Exile."

At the present time, the government of Ecuador has an embassy in Tel Aviv, while there is an Israeli Embassy in Quito on Eloy Alfaro Street no. 969.

In the late 1960s, a network of technical cooperation was established between the two countries in the areas of agriculture, water development and youth training.

At Quito's main bus terminal, I noticed a plaque at the entrance announcing that the structure was built by Solel Boneh, the construction arm of Israel's Histadrut.

I also attended a lively Kabalat Shabbat in a highrise apartment overlooking the Andes in Quito, where my Israeli host routinely invites both Jewish travellers and resident Christian Ecuadorians for a traditional Shabbat meal and explains the rituals and traditions of welcoming the Sabbath.

The gathering lasted well into the night and was a most unique and enjoyable experience.

My Hebrew came in very handy in Ecuador – and not just in Quito. A fair number of young sabras travel through South America, and one hears Hebrew spoken frequently in all the major tourist sites in the Andes.

At a small hotel in Banos I thought I recognized a familiar accent in English after giving my breakfast order to the front desk clerk. Sure enough, when I switched to Hebrew, the young Israeli I had heard, whose name was Rami, first did a double-take and then told me about his post-army travels and temporary stay in Ecuador. He hailed from Haifa, where I had lived before he was born.

In all the towns usually frequented by Israeli young people, signs in Hebrew have appeared in cafes, restaurants and even travel offices. There is at least one Israeli-owned hostel in Quito, called The Eden. I encountered no middle-aged Israelis travelling individually or in a group; nor did I hear any Hebrew in the rainforest, but it wouldn't have surprised me in the least.

Make Yourself at Home

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The audience at the Israeli Nephesh Theatre production of *Make Yourself at Home*, which played recently at Leah Posluns Theatre, understood its occasional Hebrew dialogue better than audiences in Israel.

This unusual compliment was paid by producer-director and former Torontonian Howard Rypp in a discussion with cast and audience following the play's one-night stand, Sept. 17.

It evoked unusual responses, including a complaint that the 65-minute play was too short for the money charged. ($18, $14 for seniors). Rypp suggested the patron eat double portions at the reception.

But mostly, the audience liked the light-hearted comedy and congratulated the company.

Eilran Caspi played the disillusioned ex-IDF soldier who becomes romantically entangled with Vicky Bahir, a Russian immigrant who lands on his doorstep by mistake.

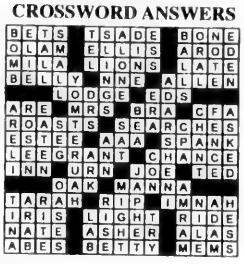
"The play, in mostly English as we did it here, is more effective with people on this side of the ocean than in Israel," Caspi said

A lot of the laughs come from Bahir's fractured English as an immigrant newly arrived in Israel. At the reception, the Russian-born and Israeli-raised actor spoke faultless English.

The company' s Toronto date followed seven sold-out nights in Winnipeg, and a good turn-out in Sault Ste.Marie.

It's planning a tour of the United States and Canada next spring, possibly with different plays.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



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CORRECTION

The Greeting in the September 17th, 1998 issue should have read:

Myer Rosenberg

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

The CJN regrets the error.

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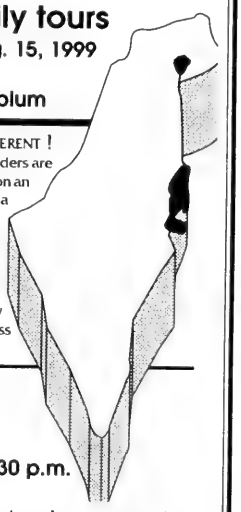

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

A JEWISH WESTERN? AND A MUSICAL YET!

It's hard to tell from the press releases and attractive promotional poster exactly what to make of the theatrical debut of *Easy Lenny Lazmon and the Great Western Ascension*, by **Anton Piatigorsky**.

Billed as "an Eastern-Western musical vaudeville," the production opens Oct. 10 at the Annex Theatre and runs to Nov. 1.

Piatigorsky comes recommended as the playwright responsible for *The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik*, a previous production that won the Summerworks Prize and was reportedly "a huge hit."

His new work follows "Easy Lenny's pilgrimage west in search of the only surviving homeland for the truly pious and pure-hearted cowboys."

The production is directed by **Chris Abraham**, with music by **John Millard**. $15-$22. 921-8991.

* * *

Film Society: Under the spirited leadership of the inimitable **Ethel Teitelbaum**, the Toronto Jewish Film Society begins its fall season Oct. 18 with the fascinating 1976 French film *Mr. Klein*, directed by *Joseph Losey* and starring **Alain Delon** and **Jeanne Moreau**.

Robert Klein, a wealthy French Catholic art dealer, finds his comfortable existence in Nazi-occupied Paris turned upside down when he discovers that he has a namesake, a Jewish musician and resistance fighter, who implicates him as an anti-fascist and even as a Jew.

Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall, 317 Dundas St. W. 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (limited seating available) $7.50. 924-6211.

The Society is also presenting, with the Italian Cultural Institute, a screening of *The Righteous Enemy* (see story by Sheldon Kirshner) (UK, 1987), a moving documentary about the little-known efforts of Italian soldiers and diplomats to protect 40,000 Jewish refugees during the Holocaust. $5, includes lecture, screening and reception. Leah Posluns Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Contact the Bloor JCC. 924-6211.

Arts Briefs:

• Vision TV is marking its 10th anniversary with a series of public presentations on human rights in 10 Canadian cities. The series begins Oct. 10 with a program on *The Right to A Safe and Sacred Environment*, to be held in a Vancouver synagogue.

• Ten adult men, three adult females and four children ages 10 to 12 are needed for an upcoming dramatized reading of *Suffer The Children*, winner of the 1997 Canadian Jewish Playwriting Contest, by **Maurice Breslow**. To participate in auditions Oct. 7 & 8, 6:30 p.m. at the Bloor JCC, phone 924-6211.

* * *

Israeli Film on TVO: The critically acclaimed Israeli-made film *Out for Love ... Be Back Shortly* airs Oct. 7 at 10 p.m. and again Oct. 11 at 10 p.m. on the TVO network.

Out for Love ... Be Back Shortly is an hour-long autobiographical documentary by filmmaker **Dan Katzir**, who records his own struggle to find love and meaning amid the daily reality of terror and hate. The film has won critical acclaim and was featured as part of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival last spring.

It won a Jury Award last year in Israel and has received wide critical acclaim.

* * *

In the Spotlight: The Walt Disney movie *Sabrina Goes to Rome*, which aired recently on international television, features **Tara Charendoff**, a 25-year-old actor from North York, as Gwen the Witch.

Charendoff has done well for herself since moving to Los Angeles four years ago. She had a voice part (as Spot the Chicken) in the cartoon series *101 Dalmations* and continues to be the voice of Batgirl in the animated TV series, *Batman: The New Generation*. She plays the lead female role in *Inspector Gadget* and can also be heard in the *Ghostbusters* cartoon series.

In addition, she plays a character in *Rugrats*, a movie opening this month in theatres, and in the upcoming Disney production *The Little Mermaid, Part II*, in which she is the voice of the mermaid's daughter.

Proud parents **Lillian** and **Syd Charendoff** of North York, were recently in Los Angeles to attend the high-profile premiere of *Sabrina Goes to Rome*. "Just to watch her going down that red carpet with all the cameras flashing—we just *kvelled*," says Lillian.

An alumna of Forest Hill Collegiate, Charendoff also sings — a talent that was obvious when she sang as a soloist years ago at the Adath Israel Synagogue, says her mother.

"They call her 'One-Take Tara,'" Lillian says. "She just seems to know what to do. She has an amazing range. She can be three or four characters in the same cartoon and no one can tell. She can do accents, babies, whatever's required. She's unbelievable."

Tara Charendoff

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Film looks at fascist Italy during the Holocaust

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

It was a bizarre chapter of the Holocaust, a glint of light in an otherwise dark landscape.

As Jews in the rest of Europe were rounded up and deported to German concentration camps in Poland, Jews in Italian-occupied areas of Yugoslavia, France and Greece were spared their lives.

Much to Germany's anger, Italian civilian and military officials saved Jews, and thus impeded the flow of the Final Solution. As a result, about 40,000 fewer Jews were murdered during World War II.

Given the fact that Italy was Germany's ally and fascist comrade-in-arms, this was quite an unexpected and amazing turn of events.

The Righteous Enemy, presented by the Toronto Jewish Film Society and the Italian Cultural Institute on Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre, tells the little-known and dramatic story of this sporadic rescue effort.

The screening is taking place with the cooperation of Rick Bartolucci (the Liberal MPP for Sudbury), the Bloor Jewish Community Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Eighty-seven minutes in length, *The Righteous Enemy* was made by Joseph Rochlitz, whose father Imre, owes his life to Italian benevolence.

Imre Rochlitz, a Viennese Jew, fled to Zagreb, Croatia, after Germany annexed Austria. As newly independent Croatia was an anti-Semitic state aligned with Germany, Rochlitz fared no better in Zagreb. He was packed off to a Croatian concentration camp and put to work digging mass graves.

Barely surviving the ordeal, he was finally released thanks to an uncle's intervention. Armed with a special travel document, he travelled to Split, a town on the Adriatic coast under Italy's control.

The Italian governor in Split had standing orders to expel foreign-born Jews like Rochlitz, and deliver them to the Zagreb-based Ustashe regime. He balked, saying he would not give them up unless their physical security could be guaranteed. Since this was not possible, Jews like Rochlitz remained where they were, under the protection of the Italian authorities.

Later, the Italians sent Rochlitz and some 3,500 Jews in the vicinity to an internment camp. There they lived under tolerable conditions until Italy surrendered to the Allies in 1943 and the Germans swept in.

Having heard about his father's wartime odyssey, Joseph Rochlitz always wondered whether it was an isolated incident or part of a larger pattern of Italian assistance to Jews.

In *The Righteous Enemy*, an unusually gripping documentary featuring newsreel footage and interviews with Jewish survivors, former Italian government officials and an Israeli historian specializing in the subject, Rochlitz concludes that humanitarian impulses basically motivated Italy to help Jews in their hour of duress.

On the face of it, one must wonder why Italy defied Germany. Benito Mussolini, the Italian dictator, was no Judeophile, his Jewish mistress notwithstanding. In 1938, Italy passed the first of a series of draconian anti-Semitic laws which left Italian Jews as second-class citizens. It must be said, however, that Mussolini refused German entreaties to deport Italian Jews. That happened only *after* Germany occupied Italy.

Maintaining their humanity amid fierce German pressure, Italian governors, generals and diplomats in Yugoslavia, France and Greece blocked attempts to deport Jews.

"We are not at war with innocent people," one Italian official says. "We didn't share the German idea of eliminating the Jewish race," observes another.

These officials moved Jews out of harm's way by bureaucratic evasions and delays, and, in one astonishing case, by erecting a roadblock. In Grenoble, France, an Italian army commander forced Vichy police to release 100 Jews they had just arrested. And in Salonika, Greece, where the Germans managed to wipe out much of the Jewish population, the Italian consul issued false nationality documents to Jews.

One can be cynical about these exemplary acts of humanity. Perhaps the Italians who helped Jews feared that the axis powers would lose the war and they would be liable to severe punishment.

But judging by the compelling evidence in *The Righteous Enemy*, these Italians appeared to have acted on the basis of morality rather than expediency.

CORRECTION

The byline in the article "Young novelist has unique approach to storytelling" (*CJN*, Oct.1, page32) was incorrect. The story was written by Lori Fireman. *The CJN* apologizes for this error and for any embarassment this may have caused the writer.

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MS drugs raise income for Weizmann Institute

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Proceeds from the sale of two multiple sclerosis drugs, solar panels and coded cards for a satellite TV system are providing additional income to the Weizmann Institute of Science.

The revenue comes from a system of technology transfer that brings development money from companies for ideas which originate at the institute, said Weizmann vice-president, Prof. David Mirelman at a national and Toronto chapter board meeting of the Canadian society of the institute.

"A lot has to be done before a drug is developed," said Mirelman. "Investors form a start-up company, and then a pharmaceutical company steps in. This is the modern way of doing it. Last year we had several start-up companies who are pursuing larger corporations."

Mirelman is chair of the institute's YEDA Research and Development Company, which commercializes the inventions of Weizmann scientists.

The agents against multiple sclerosis have proved "very successful," he said. "They are not a cure, but they seem to prolong the time between relapses."

The inscription process by which coded cards can give access to a TV satellite system was developed at the Institute.

"Today we have royalties from every card and decoder for Sky Television, which is owned by Rupert Murdoch. Every time they change the code, we have more sales. It keeps everybody honest and makes money for us."

Working with private industry has its problems, he said. For example, the institute will not accept a deal which involves secrecy or rigid milestones in research or unethical commercialism, and will not license a whole field of products instead of a specific agent. Also, the Institute will accept no liability and must be alert to get the right amount of royalties.

The three-year Weizmann International Jubilee Endowment Fund campaign to double its endowment to $500 million (US) will be launched in Rehovot in November, said national chair H. Thomas Beck.

Plans are underway to kick off the campaign in Canada, Beck said. All endowment fund contributions in this period will be conservatively invested in Canada.

The Canadian society has undertaken to fund a Canadian Centre for Laser Research in line with its previous commitment to nuclear physics and solar energy.

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North York General Hospital president, Gary Sim, (right) and Ian Leventhal, designer of the new recognition mural for NYGH, point to the little wooden beds, each representing a donor of a new bed for the hospital.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

A. I get very frustrated trying to feed my 3-year-old. He loves something one day and hates it the next. What can I do?

A. This is very typical, not only for small children, but for adults as well. We may really feel like eating pizza today, but it may be the last thing we feel like eating tomorrow. Kids tend to go through phases where they love a food and want to eat virtually nothing else; then they move on to something new. Try not to get frustrated by this. It is quite typical.

Q. I have recently been told that my bad cholesterol is high. What dietary changes do I have to make to improve this?

A. The first thing you should do is look at reducing the amount of fat in your diet, particularly saturated fat, and also look at increasing fibre. Talk to your doctor or a dietitian about how to achieve this, and make sure you are clear about how the changes can best be incorporated into your diet to achieve maximum results.

Q. My family loves snacking on raisins. Are they a low-cal snack?

A. Two-thirds of a cup of raisins contains 300 calories and 0.5 grams of fat.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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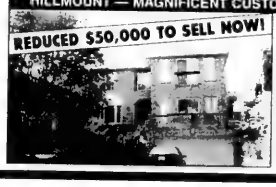

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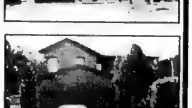

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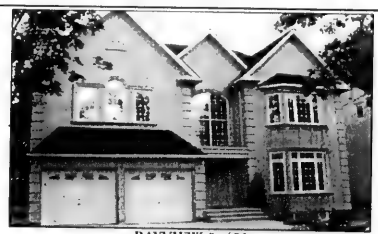

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Women seeking Men

ENGLISH ROSE
Single female, red hair, blue eyes, outgoing personality, non-smoker, enjoy opera, ballet, music, theater travelling, especially europe, fine dining. Seeking a tall, bright, established male, kind, clean shaven AD#1549

ENERGETIC
Single female, professional, 40, slim, attractive, athletic, enjoy golfing, travelling dining out, fine wines Seeking a male with a sense of humour enjoys the finer things in life, similar interests AD#1552

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single female, European background, orthodox, attractive, intelligent, educated, 5'7" Seeking a single male, 34-43, honest, kind, caring, good sense of humour and family values AD# 1554

SUNSHINE SMILE
Single female, slim, petite, 5'2" brown hair & eyes, radiant smile music teacher, professional, self-employed, enjoy dining, dancing cycling, swimming Seeking a considerate fit, young at heart male with similar values and interests AD#1555

SOULMATE NEEDED
Single female, 41, long red hair vibrant, attractive, a dreamer, teacher & a writer. Seeking a handsome, intellectual male, a soulmate to rome the universe with AD#1542

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
Single, professional female, 5'6", slim, positive outlook on life, enjoy dining & dancing, yoga, exercising, sports, outdoor activities. Seeking a well educated, tall, professional male, for long term relationship, possibly marriage AD#1548

SOMETIMES SILLY
Single Jewish female, attractive, teacher, sometimes silly, sometimes serious, enjoy bike riding, good conversation, non-smoker, kind, sincere Seeking a Jewish male with similar interests and values AD#1628

DREAMING OF YOU
Professional, ambitious, educated understanding, very attractive, originally from montreal, down to earth, spontaneous, practical Seeking a Jewish male, late 20's-early 30's, masculine, classy, sense of style, really knows what he wants AD#1638

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish Female, 38, petite, non-smoker, easy going, never been married, down to earth, laid back with good values Seeking a male, 35-45, for a best friend and a life time partner AD#1528

ROMANTIC WALKS
Single Jewish female, attractive, enjoy theatre, dining out, travelling and romantic walks Seeking a Jewish male, 54-65, with a great sense of humour AD#1531

TO SHARE LIFE WITH
Attractive Jewish mother of 2, brown hair, green eyes, well educated, kind heart, gentle, humorous, non-smoker, enjoy dining, long walks, art, music, jogging Seeking a male, late 40's-mid 50's, professional with similar interests AD#1516

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single mother of 1, from Island, 5'5", attractive, brown complexion, enjoy dining out Seeking a male with similar interests AD#1624

COMPASSIONATE
Single female, 5'6", 165lbs, blond hair, Business professional, compassionate, honest, with integrity Seeking a professional male, 48-58, affectionate, romantic AD#1517

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, 33, enjoy long romantic walks, tennis, theater, dining & dancing Seeking a Jewish male, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, & fun to be with AD#1522

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 5'6", 128lbs, blond hair, attractive, non-smoker, outgoing, likes to travel, movies Seeking a male, kind, educated, good sense of humour, for possible long term relationship AD#1509

LOVE IS IN THE AIR
Single white female, 39, outgoing, self-employed Seeking a male, 35-45, Polish or European descent, confident & secure AD#1511

DESIRES OF THE HEART
Attractive, vibrant widow, mid 60's, financially secure, enjoy life to the fullest Seeking a male with similar qualities & interests for possible future relationship AD#1535

SPUNKY LADY
Single Jewish female, 40's, spunky fit,dynamic, terrific smile, enjoy skiing, roller-blading, dining, theater Seeking a male, tall, Jewish, 45-55, honest, kind, adventurous, generous at heart AD#1622

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single female, intelligent, attractive, traditional, kind, easy going, strong sense of humour Seeking a male, 40-50, with same qualities AD#1360

NIFTY 50'S
Divorced female, 55, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks Seeking a male with strong sense of humour, canng, sincere AD#1507

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, fun to be with, enjoys movies, travelling, swimming Seeking a male, 36+, with strong sense of humour, kind, sincere, intelligent AD# 1602

Men seeking Women

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group AD#1547

NO HEAD GAMES
single male, 40, originally from Montreal handsome, sincere, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hard-working Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour AD#1543

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38 Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship AD#1523

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LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests AD#1527

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male, late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded AD#1534

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-faceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tete-a tetes, lots of T L C to give. Seeking a slim, elegant, non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre" AD#1504

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Professional gentleman, Jewish, 52, traditional values, handsome, healthy, successful, enjoy good food, dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking marriage minded lady, looks are not important, for a long term relationship AD#1513

ROMANTIC & LOYAL
Gentleman, early 50's, tall, athletic Canadian, non-smoker, easy to look at & talk to, enjoy life's pleasures Seeking an attractive, fit, single Jewish female, 39-45, for lasting love, no pretenders pls AD#1514

GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER
Single attractive male, 58, 5'11", slim, brown hair & blue eyes, great sense of humour, canng, enjoy going away for the winter to Florida, Australia, or California Seeking a female, attractive, well kept, good personality, great sense of humour AD#1519

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JEWISH DOCTOR
Jewish male, 47, 5'7", doctor, honest, slim, fit, European background, has shared custody of his 2 children, keep commitments & promises Seeking a female under 40, slim, nice & intelligent AD#1501

SHY AT FIRST
Single Jewish male, 41, no dependents, brown hair & eyes, handsome, sincere, caring, enjoy dining & dancing, travelling, music, not a pet lover Seeking a single lady, non-smoker, 32-40, up to 5'3", sincere, no head games pls AD#1525

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music, movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship AD#1469

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, early 60's, 5'9", 160lbs, fit, enjoy arts, sports, good conversation, good sense of humour Seeking an elegant, slim, non-smoker, proud of her heritage lady AD#1504

COMPANION NEEDED
Single male, handsome, slim Seeking a companion to share expenses for winter trip to Florida for 3 months Pls call AD#1506

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile AD#1485

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single male, 50, 5'10", 184lbs, handsome, well built, responsible, financially secure, honest, sincere, non-smoker, non-drinker, well established. Seeking a Jewish female, 40-50, with similar interests AD#1465

NIFTY 50'S
Single white male, 56, self-employed, caring and sincere, enjoys travelling, movies, quiet romantic evenings. Seeks a compassionate, loving, sensitive lady AD# 1480

330 OBITUARIES

TULLY, Mary - on Sept. 18, 1998, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
ROSENBLOOM, Edward - on Sept. 19, 1998, late of 6000 Yonge St., #1607.
ROSS, Reasa Stein - on Sept. 19, 1998, late of 167 Stephen Dr., #405.
SHARE, John A. - on Sept. 20, 1998, late of 7440 Bathurst St., #1203.
BREUER, Karl - on Sept. 22, 1998, late of 11 Ridgewood Rd.
ELMAN, Leah - on Sept. 22, 1998, late of 3 Glencedar Rd.
SILVERBERG, Charlotte - on Sept. 22, 1998, late of 447 Walmer Rd., #406
VARSANYI, Susanna - on Sept. 22, 1998, late of 350 Lonsdale Rd., #414.
COHEN, Betty - on Sept. 24, 1998, late of 39 Denmark Cres.
FELD, Simon - on Sept. 24, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

APLYN, Sara - on Sept. 19, 1998, late of 7 Townsgate Dr., #1509
GARBE, Ann - on Sept. 21, 1998, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
KAY, Anne - on Sept. 23, 1998, late of 4000 Don Mills Rd., #235.

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

ZISKINDER, Clifford Farley - on Sept. 21, 1998, late of 50 Brookmill Dr.
ABRAMS, Jennie - on Sept. 22, 1998, late of 321 Chaplin Cres.
LEIBENZON, Ichiel - on Sept. 22, 1998, late of 24 Bernick Rd.
PESSES, Max - on Sept. 22, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GOLDWASSER, Michael - on Sept. 23, 1998, late of 250 Codsell Ave.
GRIN-GNATOVSKAIA, Larisa - on Sept. 23, 1998.
FULOP, Bela - on Sept. 24, 1998, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
STERKINA, Irina - on Sept. 24, 1998, late of 1111 Steeles Ave W.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MINNIE PETERSIEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18, 2:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
First Naravever Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of
PAUL RAPHAEL FEIG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 18th at 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument in loving memory of the late
SAMUEL BARSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 1:15 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
TAMARA ZEITMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Slugger Hank Greenberg challenged Ruth's homer record

By PAULINE DUBKIN YEARWOOD
Chicago Jewish News

Sports

CHICAGO — "I always felt that Walter Briggs, owner of the Detroit Tigers, was almost pulling for me not to break Ruth's [home run] record, because it might mean $5,000 or $10,000 more in salary for me. Today, if a guy had a chance to break the record, they'd be publicizing him and making a folk hero out of him..."

So wrote Jewish sports legend Hank Greenberg in *Hank Greenberg: The Story of My Life*, the autobiography he was working on with sports-writer Ira Berkow at the time of his death in 1989.

Greenberg was referring to the 1938 season, when he hit 58 homers, coming close to breaking Babe Ruth's single-season record of 60.

Indeed, no ballplayer hit more homers in a season until Roger Maris.

Today, the public is "making folk heroes" and more out of the Cubs' Sammy Sosa and the St. Louis Cardinals' Mark McGwire during their race to overtake Maris' one-season record of 61 home runs, set in 1961. Maris broke Babe Ruth's record of 60, set in 1927. Both McGwire and Sosa have broken Maris' record.

But in 1938, there were some who found it an outrage that the Babe's record might be broken by a Jewish ballplayer – one who in 1934 had drawn great admiration from Jews and many non-Jews for refusing to play on Yom Kippur during a close pennant race.

Looking back on his career, the man who was called "Hammerin' Hank" wrote: "Sure, there was added pressure being Jewish. How the hell could you get up to home plate every day and have some son of a bitch call you a Jew bastard and a kike and a sheenie and get on you...without feeling the pressure? If the ballplayers weren't doing it, the fans were."

Greenberg didn't take such slurs passively, especially from fellow ballplayers. In his book *Ellis Island to Ebbets Field: Sport and the American Jewish Experience*, Peter Levine recounts that during the summer of 1938, an unnamed Chicago White Sox player called Greenberg a "yellow Jew son of a bitch" during a game.

After the game, Greenberg entered the White Sox clubhouse and demanded that the player "come here and call me that to my face." No one moved.

Literature and legend are replete with similar stories, some of which end with Greenberg dropping the offending player with a single smack to the jaw.

The two-time MVP also believed that "being Jewish did carry with it a special responsibility. After all, I was representing a couple of million Jews among a hundred million gentiles, and I was always in the spotlight."

By 1938, he said he had come to feel that "if I, as a Jew, hit a home run, I was hitting one against Hitler."

Suspense built during that fateful season when, with five games left to go, Greenberg already had hit 58 home runs, closing in on the Babe's record.

Hank Greenberg

During the next four games, however, Greenberg went without a homer. Then came the final game of the season, against the Cleveland Indians. The crowd was both tense and excited. Fans realized it wasn't impossible for Greenberg at least to tie the record, since he had hit two home runs in 11 different games that season.

By the seventh inning, he had hit three singles and walked once. At that point, in the days before ballpark lights, the game was called because of darkness. As Greenberg describes it in his book: "It really shouldn't have lasted that long. But the umpire was George Moriarty, my friend. I know that he wanted me to have every possible chance at the Babe's record. After the seventh inning, Moriarty said to me, 'I'm sorry, Hank. But this is as far as I can go.'

"I said, 'That's all right, George, this is as far as I can go, too.'"

Would Greenberg have had a better chance to break Ruth's record if his name had been Grayson, or, for that matter, McGwire? Levine writes that some members of his family, as well as some Jewish fans, "remained convinced that Hank's assault on the Babe's record was undermined by anti-Semitic pitchers who refused to give their hero a decent pitch to hit."

The hero himself thoroughly denied that notion, writing in his autobiography that "some people still have it fixed in their minds that the reason I didn't break Ruth's record was because I was Jewish, that the ballplayers did everything they could to stop me. That's pure baloney. The fact is quite the opposite: So far as I could tell, the players were mostly rooting for me, aside from the pitchers."

His own explanation for the failure to break the record is that he was never in Ruth's class as a home-run hitter. "I averaged around 35 (home runs)," he wrote, "so this was just a freak season for me."

His real goal, he related, was always to break Lou Gehrig's record of 184 RBIs. He came close to accomplishing that feat in 1937 when he had 183 RBIs, just short of that record, too.

From the vantage point of 60 years, we may never know just how much anti-Semitism figured in Greenberg's failure to break Ruth's record, says Steven Riess, a history professor at Northeastern Illinois University and author of *Sports and the American Jew*.

"We know there was lots of anti-Semitism in baseball in those days, and the players would probably just as soon he not break the record," he said. "But then, they didn't want anyone to break that record."

On the other hand, he says, Greenberg seemed to have had "relatively decent chances" to homer during the last five games of the season, including one game during which pitching great Bob Feller struck out 18 players. Another time, says Riess, Greenberg hit the ball off the roof but it went foul.

"I wasn't there, so I don't know, but [Greenberg] seemed to be a pretty honest guy, and he himself didn't feel that he didn't get a fair shake," Riess concludes.

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Anti-Semitic incidents spur kayaker to win races

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Incidents of Jewish athletes encountering overt anti-Semitism on the playing field can't yet be consigned to the dustbins of history.

For Vancouver kayaker Dari Fisher, 20, being taunted by anti-Semites bent on distracting him from a top performance, is an event of recent vintage.

Three years ago, at the national kayaking championship in Welland, Ont., several opponents held him down and tried to intimidate him prior to an important race. Some of them insulted him with taunts of "dirty Jew."

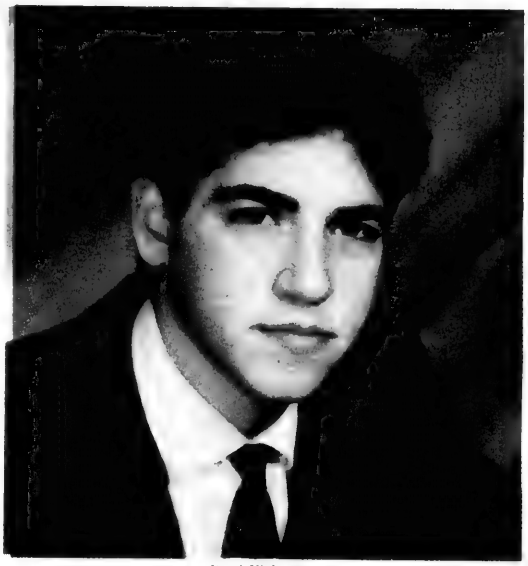
Then, just this past August at the Canadian National Sprint Canoe and Kayaking Championship in Whistler, B.C., "the same guys from Welland started lightly kicking my boat. This time around, it wasn't anything religiously related, but there's a history there," Fisher said.

Instead of getting into an ugly altercation, the 6-foot-3, 200-pound Fisher chose a different path. With a bronze medal already in hand after the 500-metre K-1 (one-man kayak) race, he went on to finish third in the 200-metre sprint. It was his way of responding to his detractors and showing them their intimidation didn't slow him down. In fact, it helped motivate him to work harder and finish higher.

"I preferred to deal with it my own way," Fisher explained. "It bothers them more if you just go out and do your thing and beat them in the races."

Dari's brother Nuri, 17, had a different approach, trading verbal insults with the others while challenging them to settle the matter right then and there, but the others "backed down," Dari said.

As far as he's concerned, exposure to anti-Semitism "spurred me on to work harder. I'd go on the water and think to myself, 'that guy's an anti-Semite and I'm going to kick his butt'. I'm good at getting the last laugh."



Dari Fisher

In the past few years, Fisher's been working hard to make sure he gets the last laugh. Under the supervision of Imre Kemeesey, a world-renowned kayaking coach from Hungary, the young kayaker maintains a grueling training regimen that would test the mettle of a lesser athlete. During the winter, he's in his boat three times a week in the shallow waters of Burnaby Lake in suburban Vancouver, paddling four hours at a time. The long workouts build endurance, he said. On three other days of the week, Fisher either runs or is in the pool, swimming. He supplements all that aerobic activity with a weight program.

In May, Fisher resumes sprint paddling, giving himself an aerobic workout in preparation for the summer's shorter races. He's on the water 10 to 11 times per week, each workout averaging one-and-a-half hours.

Burnaby Lake's shallow water enhances the difficulty of the workout, he points out.

"In shallow water, the boat is not that fast compared to deep water. In deep water, you can go much faster. It's awesome," he said.

So far, all that tough training has paid off. Four years ago, Fisher finished 11th in the K-1 500 metre race at the Canadian championships.

But since he last spoke to *The CJN* following a double gold medal performance in 1000-metre and 200-metre K-4 races in Welland, "everything has improved, my endurance, my speed," he said.

Earlier this year, at the national qualifiers in British Columbia, he won just about everything. That included top finishes in 200-, 500- and 1000-metre K-1 races and first place finishes in the 200-, 500- and 1000-metre races in the K-2 boat.

Despite the victories working with another paddler, Fisher says "I prefer the singles now... You're the man, you have to completely rely on yourself. On the flip side, if you don't do well, it's your own fault."

It also means he's had to scramble to find corporate sponsors to underwrite some of his costs. It's not exactly part of the sport but it's a necessity. He's still looking.

Meanwhile, Kemeesey has helped Fisher develop the mental aspects of the sport, along with the physical. He's helped him stay "process oriented," not "goal oriented," Fisher said. Instead of worrying about how high he'll finish, he concentrates on his paddling technique, keeping his emotions channeled,he said.

"Kayaking is a controlled aggression sport," Fisher said. "It's very tactical. You have to be thinking how much energy you have left and maintaining technique and consistency."

With his ascent to near the top of Canadian kayaking, Fisher now has his sights set on the national team and a spot in the Pan Am Games next summer in Winnipeg. The Canadian team consists of paddlers with the top six times in single races, leaving him in good shape to make the team.

After that, it's on to the world championships leading, ultimately, to his "dream goal," the Olympics.

If he makes it to that lofty position, look out for the monumental last laugh he'll enjoy at the expense of his bigoted detractors.

CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family. There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under.
2. Thirteen to 18 years old.
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah. They cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, 1998.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50. Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 4, 1998.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 10, 1998. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

WHAT'S Cooking WITH NORENE GILLETZ?

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Rush Hour Express: Nov. 9 (eve.), Nov. 10 (day)
Light & Easy Entertaining: Nov. 17 (day or eve.)
Fishful Thinking & More: Dec. 2 (eve.), Dec. 3 (day)

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

שבלול מכוכב אחר מאת רוני נגור, איורים: איתן קדמי, הוצאת ספרים עם עובד, סדרת 'טוב לקרוא'.

כבר פעמים רבות בעולם ספרות הילדים והן בסרטים ביצורים מן החלל. ומכאן שמפגש עם שבלול מכוכב אחר, איננו בבחינת משהו חדשני. ואולם למרבה הפליאה, רוני נגור הצליח להעניק לילדנו סיפור מתח חינני ומשעשע, כתוב בסגנון משכנע ונבון. כל זה מוגש לילד בדפוס גדול ובאותיות מנוקדות. הספר קורץ אף למבוגרים.

כאמור, נורם ההפתעה אינו באפשרות מפגש בין ילד ויצור מן החלל, במקרה זה מפגש במעלית בית בן שש-עשרה קומות בין ילדה ושבלול גדול בעל קונכיה אדומה שגופו כחל ומחושיו צחובים אלא, באופיו של השבלול בסיפור. אֶפִי, זה שמו של השבלול, לא מזכיר את אי-יָי הביישן, המפוחד והמכונס בעצמו; אפי הוא שבלול שובב שמדבר יותר מדי ואוהב לזלזל. בעצם הוא הגיע לארץ מפני שרצה לאכול חסה ותוגיות שוקולד. כמו בסיפורים דומים, הילדה, טלי שמה, מסה לשמור בסוד את נוכחותו של אפי בבית. ואולם, שוב גורם ההפתעה בסיפור, אפי בדברנותו הרבה ממהר לגלות עצמו לבאי הבית ופותח בדיבורים. האב, לאחר התדהמה הראשונית, מיד מוכן לארח את אפי לאחר שנודע שהשבלול והאב, שניהם חובבי רכבות!

ובכן כך מספר אפי את סיפורו למשפחתה של טלי. אפי, שמדבר עברית רהוטה, במבטא זר, הגיע מכוכב השבלולים, גְּלַגְלִיש. אבות אבותיו הגיעו אל בלולישׁ מכדור-הארץ. היו ביניהם שבלולים מדענים, אמנים ומורים והם חיו ושרו. ואולם, יום אחד החלו תרחיש על כדור-הארץ רעידות אדמה מה מסוכנות ובתי השבלולים קרסו סו בזו אחר זו. לא נותרה ברירה לשבלולים והם נדדו לכוכב אחר, בטוח יותר. אלא שבכוכב זה, בלולישׁ, אין אדמה ואין צמחיה; אף שיש אור שמש נהדר שנשבר לאלף צבעים. מכיוון שאין בבלולישׁ מיני מאכל כגון, ענבניה ובצל, בולעים שם לארוחות גלולות מזון.

בבית הספר למד אפי על ריחה הנפלא של חסה אמיתית והחליט לצאת למסעו לכדור-הארץ ונחת בחנות הירקות של אלברט. בחנות חיה איש רע, נחום צילנדר שרצה ללכוד את אפי ולהתעשר על חשבון השבלול המופלא. וכך, נמלט אפי ופנש בטלי. בהמשך הסיפור, יסתבר לקוראים הצעירים שנחום צילנדר הוא לא רק רשע אלא גם טיפש ומאמציו ללכוד את אפי יעלו בתוהו. במהלך הארועים לא יפסח רוני נגור על פזילה לעולמן של האגדות הקסומות שבהן סם שינה, שאמור היה להרדים את אפי על-פי מזימתו של מר צילינדר, יפיל תרדמה, בנוסח היפיפיה הנרדמת, על כל הקונים בחנות הירקות של אלברט.

בסיפו של סיפור, אפי ירצה לשוב לכוכב שלו "שם מתר לזחול למעלה, למטה ולכל הצדדים, שם אין נחום צילינדר ושם כולם שבלולים..."

וכך מסכם אפי את ביקורו אצל טלי: "אני למדתי המון מהטיסה...למדתי שכדור-הארץ קיים באמת ולא רק באגדות. ויש בו יבשת שנקראת אסיה, ובאסיה נמצאת ארץ-ישראל ובה נמצאת העיר תל-אביב, ובתל-אביב יש רחוב בשם רחוב רקפות. ושם...גרה ילדה בשם טלי, שהיא החברה הכי טובה שלי - חבריס זה דבר נורא חשוב."

לקראת הפרידה מהשבלול, טלי מאוד עצובה. ואולם, היא מבינה בלבו של אפי והיא מארגנת לו מסיבת פרידה עם סלט ענקי, עשוי מעלי חסה טריים ועטור בפרורי עוגיות שוקולד. לאחר חצות אפי נכנס לחללית ומעלם. וטלי...טלי תקבל עכשיו מהוריה את הכלב שתמיד רצתה.

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About families

Dear Susan,

My 11-year-old daughter is caught up with the Clinton scandal. While she is a very bright girl, we are unsure about how much media exposure we should allow her to get on this so..lid business. What do you suggest ?

Dear Reader,

Many years ago, our only form of non-direct contact was correspondence by mail. Today of course, we can send and receive information on a worldwide basis instantly via television, fax and the Internet. The immediacy of information creates a quandary for responsible parents – how does one slow things down in order to evaluate whether information is a help or a hindrance to your child? In a sense, the media has usurped the parents' right to censor sensitive material.

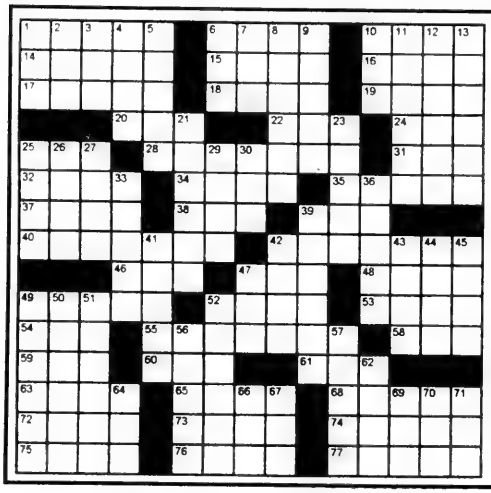
I am all for slowing down and tailoring it to the needs of your child. You have an 11-year-old who is bright, but who is still a child. She is in a developmental stage in which she engages in concrete thinking and in assessing the world in terms of polar opposites. She still plays both judge and jury.

In discussing the specifics of Bill Clinton's behavior, you will certainly want as much as possible to avoid the salacious details. Rather than get into those details, you may want to speak about the failure to tell the truth and the betrayal of trust that all seem to agree that Clinton is guilty of. Clinton's transgressions can be discussed in the context of the family, and can be an opportunity to discuss with your child the importance of the truth. If nothing else, Clinton's dilemma demonstrates that lying for the short-term gain can result in serious long-term pain. The importance of trust and integrity can also be discussed, and the deep and sometimes permanent effects of betraying the trust of someone who loves and believes in you.

It may be impossible for you to avoid the ugly details, since they seem to be plastered over all the media. If you have not begun the process of educating your child on matters of sexuality, you may find yourself in the position of having to do so. If your child has received a sexual education, you will want to assure her that the behavior of the president does not represent the normal, loving sexual behavior that all mature adults should exhibit.

Finally, the Clinton episode is a key example of a fundamental principle that we all try to teach our children – behavior has consequences. Acting for short-term pleasure, without regard for the consequences, is a recipe for disaster. Even the most powerful man in the world cannot act irresponsibly and get away with it.

Susan Leventhal is a psychotherapist with 20 years of experience.



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Abraham was the first
6. Actor Hirsch
10. Hebrew letter
14. "Lou Grant" star
15. Imitate Chaim Gross
16. Shikker
17. Sculptor
18. Ancestry
19. Mechanical designer (abbv.)
20. Digit
22. 151
24. Tet (Eng.)
25. Divan
28. Sagan's sightings
31. Cantor and Goldman
32. Israeli Valley
34. Mt. Gilboa flower
35. Israeli city
37. "Ginger" Actress Louise
38. Rosenblatt move
39. Feh!!
40. Via Maris
42. Bealzabub
46. Sacrifice residue
47. __ Mitzvah
48. Maccabiah event
49. Acted the shikker
52. Wagon
53. Psalm
54. Wiggling tref fish
55. "Let no man put __"
58. Tish B'Av mood
59. Ark's rear
60. Actor Reiner
61. Edom people
63. Wart
65. Clock face
68. Bare biblically
72. Uncle to twelve
73. Principles signing city
74. Sound the shofar
75. Shiva clothes
76. 2,060
77. Israeli resort

Down

1. Bissel (Eng.)
2. Haifa to Jerusalem (dir.)
3. King David?
4. Transmitted
5. Tsahal section
6. Meir Kahane org.
7. Geller
8. Horas
9. Lived
10. Ten days
11. Passover mark locale
12. Dead Sea Kibbutz
13. "The Gates of the __" Wiesel novel
21. Awaited Passover guest
23. Stern or Asimov
25. Bees (Heb.)
26. Holocaust voice
27. "Jose Jimenez" comic
29. Israeli city
30. Sofer need
33. Abram's brother
36. Jacob's aching spot
39. Bialy spread?
41. Schindler
42. Tref shortening
43. Pays without dots
44. Poet Lazarus
45. Shiva clothes
47. Censor
49. Monty Hall
50. Schmutz (Eng.)
51. Retail great
52. Chagall's art at times
56. Hedonist haven
57. Baal Shem Tov
62. Jewish restaurant
64. Place
66. Every
67. Bagel companion
69. Olympiad Friedman
70. Bo Belinsky stat
71. Hebrew letter

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. *(Last week's answers are on page 33.)*

Assisting the Vulnerable

When you give to UJA, where will your money go?

Ask Evelyn Rabkin.

This is the story of one woman whose life is off to a fresh start because of UJA Federation.

None of us ever knows where life's journey will take us. So it was for Evelyn Rabkin, a hardworking mother and wife from Montréal.

Evelyn's ambitions were fulfilled in Montréal through her job at Jewish Vocational Services, her loving marriage, and her sons. Yet, for economic reasons, the Rabkins decided to relocate in Toronto.

The move to Toronto was depressing. "We would go from one mall to another, hang around, and wait for our children to come home," Evelyn recalls.

With the discovery of the Bernard Betel Centre, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, hope swept the Rabkins toward a new path. Evelyn and her husband began enjoying life like newlyweds. Unfortunately, the couple's newfound joy was painfully brief. Evelyn's husband suddenly died. Panic-stricken by grief and faced with the frightening need for a hip replacement, she once again turned to Bernard Betel for friendship and counseling.

Now, Evelyn's life has come full circle. Her strength has returned; she is active again at the Centre and she has met a wonderful man—Ed Yuditsky—whom she plans to marry!

Like Evelyn, thousands of elderly in the Greater Toronto Area will benefit from the **Campaign for Fifty**, through $4.3 million in new funds to assist the vulnerable. These additional dollars will support, among other programs, expanded home care and out-reach to seniors; increased assistance to Toronto's Jewish poor and more counseling for victims of family violence.

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Israel, PA near agreement

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

A series of intelligence warnings that Hamas terror attacks are imminent is providing the best proof that Israel and the Palestinians are near an agreement.

Analysis

Further proof is also coming from right-wing members of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition, who have renewed their threats to bring down the government if the premier agrees to transfer additional West Bank lands to the Palestinians.

But despite the flurry of diplomatic activity surrounding U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's recent visit to the Middle East, visits by Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat last month to New York and Washington, and the upcoming summit in Maryland, there are still plenty of skeptics who doubt that a deal will be concluded.

Continued on page 34

ONE LAST PEEK
A young boy peers from underneath his father's tallit last week as the kohanim bless the throng of worshipers assembled at the Western Wall. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Vandals strike Jewish sites

By RON CSILLAG
DAVID LAZARUS
and PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporters

Three attacks on Jewish targets in Canada in one week have left officials shaken, but confident the offences are not part of a trend.

Two of the attacks are being treated as crimes of hate against Jews.

Arson investigators are busy with two incidents, one in Ottawa and the other in Toronto.

A fire that caused up to $75,000 damage at Ecole Maimonides in suburban Ottawa is not even close to being solved. There have been no arrests and police have few leads. Although it was arson and it occurred hours after Yom Kippur ended, the blaze is not being treated as hate-motivated.

In downtown Toronto, a fire on Sukkot at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) was deliberately set. Police say the blaze, which caused at least $10,000 in damage, was a hate crime.

And in Montreal, vandals broke into a private home over Yom Kippur, did thousands of dollars in damage and scrawled anti-Semitic messages on walls.

"To the best of our knowledge to date, we are not aware of any connection between the three," said Mark Weintraub, national chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress community relations committee.

"We are proceeding on the basis that these were ugly, anti-Semitic attacks, but [that] they are not related," he said.

Weintraub said that because two of the attacks were hate-driven, he expects they will be given high priority.

Police in Montreal's West Island suburb of Pierrefonds are investigating the especially vicious anti-Semitic attack.

On Sept. 30, Simon Bohbot, his wife Jocelyne, and their children Miriam, Benjamin and Jessica returned home after observing Yom Kippur and Miriam's 15th birthday, and were appalled to discover the destruction inside.

According to Police Constable Valerie Fradet, the vandalism appeared to be a hate crime with no precedent in the area.

Major areas of interior walls were covered with large-lettered anti-Semitic and obscene graffiti; rugs, furs and furniture were spray-painted and soiled by finishing stain; expensive basement furniture was ripped to shreds; and jewelry and electronic equipment were missing.

One of the anti-Semitic graffiti scrawled in the main floor hallway of the raised bungalow read: "Death to all Jeus" (sic).

Another, above the ruined leather sofa in the basement, said simply, "Jeus".

The walls also were defaced with what looked like two satanic pentagrams – one piece of graffiti

Continued on page 19

This Week

National

Rabbi Plaut to head committee that will distribute Swiss funds. ***Page 3***

Ontario plans on marking Holocaust Day annually. ***Page 5***

Jewish veterans honor fallen comrades. ***Page 7***

Ethiopian Jew studies for the Conservative rabbinate. ***Page 16***

Arts

Israel film festival is presented by Cinematheque Ontario. ***Page 37***

Sports

Hockey is for rich kids only, right? Think again. ***Page 46***

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Shabbat: Bereshit
Candlelighting: 6:16
Tishrei 26, 5759
Havdalah: 7:33

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INSIDE
Simon Dubnow: a great historian. *Please see page 9.*

NEXT WEEK
A retrospective on the Yom Kippur War 25 years ago.

36 today
ews
ek.

Polish government criticized over Auschwitz crosses — page 32

The News in Brief

CANADA

Educators' Conference

WINNIPEG — The Western Canadian Coalition of Jewish Educators will hold a conference next February on issues facing Jewish teachers and educators. The two-day conference titled Challenges in Jewish Education: The Western Canadian Response will feature speakers and workshops. For details, call 403-444-2467.

ISRAEL

Bombs Kill Two

JERUSALEM — Two roadside bombs in southern Lebanon killed two Israeli soldiers and wounded six others last week. Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack, which occurred inside Israel's security zone.

Clashes and Strike

HEBRON — Israeli troops clashed with Palestinian stone-throwers in this West Bank city last week, as Arab residents observed a general strike to protest a week-long curfew imposed by Israel after a Palestinian threw a grenade at Israeli troops. Israel kept the West Bank and Gaza Strip sealed off.

Ariel To Become City

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is planning to designate the West Bank settlement of Ariel as a city. A spokesperson for Netanyahu called the move a "technical thing" and denied that it was a provocative act.

WORLD

Gunman Kills Four

BAGHDAD — Four people – two Jews and two Muslims – were killed last Sunday when a gunman entered a synagogue in a local community centre and sprayed it with bullets.

The Babylonian Jewish Heritage organization said a man burst into the synagogue during preparations for Sukkot, and went on a shooting spree.

"We place full responsibility for the act on the president of Iraq," a statement from the Jewish community said.

The Iraqi cabinet, in a meeting chaired by President Saddam Hussein, condemned the incident. A cabinet statement said a Palestinian born in Kuwait was responsible for the murders. The statement also said that he had been arrested and would be put on trial.

The two Muslims were reportedly in the synagogue to pay rent for properties belonging to the community.

Gorby, Shamir Attend Fete

NEW YORK — A gala Israel Bonds celebration marking the 10th anniversary of the opening of the gates of Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel will feature former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and former Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Shamir. The event will take place Oct. 25 at the New York Hilton, and will bring together 23 leaders of the Soviet Jewry movement from all over North America, including Toronto's Wendy Eisen.

Looted Art

SAO PAULO — A commission created by Brazil's justice ministry is using leads supplied by the World Jewish Congress to search for more than 100 artworks believed to have been plundered by the Nazis and sold in Brazil. In addition, two artworks – oil paintings by Claude Monet and Pablo Picasso – have been placed under the protection of the Special Commission to Examine the Nazi Legacy in Brazil.

Calls from Congress

WASHINGTON — Forty-five members of the U.S. Congress called on Germany to investigate what they say are abuses in that country's restitution program for Holocaust survivors. The representatives called on newly elected German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder to look into cases where survivors "have received offers well below what they deserved, or even were rejected outright."

Smith Elected VP

WASHINGTON — Moishe Smith of Ottawa, a former national president of B'nai Brith Canada, was elected senior international vice-president of B'nai Brith at the organization's recent convention in Jerusalem.

Scoops of Tsuris for Ben & Jerry's

WASHINGTON — The conflict in the Middle East has given Ben & Jerry's several chilly licks recently. Under a hail of protest from anti-settler groups, the ice cream manufacturer's Israeli franchise cancelled a contract last month to purchase water from Mei Eden, a mineral water company based in the Golan Heights, to make sorbet.

But some Jewish organizations consider the move to break the contract and to endorse calls for boycotting certain Israeli products a slap in the face of the peace process.

The president of the Zionist Organization of America, Morton Klein, said Jewish entrepreneurs Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield have sent a message to all Jewish businesses to boycott Israel.

Criticism of Mei Eden began in September 1997, after an Israeli group, Gush Shalom, urged consumers to boycott goods produced in Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and in the Golan. The group published a list of Israeli companies, including Mei Eden, that operate in those areas.

Perry Odak, the chief executive officer of Ben & Jerry's, was inundated with letters and e-mails criticizing the company after the Mei Eden contract was revealed in Israeli newspapers in June.

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Rabbi Plaut to head committee that will disburse Swiss funds

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Gunther Plaut has been appointed to chair the Canadian committee that will disburse money from the humanitarian fund set up by Swiss banks last year to help needy Holocaust survivors.

Roughly $2.5 million (US) from the $185 million fund has been allocated to Canada.

Studies consistently show that in Canada, one in six Jews lives below the poverty line, and that one-third of all Jewish poor are over 65.

An Oct. 1 press release issued by the national office of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) said the committee will include representatives from CJC, United Israel Appeal Federations Canada, and Holocaust survivors groups.

But Rabbi Plaut told *The CJN* last week that "all that is out the window.

"I want this to be non-organizational and non-partisan. We will start from scratch."

He said the committee will probably include representatives from United Israel Appeal, but the "majority" of members will be Holocaust survivors.

"This is a very sensitive matter for survivors. A lot of ancient pain will be brought up," Rabbi Plaut said. "And how we will pick them [for the committee] will be difficult."

He said that in the coming weeks, he will be calling various community organizations to canvass prospective committee members.

So far, no one has been appointed, he noted.

He said the committee will have to determine who will receive compensation, and who will be turned down. One of its tasks will be to define needy.

"It will be a difficult and sensitive job."

According to CJC, the committee will establish criteria for eligibility, the handling of claims, and the disbursement of funds, either directly to needy survivors or to communal social welfare programs, or a combination of both.

The Swiss humanitarian fund is unrelated to the $1.25 billion (US) settlement reached in August between Swiss banks and class-action claimants to dormant war-era accounts. CJC estimates there are about 100 survivors in Canada with valid claims against Swiss banks.

In the United States, an estimated 120,000 survivors are eligible to receive compensation from the humanitarian fund. A toll-free telephone number has been set up south of the border.

When the Swiss humanitarian fund was announced last spring, CJC estimated that individual payouts will likely not exceed $1,000.

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From the editor's desk

Standing by for rescue

Last week, the finance ministers and central bankers from 182 countries convened in Washington at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to discuss the swirling global economic crisis.

After five days of debate, no fiscal or monetary remedies were adopted. No coordinated plans were endorsed. The mood in Washington was decidedly pessimistic, as it has been now, for some months.

The electronically wired, interdependent, inter-related, worldwide economy is having problems.

During the heyday of the Cold War era, people spoke of the "domino effect." The current economic global crisis gives new meaning to that term.

At home, the Canadian dollar, relative to the American dollar, has experienced its lowest value ever, despite the fact that, as all economists agree, the "fundamentals" of Canada's economy are inherently sound.

Investors around the world ride stock markets as if on an unending roller coaster, falling and rising in a steep financial vertigo each day.

Abroad, entire macro-economies of different countries have buckled, calamitously, upheaving with them their respective social and civic order. Indonesia was a prime example.

Russia is another.

A recent *Dry Bones* cartoon succinctly captured the Russian predicament by punning ruble into rubble. The cartoon evoked a wry smile; but in truth, the situation is not one for laughter. It is fraught with danger.

Severe economic stresses have precipitated even more severe social stresses. We all saw the scenes on television and in the newspaper of frightened and angry people scrounging, begging for their own money at their empty banks.

As expected, social stresses rippled into political stresses, which the fledgling, immature, corruption-riven, free market Russian democracy could not seamlessly absorb.

On Sept. 11, Boris Yeltsin "surrendered" to an alliance of old-line communist ideologues and new-line communist pragmatists by appointing Yevgeny Primakov to the post of prime minister.

No one yet knows what substantive policy changes Primakov and his cadre will bring about. We can only speculate based upon what we do know about them.

Prof. Aurel Braun of the University of Toronto, an expert on Russia, recently described Primakov in *The CJN* as "rabidly anti-Semitic and anti-Israel." Braun envisions an immediate to near future in Russia characterized by "some form of authoritarian mix of both extreme right and the communists."

The ongoing upheavals in Russia, Braun said, could lead to a "toxic mix" of anti-Semitism from both the far right and the far left communists.

Jews around the world are worried. History has been our teacher, and memory the chalkboard on which history's lessons have been inscribed. In Russia, those memories have been of merciless scapegoating. And the lesson they have taught us is to be wary.

Jewish "rescue" organizations are on call, primed, ready to step in as the need arises.

Last week, across my desk, I received an urgent memo from UIA Federations Canada reporting on a conference call that community leaders had with Dr. Baruch Gur, director general of Keren Hayesod.

Gur provided an update on the situation in Russia. No one is more qualified to have done so. The author of *Open Gates, The Inside Story of the Mass Aliya from the Soviet Union and its Successor States,* Gur was in Russia, on the very streets of Moscow, as Yeltsin ordered tanks to fire upon the Duma.

From his offices in Jerusalem, Gur said the following: "This is a major political and economic crisis. The situation is that many people have lost a great deal of money. However, what is more frightening for them is that they have also lost their political influence. The middle class has lost the most. The middle class Jews are not able to liquidate their assets right now."

If the economic situation does not stabilize, Gur anticipates that there will be a marked increase in aliyah in six to 12 months.

He reported that there was a small increase in the number of Jews leaving the former Soviet Union (FSU) last month compared with previous Septembers. There was also a small increase in the number of professionals, aged 20 to 45, enrolling in ulpan Hebrew classes in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

"What is important to note is that this is not the regular crowd at the Jewish Agency offices. These people are professionals. They were banking on a secure future and had bought homes in the FSU. *Now, they have seen their lives destroyed in a single second.*" (Our emphasis)

Having regard to the fact that the devaluation in the ruble and the hyper-inflation have affected everyone's ability to buy food, Gur also warned that "the number of hungry will be increasing."

In a short few weeks, as the dreaded Russian winter descends upon the people, the situation will be even worse.

There has not yet been any marked increase in anti-Semitic activities, Gur noted. However, as the situation deteriorates, he predicted the Jews will inevitably be blamed.

He did not need to tell us that. But he did emphatically add that whatever happens in Russia over the next few months, the Jewish Agency will be able to bring to Israel each and every Jew who wishes to go there.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

ISRAEL'S PRE-STATE FINEST

The Jewish police force of Rishon LeZion assemble for a group photo in 1946.

[photo supplied by I. Jacoby]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Holocaust bill closer to passage

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ontario is about to become the first province in Canada to officially mark an annual Holocaust memorial day.

A private member's bill sponsored by Ted Chudleigh (PC – Halton North) calls for Ontario to "proclaim Holocaust Memorial Day – Yom Hashoah in Ontario" each year.

Bill 66 calls for the day to be observed on Yom Hashoah, in accordance with the Jewish calendar.

The bill passed second reading last Thursday with no opposition. It now heads to committee and then to third and final reading.

The bill is not expected to encounter opposition, and will likely become law well before the next Yom Hashoah in April.

Last Thursday's second reading, considered the most important of the three, saw probably the most extensive and emotional discussion of the Holocaust and its importance ever in Ontario's legislature.

MPPs from all parties rose to speak of the importance of Holocaust commemoration and of educating future generations about the perils of racism and hatred. Some MPPs choked with emotion.

Chudleigh said the bill would provide "an opportunity to reflect on and educate about the enduring lessons of the Holocaust. This day shall also provide an opportunity to consider other instances of systemic destruction of peoples, human rights and the multicultural reality of modern society."

Atonement

Liberal David Caplan slammed the government for cutting anti-racism programs from school curricula, and said teaching the Holocaust should be "entrenched" in school courses.

The NDP's Peter Kormos said Holocaust Memorial Day will "celebrate the courage of survivors." He reminded the legislature that the Allies, including Canada, "did too little" for Jews in wartime Europe.

"We have some atonement to do for those who died at the hands of the Nazis and their collaborators," he said.

Kormos assailed "those who dare to deny" the Holocaust.

Attorney General Charles Harnick, the only Jewish member of the government, said Ontario has been paying annual tribute to Holocaust survivors since 1991. Harnick had to cut his remarks short after he choked on his words.

Several MPPs mentioned other examples of genocide, such as the 1915 massacre of Armenians by Turkey, and today's ethnic crisis in the Balkans.

But they all agreed the Holocaust was unique in its extent and brutality. Tory Lillian Ross pointed out that 1.5 million children were murdered by the Nazis, while New Democrat Tony Martin simply wondered, "How could this have happened?"

Liberal Mike Colle said he finds the day significant "because we cannot let six million [Jews] die in vain."

Chudleigh told *The CJN* he introduced the bill because he views the Holocaust as among history's "major events."

He said he has a link to the era. His wife's aunt was deported to a Nazi concentration camp and was never heard from again.

Chudleigh's initiative won praise from Keith Landy, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, who also called it a possible way to introduce Holocaust education in Ontario schools.

Holocaust Education Week marks 'chai' anniversary

TORONTO — Holocaust Education Week, an annual program of education and remembrance, will include 96 events this year at a variety of locations in the greater Toronto area.

Lectures, panel discussions, films, plays, poetry readings and exhibitions will be held in synagogues, churches, libraries, community centres and other venues.

The "week," which runs this year from Oct. 29 to Nov. 9, was inaugurated in 1980 with a handful of events, said Howard Driman, chair of Holocaust Education Week 1998. To the best of organizers' knowledge, it is the largest event of its kind in the world.

"The need to teach the lessons of the Holocaust appears more and more relevant as we witness recent events around the world. The best way to counter anti-Semitism, neo-Nazism, Holocaust denial, racism, bigotry and indifference is surely through education," he said.

This year is particularly significant for organizers. Not only is it the 18th anniversary of Holocaust Education Week, it is 60 years since Kristallnacht (the "Night of Shattered Glass" in Germany and Austria) and the 50th anniversary of both the creation of the State of Israel and the United Nations' Declaration on Human Rights.

Opening night, to be held at the Leah Posluns Theatre, will feature

Howard Driman

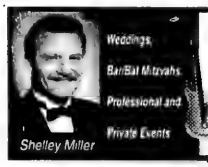
Ernest Michel, a Holocaust survivor, author, lecturer and former CEO of New York's UJA-Federation who was imprisoned in several concentration camps and eventually escaped from a death march. He covered the Nuremberg Trials for the German press, and worked briefly as a journalist on arriving in the United States. He will give a personal reflection of the 60 years since Kristallnacht.

Other programs include the first Toronto appearance of Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, author of *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust*; the film *Not in Our Town* highlighting the efforts of Billings, Mont. residents to combat local hate crimes, to be followed by a panel discussion with the former Billings police chief, the head of the hate crimes unit of the Greater Toronto Area, and Salome Bey of People Against Racism; and German-born Ursula Duba, author of *Tales from a Child of the Enemy*.

Montreal professor Gabrielle Tyrnauer will discuss the experiences of the Roma during the war; award-winning filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici will talk of the "hidden history" of the Jews; psychologist Alan Bardikoff will address How and When to Talk to your Children about the Holocaust; Bonnie Gurewitsch of New York's Jewish Heritage Museum will discuss "camp sisters" (the unique kinship of women in concentration camps); and John Schuchman, a professor at Gallaudet University, will discuss issues relating to deaf people in the Holocaust. The latter program will be conducted in spoken English and sign language.

The closing event will be a community commemoration of Kristallnacht at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Keynote speaker will be Gerda Steinitz-Freiberg, founder of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto and past president, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

For further information, call the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto, 635-2883, ext. 301.



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The honor guard assembles before marching to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial. Seen here (from left) are Alan Bielak, Leo Bielak, Ernest Stein, Jerome Diamond and Marvin Kiner.

Survivors, offspring gather at Yad Vashem memorial

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Some 200 people, most of them survivors and their offspring, recently gathered at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial at Earl Bales Park in North York for a memorial service.

"Most of these people don't have a cemetery to go to. This is the place where they can come to feel closest, to remember their loved ones, said Marilyn Somers, executive director of the Canadian Society of Yad Vashem.

The ceremony began with the march of the honor guard, which was made up of members of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada.

"This monument is a grim reminder of what human beings are capable of doing – man's inhumanity to man," Eisen told the group

"We, the children of survivors, are charged with reviving the conscience of the world," Rabbi Shulman said.

The service included the lighting of six memorial candles to symbolize the six million Jews who were murdered. Participants in this ceremony included Mr. and Mrs Hank Rosenbaum, Jack Muscat, Herman Gottesman and Frank Dimant.

Alex Eisen, a member of the board of Yad Vashem and a Holocaust survivor, was the MC. Rabbi Moshe Shulman and Cantor Yaacov Motzen of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue led the service, while Attorney General Charles Harnick, a former Yad Vashem board member, led the group in the singing of O Canada.

The representatives of six community organizations – Beth David B'Nai Israel Beth Am, Beth Tzedec, B'nai Brith Canada, The Reena Foundation, The Ostrovtzer Society, and the Jewish War Veterans of Canada – laid six wreaths in memory of the six million.

Helen Rosenbaum (centre) and her husband Hank, the chair of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, light a memorial candle. They are assisted by Marilyn Somers, the society's executive director.
[Barbara Silverstein photos]

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish veterans honor fallen comrades

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Veterans wearing blue blazers and berets with the Star of David marched double file through Mount Sinai Cemetery behind a color guard of their peers and a bagpiper in military dress, at a recent memorial service honoring Canadian Jewish soldiers who died in active duty during World War II.

They were saluted by military dignitaries on a reviewing stand, as they made their way to the Jewish War Veterans cenotaph erected 20 years ago.

The veterans, along with such dignitaries as Minister of Defence Art Eggleton, Attorney General Charles Harnick, Police board chair Norm Gardner, Brig.-Gen. E. Gosden, Israeli Deputy Consul Irit Waldergorn and Jewish War Veterans of Canada commanders Hy Shulman and Sam Pasternack, were among the 200 people who attended the annual service, which has been held at the cenotaph for the last 20 years under the auspices of the General Wingate Branch 256 of the Royal Canadian Legion.

The service takes place every year between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, memorial service chair Murray Jacobs told the assembled group.

He noted the service is also a time to remember comrades who returned from war and are no longer alive.

Sam Romberg, president of the Wingate Branch, told the group he hopes "younger members will carry on and not let them be forgotten."

Eggleton said, "The High Holy Days are an appropriate occasion to remember those who have sacrificed their lives. We all owe [them] a debt of gratitude."

Some 17,000 Canadian Jews served in the Canadian forces during World War II, while approximately 4,500 Canadian Jews served in the Canadian expeditionary force, Eggleton said.

He said the sacrifices of those who were killed have enabled Canadians to enjoy democracy. It is still necessary, however, to be vigilant, he said, and that is why Canada contributes to peace-keeping.

Rabbi Aaron Zimmerman made the benediction for the memorial service, and Cantor Saul Carr led the K'El Maleh Rachamim, Kaddish, Hatikvah and the national anthems.

The service also included the reading of the more than 400 names inscribed on the cenotaph.

Among the people participating in a wreath-laying ceremony was Coleman Bernstein, who lost a brother during the war.

Members of the General Wingate Branch 256 march through Mount Sinai Cemetery to the memorial cenetaph. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Two members of General Wingate, Jerry Rosenberg and Harold Kates, who fought in the Israel War of Independence, laid wreaths on behalf of the other branch members who were also in the Palmach.

The Last Post and reveille were sounded by the bugler, and the piper played *The Lament*. RCAF veteran Roy Waisberg blew the shofar.

After the singing of Hatikvah and God Save the Queen, the color guard led the veterans and dignitaries to the small building at the entrance of the cemetery for a reception prepared and organized by the Women's Auxiliary of the General Wingate Branch.

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Summit hopes

These words are being written before the summit meeting scheduled for today, Oct. 15, in Wye Plantation, Md., of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Palestine Authority President Yasser Arafat and U.S. President Bill Clinton. Truth to say, the summit came about somewhat unexpectedly, the positive outcome of two days of productive meetings last week between Madeleine Albright, U.S. Secretary of State, and the two Middle East leaders, at the border of Gaza and Israel.

Israeli media even described the exchanges between Netanyahu and Arafat as "remarkable conviviality," at the end of which the two men ate together for the first time in Palestinian territory.

Albright told reporters that the parties had made "significant and substantial progress on the further redeployment, security, the Gaza industrial estate and the airport, formation of an anti-incitement committee and activation of people-to-people programs." She paid special tribute to the co-operation between Netanyahu and Arafat. "This new spirit was very helpful, and I hope very much that it will be carried on in Washington," Albright added.

Albright's meetings with Netanyahu and Arafat were the continuation of the discussions the two men held with Clinton last month in the United States.

Following the Jimmy Carter precedent at Camp David, Clinton is expected to sit shoulder-to-shoulder with Netanyahu and Arafat trying to cobble together the final pieces of the next phase of the Oslo peace structure. As Albright noted, "The president is going to be very much involved in a lot of the detailed work."

Given the way that such high-profile, high-stakes international summit meetings are usually arranged, and the costly public backlash that would result from the failure to fulfil the accompanying highly pegged public expectations, one could normally assume that most of the "detailed work" has already been done.

But, as history has shown, there has been very little of the "usual" or of the "normal" in the relations between Israel and the Palestinians.

Even as Netanyahu and Arafat were effusively shaking hands and posing together with rare warmth and congeniality, some veteran, typically acerbic – some might say realistic – Israeli commentators were downplaying the significance of the meetings concluded in Gaza and the meetings upcoming in Maryland.

"Despite all the media fuss, no real progress was made in the key disputed issues: the security issue and the third redeployment issue, which are at the heart of the arguments," Yoni Ben-Menachem declared on Israel Radio.

The Labor party publicly disdained the prime minister's efforts while still promising to support any agreement he achieves with the Palestinians.

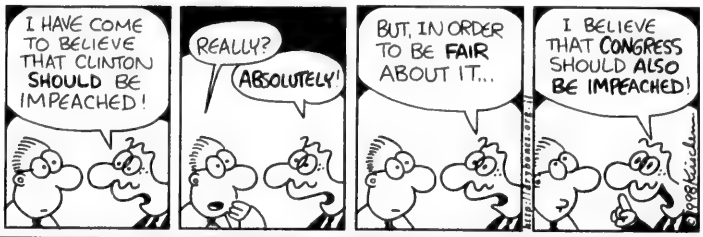
But the loudest, most vociferous restraining sounds directed at the prime minister emanated from his right-wing supporters and coalition partners. The National Religious Party (NRP) forcefully outlined their "red lines" to him last week threatening to topple the coalition government if the red lines are crossed. After meeting with the prime minister however, NRP leaders were somewhat assuaged.

Still, there is room for some optimism. One might even add there is an obligation to hope for a good outcome from the unfolding events. The appearance of forward movement can create momentum for more; even as the appearance of collegiality and cooperation can create the beginnings of trust.

The differences between the two sides can be bridged. The question is: will there be the desire and the courage to do so? We know for Clinton's part, there will be. He will be working earnestly to ensure success at Wye Plantation to offset the daily barrage of negative news arising from the impeachment investigations. For Arafat's part, he must, once and for all, reject the ambiguities and the prevarications that have become his trademark. And Netanyahu must, once and for all, stare down the extremists in his coalition, the blackmailers and the extortionists who have become his and the country's millstone.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Am I my brother's guardian?
Parshat Breishit

Dry Bones


I HAVE COME TO BELIEVE THAT CLINTON SHOULD BE IMPEACHED!
REALLY?
ABSOLUTELY!
BUT, IN ORDER TO BE FAIR ABOUT IT...
I BELIEVE THAT CONGRESS SHOULD ALSO BE IMPEACHED!

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Judaism in Toronto belies MK's comments

Two jarring headlines on opposite pages confronted the reader of your pre-Sukkot edition (Oct. 1) – "MKs slam Reform, Conservative movements" and "Orthodox conversion only acceptable process: rabbi." I have great respect for Orthodox conversion and deep connections in the Orthodox community, which I cherish. I am also aware of ongoing negotiations in Israel between the streams on the conversion issue that are heading in a positive direction, largely because the deliberations are out of the media limelight. Thus, I was distressed to read that two MKs chose to criticize the Conservative and Reform movements on a visit to Canada, returning this issue to public divisive debate.

MKs Weinberg and Dahan object to the Conservative and Reform movements having pursued Supreme Court challenges to the Orthodox conversion monopoly, because, in so doing, they have "let 'a very dangerous genie' out of the bottle," and have violated the religious status quo.

There is no question but that the court cases challenge the "status quo."

But reading on in the article, one learns that "they [Reform and Conservative Jews] can practise their faith freely in Israel." True, they are not arrested for attending services. But most would assume that religious freedom would include the right of having one's own rabbi officiate at his or her wedding or funeral, clearly not the case for members of Masorti (Conservative) or Mitkademet (Reform) congregations in Israel.

The religious "status quo" in Israel needs fixing desperately. It is not only the non-Orthodox movements that stand to benefit, but the many secular Israelis who are turning their backs on Judaism as well, who likely would respond better to a more diverse religious playing field.

I would have encouraged the visiting MKs to take a closer look at Jewish life in Toronto, where a non-monopolistic Judaism functions rather well.

Jews can (and do) choose the type of synagogue they wish to attend, and streams are free to promote their "versions" of Judaism in an open marketplace. My (Conservative) congregants often receive mailings and solicitations from Orthodox and Reform organizations and institutions. Sometimes they respond by making financial contributions. Sometimes they respond by attending lectures, seminars and other activities. Sometimes, they don't respond.

This is a sign of health, the result of an open religious marketplace. When congregants of mine are drawn to another approach, to the left or to the right, I respect their choice and admire the seriousness with which they approach their Jewish life. When Jews from other streams gravitate to my congregation, I am happy to welcome them, but refuse to disparage the stream from which they have travelled.

An open religious marketplace works well in North America. (Yes, there is assimilation, but don't assume that the absence of Reform, Reconstructionist and Conservative congregations would lead every Jew to Orthodoxy. European countries with negligible non-Orthodox communities have astronomical intermarriage rates.) Israel would benefit greatly from true religious choice. A status-quo that enforces a religious monopoly is an injustice that must be undone.

Rabbi Philip S. Scheim
President, Toronto Board of Rabbis

Opposes complaint against circumcision opponent

Re: "Claims circumcision opponent off base" Letters to the Editor (*CJN*, Oct. 1).

I remain strongly opposed to efforts to criminalize or otherwise delegitimate male circumcision, and I question the interpretation and significance of the medical evidence cited by opponents.

But I disagree with Dr. Joel Rosenberg that there is a firm boundary between medical ethics and religion. In a theocracy, the issue is largely moot. But in a multicultural liberal democracy the two realms intersect often, with no clear boundary. The public, politicians and courts must adjudicate issues as they arise.

Second, Dr. Margaret Somerville is very sensitive to the position of Jewish supporters of circumcision and to the importance of religious rights and freedoms.

Third, I would strongly oppose lodging any formal complaints against her at McGill. That would undermine freedom of speech and academic inquiry – hers, mine and everyone's.

Morton Weinfeld
Montreal

Vatican statement was no apology

Your heading (*CJN*, Sept. 17, p. B36) says in large letters: "Church issues statement of repentance." This is followed by a small article telling us "The Roman Catholic Church apologizes..." for failure to help Jews during the Shoah.

No such thing! I have a copy of this document. It condemns, regrets, sympathizes, blames members of the church. But not a single word of *apology*.

On March 19, you had a front page story with the same theme. Bert Raphael's letter of April 2 corrected you as above. The Vatican's statement is important – but it is not an apology. Also, one wonders why it took 10 years to produce it.

Isadore (Yitzhak) Kalin
Ottawa

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Simon Dubnow: a great historian

By ABRAHAM ARNOLD

In his second decade, Simon Dubnow became a rebel against Jewish Orthodoxy. In his fifth decade, he was drawn into the Jewish revolutionary movement in Russia, though he never became a socialist or a Zionist. In his last decade, he became a victim of the Shoah. His major legacy is his work as a great Jewish historian.

Dubnow is regarded as one of the three giants of modern Jewish historiography, along with Heinrich Graetz, who came before him, and Salo Baron, who followed. Dubnow has also been described as one of three great Jewish scholar-activists of east European Jewish life who were leaders in the secularization of Russian Jewry in the 19th century. The others were Haim Zhitlowski and Achad Ha'Am.

Dubnow was part of a continuum which brought the writing of Jewish history to a new level as social science. He was often in contention with his fellow activists over the path of Jewish self-determination. However, he shared with Zhitlowski and Achad Ha'Am the view that Judaism is a system of culture not based on religion alone. These three personalities are recognized as "path-breakers" in the modern movement of secular humanistic Judaism.

Dubnow was born in 1860 in Mstislavl, White Russia, on the second day of Rosh Hashanah, to a family of rabbis who could trace their lineage back to the Maharal of Prague. He received a cheder education, but at an early age he moved beyond the Bible and the Talmud to read such works as *Josippon*, a medieval history of the Second Temple era, and Moses Mendelssohn's *Biur*, on the Pentateuch. This led him to the Haskalah.

At his bar mitzvah, Dubnow refused to speak on his assigned subject – how a left-handed person should wear his tfillin. He had already written a Hebrew essay critical of religious fanaticism and favoring enlightenment, and he became known as an apikoires, a Jewish heretic. Later he also criticized the traditional cheder.

At age 14, in the official government Jewish school, he discovered the literature and language of Russia and the West. History soon took the place of religion for him, and he considered himself a "free thinker," in the spirit of Elisha ben Abuyah, noted in the Talmud for his "heretical" views.

In 1884, Dubnow visited his home town on the High Holy Days. Everyone was confounded when the grandson of Rabbi Bentsion, spiritual leader of the community, failed to appear in the synagogue on Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur.

Although he turned against Orthodoxy, Dubnow maintained a deep attachment to Jewish learning and shared his grandfather's devotion to Torah lishmah – study for its own sake. He called his grandfather the "spiritual giant who bequeathed to me my attachment to... the Torah, even though it was another Torah, a broad and free one." For him and his grandfather, he said, "the meaning of life was intellectually different... But ethically it was the same."

He had once planned to attend the Jewish theological seminary at Breslau and become a religious reformer. But then he discovered liberal philosophers such as Auguste Comte and John Stuart Mill.

Dubnow also discovered deism and became an agnostic. Yet he wrote, in 1910: "God is so near to me... I have returned... without the ritual and the dogmas, to the source of the spirit from which we both drew" (a reference to the grandfather).

He tried to enrol in the Vilna Jewish Teachers Institute, but he was turned down because it was thought he could not complete the course before being called to the Russian army. Ironically, he was rejected for military service because of poor eyesight.

At the *gymnasium* in Dvinski (Latvia) he endured great hardship as he studied, often living on a diet of bread, herring and tea. In the end, Dubnow failed to get into university because he could not pass an examination in mathematics! And so he became an "auto-didact," a self-trained scholar.

Dubnow was influenced by Ludwig Borne, in whose work he encountered "the voice of protest against despotism... the magic of the revolutionary spirit... (and the) battle for freedom of thought."

Dubnow in his library

Although he was drawn into the revolutionary events in Russia, Dubnow himself was always a moderate humanitarian reformer. He sought to work within the bounds of Judaism and he fought for Jewish rights. But he was not drawn to Zionism. Instead he developed his own theory of Jewish "autonomism," or cultural autonomy.

From 1880 to 1884 Dubnow lived in St. Petersburg, where he began writing and publishing essays in several Russian Jewish publications, including the monthly *Voskhod*, to which he became a regular contributor. His first article on Sabbatai Zevi was followed for more than two decades by essays on Chassidism, on the world history of the Jews and on Judaism; many of these went into his later books.

In 1883, he married Ida Freidlin, whom he had met five years earlier at a literary circle in his home town. They had three children, two daughters and a son. The oldest, Sophie Dubnow-Erlich, (1885-1986) also had a literary career and later wrote her father's biography.

In 1891, Dubnow published a long essay in *Voskhod* on *The Study of the History on the Russian Jews and the Establishment of a Russian Jewish Historical Society*. He also called for the collection of source materials on Russian Jewish history. He now called himself "a missionary for history."

The historical society was not started until 1908, but source materials began to arrive at his door from all over the Russian empire and eastern Europe. He also began digging into archives to find old minute books and build a rich archival collection. His passion for this work was later taken over by the Yiddish Scientific Institute (YIVO), of which he was a strong supporter from the day it was established in Vilna in 1925.

In 1890, the Dubnow family had moved to Odessa, where, for the next 13 years, his career flourished and he became an illustrious scholar and public figure. He described these years as the happiest time in his life.

In Odessa, he met Mendele Mocher-Seforim and Achad Ha'Am, Shalom Aleichem and Chaim Nachman Bialik, among others. They formed a literary circle of about a dozen people who began to meet on Saturday afternoons, either at Dubnow's home or at Mendele's. This group formed a new body called the National Committee, whose aim was to combat assimilation among the Russian Jewish intelligentsia.

Dubnow strongly defended the Yiddish language and Jewish life in the Diaspora. But he also supported Hebrew and Russian as appropriate for Jewish cultural development, explaining that for the Jews one language was never sufficient.

Following the 1903 Kishinev pogrom, Dubnow joined with Bialik and Achad Ha-Am in advocating a campaign against anti-Semitism, including Jewish self-defence. That year he moved from Odessa to Vilna, where, after the failed 1905 revolution, he helped to organize the League for the Attainment of Jewish Rights in Russia, which accepted his program for Jewish autonomous rights. He then worked to establish the Folkspartei, with the goal of electing a solid Jewish bloc to the second Duma.

In 1906, Dubnow moved back to St. Petersburg, the Russian capital, where he often had trouble getting a permit to live. He was named to the chair for Jewish history in the new Free University of Professor Lesgot, but that university was soon closed by the police as part of the clampdown on revolutionary trends. However, Dubnow was able to remain in St. Petersburg until he left Russia in 1922 to get away from the Bolshevik revolution.

Simon and Ida Dubnow moved to Vilna, where he was offered a university post. But he soon decided in favor of overseeing the publication of his books in Germany, Palestine and the United States. For this purpose, they moved to Berlin, where his 70th birthday was celebrated and widely recognized in 1930.

When Hitler rose to power, Dubnow was urged to go to Palestine or to America. He chose instead to move to Riga and wrote: "My friends in Palestine are astonished by my lack of desire to settle there. They don't understand that to change climate, language, the whole structure of life at our age would sap the rest of our strength."

A victim of Nazism himself, Dubnow was shot to death by a drunken Latvian guard in Riga, Dec. 8, 1941. His last words were reputed to be: "Brothers, do not forget! Recount what you hear and see! Brothers make a record of it all."

Dubnow's example in building a Jewish archives inspired Zelig Kalmanovich in the Vilna ghetto and Emanuel Ringelblum in Warsaw to collect the records of the Shoah. (Erlier, Kalmanovich had started a Yiddish translation from the Russian of Dubnow's *World Jewish History*. This was later completed in America.)

Why did Dubnow not leave Europe when a U.S. visa awaited him? There are those who say the decision was a result of his views on Diaspora nationalism. He had once been skeptical about the Balfour Declaration but later changed his mind. He urged all those who saw Palestine as a centre where Jewish autonomy was possible to take part in building it along with card-carrying Zionists.

In his youth, Simon Dubnow attacked "rabbinism," but his grandson, Victor Erlich, says that in his later years, his grandfather was no longer a "militant challenger of the rabbinical establishment." Erlich adds that Dubnow, though not observant, also began to attend synagogue on the Holy Days. But he always retained his secular philosophy.

Dubnow believed that Judaism, is "not merely a religion, like Christianity or Islam ...[but] a body of culture."

"Unique historical conditions," he wrote, "brought... the Jews under the dominance of religion and converted Judaism into an all-embracing world view which encompasses religious, ethical, social, messianic, political and philosophical elements.

"Judaism is broad enough and variegated enough so that any Jew can draw from its source according to his spirit and outlook."

Dubnow was a prolific and prodigious writer on Jewish history and Judaism. He wrote and published in Russian, Hebrew and Yiddish, and his works have appeared in German and in English. Notable among his books in English are *History of the Jews*, five volumes (Yoselloff 1967-1973); *History of the Jews in Russia and Poland*, three volumes (Jewish Publication Society, 1916-1920, reprinted by KTAV, 1975); and *Nationalism and History, Essays on Old and New Judaism* (Jewish Publication Society, 1958). His daughter's biography, *The Life and Work of S.M. Dubnov*, is particularly recommended.

Abraham Arnold is a Jewish writer and historian in Winnipeg.

Opinions

Reflections on the War of Atonement

The Yom Kippur War of 1973 has forever changed the observance of Yom Kippur in Israel. The day is no longer just an occasion for personal reflection and re-evaluation. It has also become an occasion of national reckoning – a day of taking stock. In many ways, the war was Israel's finest military hour.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

The IDF turned the tables, against terrible odds, and proved that it was, indeed, the strongest army in the region. But in Israel's consciousness, the war is identified, not with the victory, but with the *mechdal* – the failure to foresee it – and with the national "blind spot" that misled the political and military leadership of the day.

The Yom Kippur War broke out in Israel's 25th year, and this year, in turn, marks the 25th anniversary of that fateful assault on Israeli forces as the country was immersed in fasting and prayer. Today, there is a generation of young Israelis for whom the 1973 war is distant history and for whom the tales of courage and suffering are part of the nation's mythology.

From the perspective of 2½ decades later, the far-reaching impact of that war on Israel's psyche, society and politics is evident. If the 1967 Six Day War created a myth of invincibility, and, some say, even hubris, the Yom Kippur war resulted in the sobering, painful realization of the limitations of power. In 1973, Israelis recognized, both consciously and subconsciously, that their leadership was not infallible.

The year 1973 marked the transfer of the mantle from the generation of the founders of the state to a younger generation of leaders who would always be challenged more actively than their predecessors. After Levi Eshkol's death, Golda Meir had been persuaded to accept the prime ministership by a faction in Mapai (the old Labor party) who wanted to block the younger "upstarts" like Moshe Dayan and Yigal Allon…In 1974, she resigned, forever wounded by the ultimate responsibility for a war that had claimed the lives of 2,600 Israeli soldiers. Ironically, 1973 was also the year in which the diminutive giant, David Ben-Gurion, died at the age of 87.

If new political and social fissures originated in the heady days following the Six Day war, they rose dramatically to the surface after 1973. The raw trauma of the Yom Kippur War seemed to unleash a wave of grassroots activists who questioned the old political ways and fought for a clearer ideological articulation of their political vision. The settler movement, Gush Emunim, burst upon the Israeli scene in 1974, while the Peace Now movement, led by reserve soldiers, amplified earlier expressions of ambivalence by soldiers in 1967.

The demise of Labor as Israel's natural governing party only found expression in 1977, but the seeds were sown in 1973. The disaffection with the old elite deepened once the results of the Agranat Commission of Inquiry into the war were made public. Subsequent ethical scandals in the first Yitzhak Rabin government, and Rabin's own inexperience, resulted in the anti-Labor vote that catapulted Menachem Begin's Herut to power, following an unbroken 44 years in Opposition in the Yishuv and then the state of Israel.

Begin's rise to power was accompanied by another, significant trend. He was elected to office by a generation of Israelis whose immigrant parents had arrived from Arab countries in the 1950s. These *Mizrachim* had come of age by 1977, and in voting against Labor, they settled their account with the establishment that, in their view, had kept them out of the elite core of Israeli politics and society. The "ethnicization" of Israeli politics continued into the 1980s, climaxing in the sweep of Shas (an ultra-Orthodox, ethnic party that first ran in 1984) in the 1990s, and Benjamin Netanyahu's "coalition of outsiders."

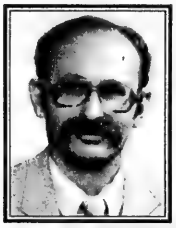
Ironically, it was the Yom Kippur War that first planted the seeds of a negotiated arrangement between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Israel's victory in 1967 was greeted with the resounding three "no's" of the Khartoum Summit. Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat would probably not have come to Jerusalem if not for the initial victory of Egyptian honor in 1973, and the concomitant recognition that Israel could not, in fact, be defeated militarily.

And the 1974 disengagement talks between Israel, the Egyptians and the Syrians were the first direct talks they had held since the armistice talks of 1949. Those negotiations, which were brokered through U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy, paved the way for later talks with Egypt. In the case of Syria, the disengagement agreement has been scrupulously adhered to by the Syrians, and it remains the governing framework for the Israeli-Syrian relationship on the Golan Heights.

In 1973, the nation mourned its dead and wounded. One generation later, in 1998, it rationally assesses the impact of that milestone, but the pain is no less acute.

Monica Lewinsky, the president and liberal Jews

Some weeks ago Senator Joseph Lieberman rose in the U.S. Senate and delivered a stinging moral rebuke to President Bill Clinton about his behavior in the Lewinsky affair. Lieberman's decision could not have been easy, as he is a Democrat and longtime supporter of the Clinton agenda. He did not mince words.



By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

The commentators of the day spoke of the senator as a moral conscience of the Senate. Moreover, they made extensive reference to his being an Orthodox Jew, a man of deep religious conviction and faith.

The senator's position stands in marked contrast to the mainstream, liberal Jewish response. The response here has been a mixture of celebration of the president's publicized atonement flavored by a plethora of references to Yom Kippur; argument that his actions, while deplorable, were essentially private; recognition that he was a good president for Jews and Jewish (liberal) causes, including supporting the peace process; and attacks on Ken Starr and the Republican right.

The Forward featured one story about meetings held by Clinton officials with organized Jewish communal leaders, most of whom were associated with liberal causes. A participant in one meeting kvelled about how Ann Lewis, the president's representative and herself a Jew, used the term tikkun olam to describe the president's position.

A later story in *The Forward* contrasted traditional and liberal Jewish responses. One representative of the group, Toward Tradition, criticized the president and claimed that it was "concern for abuse of power by an executive that led the Bible in Deuteronomy to instruct every Jewish king to always carry a scroll containing the Bible." This contrasts with supporter Steven Grossman, chair of the Democratic National Committee, who is quoted as saying, "Mr. President, the Jewish community will go to shul on Yom Kippur and look to Isaiah…and pray for you." A recent widely circulated e-mail message by a prominent feminist Jewish scholar contained a strident attack on the anti-Clinton efforts.

Perhaps most telling was a story in the *New York Times* describing Clinton's continued support, moral and financial, among "Hollywood Democrats." They allegedly raised $1.5 million (US) for the party at a fundraising dinner at the home of Israeli-born businessman Haim Saban. The article did not mention it, but almost all of the players were Jews.

Why the support for the president? "Hollywood has seen worse," commented one producer and Democrat. Barbra Streisand complained that "the press no longer respected the boundaries between public and private behavior."

Was the president's conduct really private? If Monica Lewinsky were a waitress two blocks from the White House and the president sneaked out to have late night encounters with her, I would agree. There would be no public interest in the matter – though there are always national security risks in such activities.

But it is a matter of public interest. Lewinsky was an intern at the White House, then an employee, and the encounters were held there, in the workplace, often during the work day. Clinton's relationship with Lewinsky falls within the evolving conventions of sexual harassment and/or professional misconduct. It does not matter if she came on to him first. By having an affair with her, he – among many other things – created an unequal or hostile work environment for other interns.

It also may have impacted on the conduct of his office. One of the encounters with Lewinsky took place simultaneously with the president's phone conversation with a member of Congress about American policy toward Bosnia. The fate of thousands of refugees may well have been on the table; we don't know the details of the call. But the grotesque juxtaposition of these two activities – was he concentrating, and on what? – offends any Jew with a sense of history.

I do not support the excesses of Ken Starr, or the hypocritical zeal of the Republican right. Nor do I think the president's actions rise to the level of "high crimes and misdemeanors." But I am also somewhat uneasy about his strong public support from the liberal American Jewish community, with whom I generally identify. It smacks of an amoral quid pro quo or a misplaced loyalty and partisanship.

Stories from the BAR

The *BAR* referred to in the headline is the magazine, *Biblical Archaeology Review*. Published six times a year under editor Hershel Shanks, *BAR* presents a variety of material. It deals with digging up ancient artifacts and construing images of ancient life, and ranges across the entire spectrum of history.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Thus, I looked twice at one headline that read: "Sex scandal rocks government," with a sub-heading: "How do you spell Monica in cuneiform?"

Readers will be puzzled, and understandably so. They are likely to know the meaning of Monica, but may have forgotten that cuneiform was one of the earliest forms of writing, originating in the Mesopotamian valley thousands of years ago.

Of course, the sex scandal alluded to by *BAR*, has nothing to do with the president of the United States, but rather with an event that happened around the year 1400 BCE.

There too, a young lady was involved with a public official. Her name was Humerelli and the official, who bore the cognomen Kushshiharbe, was at the time mayor of Nuzi, an important city in the kingdom of Mittani. Nuzi gained worldwide attention in the 1920s when archeologists found thousands of tablets that told us much about life in those days. Quite expectedly, there were telling parallels to our time.

Here is what *BAR* has to tell us about the young women and the mayor: The latter had allegedly been guilty of immoral behavior with Humerelli, not only once but twice. He had used government agents to bring him to the trysting place, and one of the agents testified to this.

Incidentally, the mayor was accused of other misdeeds as well, including misappropriation of crown property, diverting tax collection for his own use, and accepting bribes.

Now of course you want to know how it all came out. Unfortunately, no tablets containing the verdict were found in the treasure trove of Nuzi. We do not know whether the mayor denied everything or apologized and asked for forgiveness, whether he was judged innocent or was convicted.

You may wonder in what language the Nuzi tablets were written. The answer is Akkadian, which at the time was the language of the cultured elite who could read and write. But most of the people of Mesopotamia did not speak Akkadian; they spoke Sumerian. Thus a contemporary of the mayor and his lady friend would likely converse in Sumerian, but write in Akkadian when recording the facts.

Such a dichotomy has occurred frequently in history. Thus, in the talmudic age, the learned wrote in Hebrew, while the popular language of Jews at the time was Aramaic. (That is the reason why the Talmud is, to a significant degree, written in Aramaic.)

All of this illustrates one potent point: Archeology – while dealing with the past – not only unearths old civilizations, but illuminates our own as well. For human nature has not changed very greatly since the bygone days; a fact reflected in the famous biblical saying, "There is nothing new under the sun."

The Kirshner File

Zvi (Henry) Weinberg's astonishing transformation

By Sheldon Kirshner

Zvi (Henry) Weinberg's transformation is nothing short of astonishing. Not so long ago, he labored in the groves of academia.

Today, he sits in the Knesset as the only non-Russian representative of Natan Sharansky's immigrant party, Yisrael b'Aliyah.

And, as he acknowledged in an interview while passing through Toronto recently, it isn't easy being a politician. "It's a life of hard work and stress."

A professor of French at the University of Toronto until he made aliyah in 1992, Weinberg said that his regimen has changed dramatically since 1996.

In May of that year, Yisrael b'Aliyah won seven Knesset seats, and proceeded to join Benjamin Netanyahu's right-wing coalition government. Since then, Weinberg, who describes himself as left of centre with respect to Israeli political issues, has immersed himself from head to toe in party and state affairs.

Weinberg is a member of several parliamentary committees, including the law and justice committee which oversees 60 percent of all legislation passed by the Knesset, and he travels widely on behalf of the government. Of late, he has visited Russia, Poland and equatorial Africa.

His schedule is so crowded that he has had to make painful sacrifices. "I haven't read a book since the election," complained Weinberg, a divorced father of four who resides in Jerusalem's Ramot district.

For all his dedication to the Knesset, he is not exactly enamored of the rough and tumble of Israeli politics.

Not one to mince his words, he declared, "There is a total lack of courtesy and manners in the Knesset. It is a tough neighborhood. I don't always admire professional politicians."

All too often, he observed, they lack integrity, preen for the camera, engage in uncivil behavior and truly believe that they have a monopoly on the truth.

"That cuts across all parties, except our own," he claimed without sounding sanctimonious. "We don't shout, scream and interject. But I have no illusion that our example will be imitated." He added, "I try, basically, to preserve my principles and remain true to my ideals and conscience."

A Soviet Jewry activist from the 1960s onward, Weinberg joined Yisrael b'Aliyah at its moment of inception in 1995. But politics was always in his blood. He worked for Robert Kennedy during the 1968 California primary and knocked on doors for Canadian MPs.

Impressed by Weinberg's credentials and his sense of purpose, Sharansky and his second-in-command, Yuli Edelstein, asked Weinberg to join the fledgling party's steering committee.

Weinberg, who speaks Russian and six other languages, knew both men. He met Sharansky in 1994 and formed a support group for Edelstein before his departure from the Soviet Union in 1989. (The pair both hold cabinet portfolios, Sharansky being minister of trade and industry and Edelstein being minister of immigrant absorption.)

During the Israeli election, Weinberg barnstormed for Yisrael b'Aliyah and travelled around the country with Sharansky, whom he describes as highly intelligent and dynamic. "He has learned the art of survival, and it helps him now," he said of Sharansky, a former dissident who languished in a gulag for years. "In politics, only the toughest, quickest and brightest can succeed."

Henry Weinberg

In Weinberg's view, there was a genuine need for an ethnic-based party like Yisrael b'Aliyah. "The government didn't quite understand all the complexities of Russian immigration and absorption. There had to be a Russian party to find housing and jobs for new olim."

On the day he took his seat in the Knesset, Weinberg gave up his Canadian and American citizenships, an act, he boasted, which catapulted him into the *Guinness Book of Records*. Appparently, he is the first person to give up both Canadian and American citizenship at the same time.

Weinberg, the second Canadian after the late Dov Joseph to become an Israeli parliamentarian, was born in Cracow in 1935, one of four children of Rachel and Moshe David, a businessman and Jewish community leader.

The Weinbergs left Poland shortly after the outbreak of World War II and managed to elude the Nazis. Weinberg does not like to discuss his family's ordeal, but he disclosed that his father died of typhus while on the run from the Germans and that 22 of his cousins perished during the Holocaust.

In the aftermath of the war, he found himself in France, then spent a year on an Israeli kibbutz, Ein Tzurim. After Israel, he lived in Chicago, taking his BA and MA degrees in French literature at Northwestern University. He received his PhD from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and from 1965 to 1970, he taught at the University of California at Irvine.

A specialist in the 19th century French novel and in literary criticism, Weinberg accepted a position at the University of Toronto in 1970. As a scholar, he has written four books on topics running the gamut from French Jews and Emile Zola to Russian Jewry.

Always a Zionist, Weinberg, a former deputy chair of Canadian Professors for Peace in the Middle East, spent three sabbaticals in Israel while still an academic. "I thought I knew the country, but after moving to Israel I realized this wasn't true."

Israel, he marvelled, is a society which thrives on miracles. "The problems we have to solve in the next few years countries like Canada solved years ago," said Weinberg, an observant Jew who wears a yarmulke indoors and a soft cap outdoors. "We live in a daily state of crisis. Israel's social, economic and ethnic fabric remains very tenuous. Israel is an extremely fragile society."

Weinberg supports the Oslo peace process, though he believes that the Palestinians must exert greater efforts to combat terrorism. He has urged Netanyahu to carry out the American plan for a further 13 percent withdrawal from the West Bank as soon as possible.

The Palestinians, he said, are entitled to statehood, provided they fulfil all the clauses of the Oslo agreements.

As for Lebanon, he believes that Israel should withdraw from the quagmire of its self-declared security zone in the southern part of that country. Weinberg belongs to Yossi Beilin's advocacy group, whose stated goal is a unilateral Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Not surprisingly, Weinberg is a strong exponent of aliyah. "Without aliyah, Israel can't survive. But Israel must not stimulate aliyah from Russia. This could cause problems for Jews. We should not stampede them into a panic."

Weinberg noted that the economic situation in Russia is desperate and that anti-Semitism is widespread. "But I'm not sure many Jews will immigrate to Israel unless there is a total economic collapse. The Jews left in Russia are relatively well off and assimilated. I don't expect mass immigration of the kind of the early 1990s."

Weinberg, who claims he organized the first Russian seder in Toronto more than 30 years ago, concedes that Yisrael b'Aliyah hasn't been able to keep all its promises to its Russian constituents. There is still a shortage of rental apartments and not enough retraining programs. "But we've made the Russian community respectable in the eyes of Israelis. Israeli society is afraid of the Russians."

Weinberg does not plan to run in the next election. "I want time to read and write and to enjoy my grandchildren. I've made my contribution."

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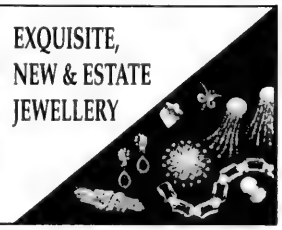

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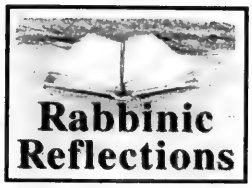

Rabbinic Reflections

By RABBI RONNIE CAHANA

Building a home

There is a chassidic story about a lost and broken man sifting through the rubble of his home after yet another pogrom. All day the Chassid stood there fingering every scrap of what once was. "What are you doing with these shards of rubble?" the rebbe asked him. "I'm rebuilding my home," came the reply. "Why here?" asked the rebbe. "Because here in my memories is where I want God to find me."

Everybody needs a home, seeks it and builds it. And the religious insist desperately that God be a part of that home.

I was born into a small Jewish community in Sweden consisting only of survivors from the Shoah. This may be the only continuing kehila still existing that was settled by refugees from Auschwitz. They were there, I was told, because, while the Swedish government granted asylum to some survivors, the Swedish Jewish lay and religious leaders refused them entry into their cities. So victims from the Shoah were homeless and rejected, even among our own in the communities that were spared destruction.

In 1949, my Israeli father was sent to Sweden by the Sochnut, the Jewish Agency, to be the rabbi for these beleaguered and silenced Jews who were haunted by the horrors they had known but driven by an unheard voice to rebuild the sweet memories of their home. They were in a world that wanted nothing of their memories, and yet unstoppably, they were creators of a new home in a transplanted world.

I believe that I am now the rabbi of a synagogue – the Lodzer Holocaust Centre Congregation – whose members care about being a true religious community. They, who have lived the tragedies of Jewish history, who now live on this side, treasure true freedom and honor human dignity. Like my little community in Sweden, these survivors from Lodz, Poland are here to recreate their home.

In survivor congregations, I don't hear "We are cultural Jews" or "A shul is a business." A shul is not a business. The world doesn't need more businesses or feel-good cultures under the guise of a religious institution; but the world does need more sensitive harbors where friends can express their lost world of spirit and the dreams of the ages in a caring, warm and dignified setting. A synagogue is not judged by how observant the congregants and leaders are. The real issue is not *what kind* of Jew, but *how kind* the Jew.

The message of this synagogue's founders, and for that matter, all survivors is this: One is forbidden to hurt or humiliate another in God's world again. Uplift and never tear down! All must rebuild in God's world.

We are too precious for a petty life or a petty politic. A shul or home in search of a Godly Presence is really more like a sukkah – a flimsy structure that is vulnerable to the elements, yet needs pieced together walls for support. Every little steadying is appreciated.

What's important is not its fineness. What's important is that the stars can be seen through the roof, that everyone in a sukkah can look up to heaven together. At Sukkot, Jews rebuild and God remembers.

Directly after the soul-wrenching inner cleansing of our frailest selves, where we still hold on to the judgments of Yom Kippur, we build the sukkah, exposed, but centring ourselves again in the world. Who is not frail now? Who is not in need? But we build and we invite and we remember that we must change the world into a caring one, to bring the Mashiach speedily forth in our day. Amen.

Rabbi Cahana is spiritual leader of the Lodzer Holocaust Centre Congregation in Toronto.

The Jewish Highway

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

A cholent of Web sites

While surfing the Jewish Highway, you come across some original sites that don't fall into neat categories but do deserve attention. Some of them have a wide appeal; others merit mention because of the care and dedication of their creators. Today, I present a potpourri (or should I say a cholent) of those sites.

When Nachum Shifren talks about "surfing," he uses that term literally. Rabbi Shifren is the creator of Surf & Soul: Jewish Surfers International **[http://www.surfsoul.co.il]**. Like all true surfers, the "surfing rabbi" is a native of Southern California where he rode the waves in Malibu and was a lifeguard for 10 years. After moving to Israel in the '70s, he received his rabbinical ordination. He has now created a Web site that combines his two passions – Jewish outreach and surfing. As the rabbi quotes, "Those who go down to the sea... in mighty waters, they saw the works of God and His wonders in the deep." (Psalms 107:23) **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/kodesh/trace/mthil107.html#23]**.

Polly and Esther Fleagleman are two lively gals just looking for some fun. Don't take my word for it – that's how they describe themselves at their Life in the Fast Lane Web site **[http://members.rotfl.com/cookie4/]**.

The sisters have created a humorous, award-winning site that reflects what seem to be two delightful lives. You'll find everything from recipes (Why say it with flowers when you can say it with *brisket*?) to Tales of the Evil Eye (One should not believe in superstitions but it is best to be heedful of them) to The Art of Collecting Sweet'n'Low (Collecting is not stealing! If there is more than they need, you are just doing a mitzvah so they shouldn't waste it).

When I first came across the next site, I didn't know what to think. But after taking a further look, I marvel at the site's depth and the dedication of its author. Jews in the Civil War is a real eye-opener **[http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Forum/1867/jewish.htm]**. Leah M. Berkowitz's large site is divided into two parallel columns exploring the Jewish experience for the Union and Confederate armies.

Included on the Union side is an examination of whether Ulysses Grant really was an anti-Semite and a letter to Abraham Lincoln from the father of a shomer Shabbat soldier. On the Confederate side, you can read from the diary of Eleanor Cohen Seixas, Southern Patriot, and glance at photos from the Hebrew Confederate cemetery in Richmond, Va., the only Jewish military cemetery in the world outside the state of Israel. There are fascinating excerpts from both Union and Confederate Passover seders.

A few weeks ago, after doing a series of columns on Sephardi music, I received an e-mail from Dr. Judith Cohen of Toronto. "I'm a longtime specialist in Sephardi music, especially Judeo Spanish, with a Web page **[http://www.fusionmill.inter.net/core/judith_cohen/]** and several recordings. I work both as an academic researcher and as a performer, together with my daughter, Tamar Ilana." Some of her research: Judeo-Spanish songs and traditions; ethno-musicological research with Portuguese Crypto-Jews in Belmonte; and a discography of Judeo-Spanish song!

Have you created a Web page that you are proud of? Or is there a Jewish page you find yourself constantly revisiting that you feel everyone should know about? Please e-mail me about them at address below.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Jewish Life

Jewish business ethics

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***Business Ethics: A Jewish Perspective*, by Moses L. Pava (KTAV, $25).**

In recent years a wave of financial scandals has shaken the Jewish community. How to conduct one's business ethically is emerging as a central concern among rabbis and responsible community leaders.

It is shocking that even some pious Jews, punctilious about ritual laws and observances, tend to overlook some of Judaism's ethical commandments.

We are commanded in the Torah, "You must not steal, you must not act deceitfully, you must not lie to one another." Theft, fraud, payoffs, bribes, "insider trading" violate what is basic in Judaism.

The talmudic literature is full of laws governing commercial life: how an employer is to behave toward his employees and the duties of employees to their employer; which prices are legitimate and which constitute overcharging; how false weights and measures are to be avoided; how business contracts are to be drawn up; how conditions of sale are to be made binding; what is fair and what unfair competition.

A fourth-century Babylonian teacher, Rava, said that on Judgment Day the first question God asks a man is: "Were you reliable in your business dealings?" The talmudic sages based their approach to ethics on the biblical verse, "And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord." Before contemplating any business deal a person should not only consider whether it will be to his advantage or whether it is legal or illegal, but whether it is good and right in God's eyes.

Moses L. Pava is a professor at Yeshiva University's School of Business. His book looks at both the substance and methods of Jewish business ethics. His emphasis is on introducing and interpreting classical Jewish texts in the light of the contemporary situation in the marketplace.

He makes clear, drawing on the insights of Jewish scholars old and new, that economic activities are never to be viewed as ends in themselves. Rather, at the individual and national levels, they must be regarded as a means toward building a just and caring society in which the best of human and spiritual values may flourish.

He quotes a student who wrote, "There is a real business world out there and people have to out-manoeuvre each other. If one is more successful than the other, it does not mean that the person was being unethical. It just implies that the person was more witty than his competitors."

Whatever the merits of this view might be as a description of the way we actually live, the author emphasizes that it falls well short of Jewish ideals.

Pava discusses such matters as the substance of Jewish business ethics and the need of going "beyond the letter of the law." The book, however, tends to be abstract and theoretical, rather than down to earth and pragmatic. But this is a necessary study on an increasingly complex and vital subject: how to achieve a realistic and meaningful ethic that flows from the conjunction of the "ideal and the real, the heavenly and the earthy, the theoretical and the practical."

'I felt adrift'

By SUSAN BERRIN

Guest Voices

The day we left Victoria I felt my life was full of chaos and question, and I was struck by how "normal" life appeared as we drove to the airport.

Each of us, feeling some relief that the packing was complete, wondered about the next weeks of transition and change.

Having lived for 16 years as the rabbinical family in Victoria, we had nurtured deep roots and created strong bonds. But after a year's sabbatical in Boston (Newton, to be exact), we returned to Victoria feeling less secure about our future. We realized that, as a family, we needed a larger Jewish community, a deeper pool of resources for our growing children.

Our decision to leave Victoria rested on the sadness of leaving dear friends and a supportive community. But our commitment to our children continued to propel us back to Boston. We had all made good connections during our sabbatical: The children had attended wonderful Jewish day schools; we had joined two vibrant synagogues; and we had begun to meet people, with the promise of meaningful and profound friendship.

Our arrival in Boston in late July felt surreal. After all our planning and organizing, our tearful goodbyes, had we really arrived to begin what we hoped would be the fulfilment of our new dreams?

After a brief stay with family, we moved our few portable belongings to our first house-sitting assignment. Because we had not yet found a house to buy or rent, we had left most of our belongings in Victoria, packed and ready for the moving van to be summoned in a few weeks.

Our first task, after settling our son Yossi at Camp Yavneh in New Hampshire (our daughter Noa had been there since the beginning of July as a counsellor in training), and arranging for our 7-year-old Tzvia to attend a local Jewish day camp, was to find a house.

We began looking in earnest a day or two after our arrival in Newton. We had several requirements: The house had to be within walking distance of the two shuls we attended and the community we were beginning to call our *chevra*. The children needed to be able to walk on Shabbat with the groups of friends who made Shabbat such a rich experience. The house needed to have four bedrooms so that the children could each have some of their own space. The house had to be available immediately – we were desperate to be settled before the children began school in September, and the price had to be within our budget.

We finally decided on the "right" house. Our offer, then counter offer, were accepted just before Shabbat. It was with some relief, some joy and some resignation that we entered Shabbat – our task complete, but knowing that the house, while it met all our requirements, was far from the gracious home we had left in Victoria. We were practising the art of compromise.

For our first Shabbat, we attended services at the Newton Centre Minyan, a well-organized chavurah-style group of 150 families. Without a building of its own, the group meets in a church social hall. When we were here for sabbatical, we alternated between this shul and one that is liberal orthodox. After a couple weeks of alternating, our then 5-year-old daughter Tzvia asked, "This Shabbes are we going to shul or church?" A careful explanation that the service was only held at a church, set her straight.

We were welcomed warmly, and invitations for Shabbat dinner and lunch were profuse.

Only during the returning of the Torah, singing Eitz Chayim Hi, a passage that became especially meaningful to me when we inscribed it on the gravestone of my Aunt Belle, did the tears start to roll down my cheeks. I think, in part, it was the relief that we had actually made it. Although we still have so much to settle, and we know the transition is just beginning, we had accomplished so much in the last several weeks.

But I think the tears were also for my community in Victoria. I stood on my own. Around me were friends who had encouraged our move and helped us in innumerable ways to make possible what we have referred to as "aliyah to Newton." I trust these friendships will grow deep and solid, but at that moment I felt unmoored, adrift in these new waters.

Susan Berrin will be a Guest Voice from time to time, chronicling her family's move from Victoria, B.C., to Boston.

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Author chronicles life in Nazi-occupied Hungary

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Not many people live a life so exciting that it can make a good book.

But that is what North Yorker Emery Rodan has achieved with the publication of his book, *111 Main Street*, about his hairbreadth escapes from the Nazis in Hungary. He is currently writing a screenplay describing his experiences.

The Rodan odyssey includes back-breaking work in a labor camp near the town of Koeszeg in Hungary; hiding in two bunkers in Kosice, one below the dome of a synagogue; witnessing the shooting of Jews on the banks of the Danube by the Arrow Cross, the pro-Nazi Hungarian militia; and a sojourn in Venezuela before coming to Canada.

In the Koeszeg labor camp, Rodan was in a unit that blasted rock from the mountain to be used in a road. Part of the process required him to hold a steel bit while two other men hammered it into the rock with a sledgehammer. One day, a spark flew into his eye, resulting in his hospitalization, and saving him from deportation, along with the other Jews, to a concentration camp.

His tale is a recital of what happened to all the members of his large mishpachah, and though told in a chatty, day-to-day style, it vibrates with the excitement of momentous events.

His saddest memory, he writes, is of visiting his uncle, Moritz, in Israel, who was then almost blind and penniless, but was once one of the wealthiest men in the former Czechoslovakia.

One of his closest calls came when he and his brother Leslie were arrested in Budapest by the Arrow Cross, but released at the urging of the crowd.

Rodan's father died when he was only 15 years old and Emery had to enter the family's textile business at 111 Main Street – the title of his book. It was behind a facade at this location that the Rodan family hid in a bunker.

The 76-year-old Rodan can look back on a life of ups and downs anchored by his romance and eventual marriage to Rosalie, another survivor. The Rodans have two children, Robert in Toronto and Marilyn in New York.

Emery Rodan

Rosalie Rodan

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Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	----------	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	6:15 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 8:00 & 8:45 AM	6:30 & 7:15 AM	6:15 PM
Beth HaMinyan (C)	70 Ridge Hill Dr. (416) 785-3655	----------	9:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 & 9:00 AM	6:00 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	6:15 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Lodzer Centre (C)	12 Heaton St. (416) 636-6665	5:30 PM	9:00 AM	----------	9:00 AM	----------
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	6:20 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:15 Oct. 20-21 7:30 Oct. 19, 22, 23	6:10 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	8:30 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

Community Matters

Russian Middle Class Looks to Israel

By Adi Neuberger

There's a new Jewish face to the financial crisis in the former Soviet Union, with Jewish Agency officials warning that economic and political erosion are giving rise to a different category of Olim.

While Jewish Agency emissaries maintain the prevailing sentiments among Russia's Jews are uncertainty and concern, not panic, and fear, middle class Jews are being particularly hard hit by the recent economic downturn. The middle class is now contemplating aliyah to escape the aftermath which some predict could include renewed anti-semitism.

"Many young Jewish professionals have lost a lot of money and political influence literally overnight," reports Baruch Gur, Director General of Keren Hayesod, which is supported by the world-wide UJA Federation system.

Never before, according to Gur, have the prospects of moving to Israel been so appealing to an increasing number of Jews who prospered after Communism and never thought they would face financial danger.

"These potential new olim are mostly young to middle aged professionals who hold little hope of recovering from their losses," says Gur. "It's not a situation where they are fighting for their life - just their livelihood."

While Gur cautions that significant middle class emigration will not begin for several months, he notes an increase in the number of 20-45-year-old professionals signing up for Hebrew language ulpan classes in major cities.

"World Jewry must be able to respond with immediacy to help Russian Jews who want to make aliya during the next few months and years," stresses Joseph Steiner, president of UJA Federation. "This situation and the potential for a new phase of aliyah adds a sense of urgency to the campaign which is underway to raise funds for Jewish rescue."

The current community Campaign for Fifty, to raise $50 million annually by 2001, will allocate $13.5 million to programs strengthening Jewish identity, assisting the vulnerable and rescuing Jews from insecure regions, such as the FSU. Since 1989, the Jewish Agency, with UJA Federation funding, has brought nearly 800,000 from the FSU to Israel. The current rate of emigration is 4,000 a month.

Getting Ready to Phone for Fifty

UJA Federation's upcoming Phoning for Fifty telethons, October 18 - 22 and November 15 - 19, signal the second critical phase of its most ambitious community campaign ever, to raise $50 million annually by the year 2001. Hundreds of campaigners have raised nearly $23 million so far, which includes over $4 million in increased gifts.

Phoning for Fifty telethon co-chairs Marlene Axmith, Cheryl Jackson and Richard Sadowski are determined to keep up the strong momentum which has already propelled the campaign to historic heights, but they caution that maintaining momentum is a lot more difficult than creating it. They also emphasize the personal rewards of performing charity and helping Jews in need.

"By just taking a few hours to make some phone calls, one person can help raise thousands of dollars," explains Jackson, who brought her two daughters Sari and Devra to make calls during the September telethons. "It's simple," adds Jackson. "If we don't make the calls we don't raise the money and thousands don't receive much needed help."

"These telethons give everyone the chance to perform a mitzva," says Sadowski, who hopes to be joined by his 98-year-old grandmother. "Bringing family members along helps reinforce the Jewish value of tzedakah for generations to come," he adds.

The Campaign for Fifty will be allocating $13.5 million in new funds to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews from danger.

To register for a telethon shift, days or evenings, please call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

Campaign for Fifty telethons are drawing large numbers of families like (l-r) David, Tina and Judy Engel to make calls on behalf of Jews in need.

*Young leadership volunteers from UJA Federation's hugely successful **Hands On Toronto** project coordinated a fun filled Sukkah decorating day for residents of Mount Sinai Hospital and Jewish Family and Child Services' Big/Little Brothers/Sisters. Program Chair Elyza Litwin is looking forward to next year!*

Jewish TORONTO

Weathering the Storm

Worried about your investments? UJA Federation's Young Business Network and Young Professional's Network are holding a panel discussion with Jonathan Goodman, Vice-President, Goodman & Company, and Dr. Ruth Getter, Senior Vice-President and Chief Economist for the TD Bank, on **Thursday October 15, 7:30 p.m.** at the North York City Centre's Burgundy Room. Tickets, $18 in advance or $20 at the door, can be obtained by calling (416) 635-2883 ext. 107.

Generation Next

Future leaders of the Jewish community won't want to miss **The Young Leadership EuroConference, November 13-15,** in London England, where the focus will be on Israel: The Next Generation. Hundreds of other young leaders from England, France, Germany, Italy, South Africa, Australia, the Netherlands, Israel and, of course, Canada will gather in the British capital for political discussion, workshops, tours and plenty of shmoozing. For more information call Avi Benlolo at (416) 631-5688.

Hurricane Relief

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto together with UJA Federations of North America are collecting funds for victims of **Hurricane Georges** which devastated South Florida and the Caribbean last month. Donations can be made by calling the UJA Federation Hotline at (416) 631-5705.

Don't forget to sign up for UJA Federation's upcoming Phoning for Fifty Telethons! Call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Greater Toronto Area

Ethiopian Jew studies for Conservative rabbinate

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Yafete Alemu braved wild animals in the desert when he fled Ethiopia in 1982, but what frightens him today are divisions in Israeli society.

A longtime community activist who co-founded South Wing to Zion (a breakaway group from Israel's Ethiopian umbrella organization), he has been involved in bringing 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel. Over 70,000 Ethiopians, half of whom are under age 18, live in Israel today.

Alemu, who lives in Jerusalem, is the first Ethiopian oleh to study for the Conservative rabbinate. He hopes to repair some of those societal divisions – particularly for Ethiopian youth – by establishing an educational institute to be called Midreshet L'Yahadut Ethiopia (The Institute for Ethiopian Jewry), following his ordination next year.

Alemu, a compact, affable man in his late thirties, was brought to Toronto recently by UJA Federation to speak to community groups and at Jewish schools and synagogues. In a 90-minute interview, he discussed some of the issues facing Ethiopian olim and told of his escape from Ethiopia, a story filled with drama and poignancy.

As a young teenager, Alemu studied Bible and prayer with a kes (an Ethiopian Jewish spiritual leader) and planned to become a kes himself. Living in a Jewish village in Gondar, about 1,000 km from Addis Ababa, Alemu and his family practised an observant biblical lifestyle.

Among Jewish practices he recalls, menstruating women would sit in a "special hut" for seven days. People who had touched a dead body would also "sit out of the house" for seven days, following which they would immerse themselves in the river for purification.

Because the community had been isolated from other Jews since before the time of the Second Temple, they knew nothing of the Talmud or midrash. Alemu is grateful to have the opportunity to learn about them now, he said.

The crocheted kippah on his head is the most obvious sign of his religious evolution. "We came [to Israel] to continue to be Jewish," he said. "Can we continue as we were in Ethiopia? No. We have to continue our Jewishness in a modern way."

At the same time, he is deeply concerned about Ethiopian youth who are "like a plant without roots." Many have abandoned their Judaism, he said, and some identify more with black American culture

Yafete Alemu

than with religious or secular Israeli culture.

Many of the newcomers are studying in youth villages, separated from their families and becoming more "Israeli," while the older generation (over age 40) is having difficulty adapting.

After 15 years in Israel and having served in the IDF, Alemu considers himself "like any Israeli."

Raised in an openly observant family, Alemu didn't hide his Jewish background like some of the Ethiopian city dwellers did.

That changed in 1982. With an ORT scholarship to study computer science at Brooklyn College in New York, Alemu had just boarded the airplane in Addis Ababa that was to take him out of the country. He was ordered off, with his hands up, and interrogated for four consecutive days at a government security office.

"Why are Jewish people running [from Ethiopia]?" he was asked. "Why do you want to go through Israel to America? What do Jewish people look like? What do they eat?"

"They are farmers," Alemu answered. "They eat food. They look like me and like any other Ethiopians."

He was warned he would be in trouble if he tried to leave Addis Ababa. "We know you are Jewish," he was told.

Fearing imprisonment, he fled the capital city, even though his identity card and passport – without which it was forbidden to travel – had been confiscated.

Prayer helped dissipate his fear. He boarded a bus heading toward his village, to tell his wife, Adna – whom he'd married at 17 – of his plans to leave the country on foot. At least three times on his way home, he narrowly escaped detection.

Once, an angry, armed soldier entered the bus, demanding identity papers from all the passengers. "I knew if he caught me, he would kill me."

Suddenly inspired, Alemu rose from his seat and began to collect the requested items from his fellow passengers. The soldier accepted the batch of papers, returned them to Alemu and wished him a peaceful journey.

Alemu still asks himself why nobody challenged him and what caused the change in the soldier's attitude. "For me there's one answer. God came and helped me."

Adna, who was two months' pregnant with their third child, wanted to leave Ethiopia with him, but he felt the journey would be too perilous. "She cried, and I cried," he recalls.

"At least I have children," he told her. "Help them to grow up."

For 28 days Alemu walked through the desert to Sudan, rationing his food and water. He travelled at night, deeming wild animals less of a risk than daytime fighting between soldiers and anti-government forces.

At the Sudanese border, he requested political asylum, still not admitting his religious affiliation. With the help of a Jewish Red Cross official posted in Sudan, he arrived in Israel three months later.

Shortly afterward, he began to

Continued on page 17

You could be sitting on thousands of dollars.

Greater Toronto Area

Masorti has much to offer Ethiopian Jews: Alemu

Continued from page 16

study nursing and now works part-time as a registered nurse at Hadassah Hospital. Adna and their children arrived in 1986 on Operation Moses. She also trained as a nurse and works at Shaare Zedek Medical Center. They had a fourth child eight years ago.

A sense of urgency about the Jewish future of Ethiopian youth was an important factor in Alemu's decision to pursue rabbinic studies. He is also working on a master's degree in Jewish history, specializing in community education.

"The [Ethiopian] child doesn't understand the father and the father doesn't understand his child," Alemu said. "I can't imagine what will happen if we don't do something today in the field of education. I think it will be very bad."

His proposed institute, which is still short of funding, is to include five staff kessim to teach Ethiopian tradition. Alemu will provide the link between Ethiopian tradition and rabbinic tradition. Eight students are involved in the project, and will teach parents and children together.

Alemu chose to study at the (Conservative) Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies after a representative of an Orthodox yeshiva told him the Orthodox institution would teach him "the right way." At the Conservative institute, by contrast, he felt he was respected as an equal. There are a handful of Ethiopians who have become Orthodox rabbis, he noted.

The Masorti (Conservative) movement has much to offer not only Ethiopian Jews, but the entire Jewish community, Alemu said.

Proposed institute short of funding

"They are not left. They are not right. They are a middle. It doesn't matter whether in Israel or abroad, we need a middle ground that [helps] us understand each other."

Although Alemu is comfortable with the Conservative movement, he is uncomfortable with divisions in Judaism. "For me, Conservative...is just a name. The important thing is what we can do on behalf of the Jewish people to continue Jewish tradition."

He fears the implications of "misunderstandings" within Israeli society. "Religious people don't want to sit with non-religious, and sometimes there is hatred, which [is increasing]. That is dangerous."

As a black Israeli, he admits to having been "stereotyped," but won't go so far as to use the word racism. It's common for Israelis to think Ethiopians can't get things done, he explained.

He hasn't let that deter him.

"I want to give [Ethiopian young people] roots, so they know their tradition and respect their tradition. And let them understand that the basis is the same. We're all Jews. We have the same basis – the Torah."

A PARTING MEMENTO

Claudia Bali, of the Danforth Jewish Circle (DJC) board, presents Rabbi Hank Skirball of Jerusalem with a Toronto Blue Jays' jacket. Rabbi Skirball led the High Holy Day services for the DJC for the last three years. **[Barbara Silverstein photo]**

Phoning for Fifty Telethons

October 18-22, November 15-19

Participate in our **Phoning for Fifty** telethons, by giving a gift or donating your time. The money we raise could subsidize a March of the Living experience for Toronto teens, allow underprivileged children to attend summer camp or rescue Jews from the former Soviet Union. Hundreds of thousands are depending on your commitment during these days of family fun and fundraising at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street. Our historic **Campaign for Fifty,** with an annual fund raising objective of $50 million, will support new programs to **strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable** and **rescue Jews in danger.** As a **Phoning for Fifty** volunteer, you could be Flying for Fifty as well. For every donor card completed, your name will be entered in a draw for a **free, round trip ticket to Israel,** courtesy of Air Canada. To volunteer for this wonderful opportunity to change Jewish lives, call Silvia Astrug at (416) 635-2883 ext.115.

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Sigmund Freud	*Monday, October 19 at 8:00 p.m.*
Albert Einstein	*Monday, October 26 at 8:00 p.m.*
Elie Weisel	*Monday, November 2 at 8:00 p.m.*

Jewish Interest Reading Group

A series of discussions of contemporary books facilitated by *Gerry Ziedenberg*

"Amcha" by *Morris Bitterman*
Tuesday, October 20 at 8:00 p.m.

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A current events discussion series. *Mr Shabir Ally,* President of the Islamic information and Da'wah Centre International in Toronto will be our guest as we discuss the future of Jewish/Islamic relations and the prospects of peace in the Middle East.

Saturday, October 31, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

A Symposium on Being Jewish

Join us for a video presentation by *Jonathan Perlman* of his award winning documentary "The Chosen People", followed by a discussion facilitated by *Henry Alkin.*

Tuesday, November 3, 1998 at 8:00 p.m.

For more information please contact the Synagogue Office at (416) **221-3433**. Non-members are welcome. ($5.00 charge may apply)

Morris heads to Jerusalem

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —As a 20-year-old student at Hebrew University, Nomi Morris of Toronto dreamed that one day she would be a foreign correspondent covering Jerusalem and the world around it.

Today that dream has come true, as Morris, now 36, has been appointed Middle East bureau chief for Knight Ridder Newspapers. Her posting, based in Jerusalem, begins Nov. 9.

The daughter of Gerald and Gloria Morris of North York, she is leaving her job as senior writer on international affairs (and sometimes deputy foreign editor) for *Maclean's* magazine.

Morris' return to Jerusalem is bashert. It was her first visit to Israel with her family at age 14 that inspired her to become a journalist, and her first newspaper reporting job was with the *Jerusalem Post* in 1984.

She later freelanced in Toronto for a number of publications (including *The CJN*, and spent three years as a *Toronto Star* staffer. After her stint with the *Star*, she spent five years freelancing in Berlin and serving as *Time* magazine's Berlin correspondent. She then returned to Canada to join *Maclean's* staff.

Nomi Morris [Phill Snel – *Mclean's* photo]

Knight Ridder owns 31 dailies in the United States, including the *Miami Herald*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and the *Detroit Free Press*, and has 350 subscribers to its news service, including the *Toronto Star*. Morris says she expects that some of her stories will appear in the *Star*.

Morris cut her teeth in the news world at the *Star*, and says her *Star* assignment to cover the tearing down of the Berlin Wall was the watershed which plunged her into foreign reporting.

Freelanced for The CJN

She returned to Toronto, but in 1990, she left the *Star*. With one duffle bag and a laptop computer, she took off on her own for Berlin, where she freelanced for the CBC, the *Financial Post*, the *Ottawa Citizen*, Canadian Press, as well as many American newspapers and wire services. Along the way, she became fluent in German.

But she tired of the time it took to handle the business end of freelancing in Berlin and took on full-time work for *Maclean's*.

A graduate of University of Toronto Schools and McGill University, Morris majored in international politics and Middle Eastern affairs.

Fluent in Hebrew, she is boning up on her Arabic, since she will be responsible for covering the entire Middle East. In Jerusalem, she will have a four-bedroom house in Beit HaKerem. An apartment in Cairo is also reserved for her.

Before she leaves for her new job with her 4-year-old son, Misha, she will be busy winding up her affairs and selling her house in the Broadview-Danforth area.

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Vandals strike Jewish sites in three cities

Continued from page 1

read: "Satan Rules" – and threats to return to the home, which had also been broken into about 14 months earlier, but without vandalism.

"It's like we were invaded," Jocelyne Bohbot told *The CJN*. "I came in and screamed, 'Oh my God!' "

"This was a real nice birthday for my daughter," Simon Bohbot said. "This time, they very maliciously left messages."

The Bohbots indicated that whoever invaded their house may have been staking out the property. The family left their home several hours before Yom Kippur began and did not return until about three hours after it ended – an absence of over 30 hours.

They said their home was probably entered through a basement window that they discovered was broken.

The family was at a loss to explain any possible motive behind the attack or its level of viciousness.

In Ottawa, officials at Ecole Maimonides are appealing to all Canadian Jews for financial help in repairing the French immersion Torah day school.

A local anonymous donor has agreed to match half of all funds raised until Oct. 25.

The fire, set after someone broke in through a window, was the second at the school in four years. There were no arrests made in a 1994 arson attack.

The latest blaze caused extensive damage, including from water and smoke.

The school's 100 or so students are faring well, said principal Rabbi Menachem Blum.

"Their spirits are good. We had a sukkah, and the Museum of Civilization [in Hull] opened their doors to us," he told *The CJN*.

Meantime, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has offered a $5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the attack at Toronto's Bloor Street JCC.

No one was hurt, but an estimated $10,000 in damage was caused by the fire, which was centered in a storage area at the south end of the building.

Police and the fire department were summoned to the scene by a passerby who called 911 around 1 a.m. After extinguishing the blaze, fire officials discovered that the plate glass window on the rear door to the storage area was smashed.

Two gas-soaked rags were found at the scene. A two-foot stick with a swivel device on it that was used to start the fire was also found, said Det. Sgt. James Ramer, the police hate crimes liaison officer with 14 Division in Toronto.

Noting that the attack took place during a Jewish holiday (Sukkot) and that there were similar, earlier arson incidents in Ottawa, police immediately treated the Bloor JCC fire as a hate crime, Ramer said.

"CJC will work cooperatively with the Toronto Police Services and the Bloor JCC to apprehend those responsible for this crime," said Ellen Cole, chair of community relations for Congress' Ontario region. "This was an attack on one of our key institutions."

Attack on Sukkot

Cole noted that "in the past, these attacks had been known to occur around Jewish holidays."

Bloor JCC director Bill Emery said that in his 11 years at the facility, he could recall no other incidents of arson. On one occasion, a bomb threat was called in, and another time someone daubed an outside wall with "a hard-to-decipher slogan" that may have been anti-Semitic.

Emery said his initial "gut reaction" – one shared by many at the centre – was that the fire was a case of simple vandalism without racial motivation. "I think it's a case of being downtown," he said.

Emery noted that in the past, the Bloor JCC and its neighbors had experienced broken windows and kicked-in doors. But, he added, "this is a serious business. We're glad police are stepping up their patrols of the building [and] are treating this as a hate crime."

Prior to the High Holy Days, Congress hosted a security meeting in the Lipa Green Building for representatives of various Jewish organizations and agencies, and security precautions during the holidays were discussed. Police from Toronto, York and Durham regions attended, as did officers of the Ontario Provincial Police. The pre-holiday security meeting has become standard procedure in the Jewish community.

In the wake of the attack on the Bloor JCC, "Congress will consider whether to issue a security advisory alert," to warn Jewish agencies to be "more vigilant," Cole said.

That might include warning employees and users of the buildings to "look out for new people."

Emery said, "Right now, there is no time when there is no one in the building."

A day after the fire, it was business as usual at the centre, although a strong odor hung over the gym.

The storage area was a charred mess and a $5,000 trampoline was damaged, as was other "circus equipment," including rigging for a trapeze. Thanks to the quick response of the fire department, fire damage to the building was minor, Emery said.

It was too early to determine the full extent of the damage to equipment, he added.

Meanwhile, the Bohbots, as well as David Sultan, community relations director of Canadian Jewish Congress' Quebec region, expressed concern that it took police 14 hours to respond to the family's call.

Constable Fradet said that was probably because the family dialed 911, a central police line staffed by civilians, who advised the Bohbots to wait until morning because there was no personal injury or threat to life involved.

But the Bohbots feel police should have responded much faster.

"When the police officer came to the door, her jaw just dropped," Simon Bohbot said.

Police said their investigation will continue.

Carrie and Adam's hope is alive and doing well for the Hospital for Sick Children.

Hilary (second from right) and Brenda (left) with friends, lending a helping hand at the Hospital for Sick Children.

When Hilary Prusznowski lost her child to cancer, and her friend Brenda lost her child to Riley-Day syndrome they wanted to keep their kids' hope alive – that other kids wouldn't have to go through such pain and suffering.

For the past two years, Hilary and Brenda have hosted an annual fund raising dinner and auction. The Carrie & Adam Dream Fund Dinner and Silent Auction has raised over $200,000 for two programs at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto: Paediatric Oncology (cancer) Research and the Therapeutic Clown Program. The latter, only the second of its kind in Canada, involves clowns and helps children deal with the loneliness and fear of staying in the hospital.

As one co-volunteer tells it, "Hilary is so passionate and dynamic in speaking about her vision, it's hard not to get involved."

Hilary works for Royal Bank in Metro Toronto. She's just one of many Royal Bank staff across Canada who take time out to help in their communities. And we'd just like to take this opportunity to thank them for doing what they do.

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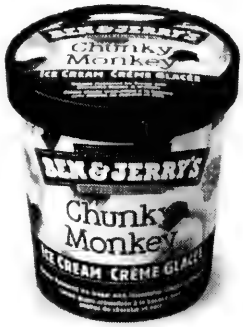

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Concordia U launches Jewish studies program

MONTREAL — Concordia University, through its Campaign for a New Millennium, has established the Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies.

The institute combines academic research with an outreach program serving the Montreal Jewish community.

It became a reality, thanks to the generosity of Andrea and Charles Bronfman and Seagram Company Ltd., who jointly provided $1 million to the university's capital campaign.

According to the institute's acting director, Norma Joseph, "Concordia has been doing groundbreaking research on the Canadian Jewish experience. We now have a real opportunity to put our knowledge into practice, to the benefit of the community."

Students will work within community agencies and associations through an internship program, while pursuing their research activities.

Some of the funding will be directed to graduate fellowships. "Graduate work is expensive, and many of our brightest young men and women are unable to pursue higher studies without financial support," said Joseph.

The institute will also offer seminars and lectures to the general public. A course titled The Canadian Jewish Experience will be taught by Ira Robinson, in cooperation with the Jewish Public Library beginning in January.

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SEC gets young people hopping

By PERLITTA ETTEDGUI
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Toronto chapter of The Sephardic Educational Centre (SEC), recently held a party for Israel's 50th anniversary at The Guvernment, a downtown night club.

More than 400 young adults and community supporters danced into the early hours of the morning, to music provided by the Shorasheem Band..

Established in 1996, SEC, an international, non-profit, youth organization, has more than 40 volunteers, one staff member and many community supporters.

SEC's mandate is to create educational and social events, and bring Jewish young people together in comfortable settings where they can mingle and become involved in community causes.

Esther Benquesus, one of SEC's founders, says that among the centre's goals are a quarterly newsletter, a second annual Shabbaton, continuing a series of book club meetings, and the creation of a Web page.

The party involved young adults from Sephardi and Ashkenazi backgrounds and from varying religious orientations.

SEC donated all proceeds to Magen David Adom, Israel's aid and ambulance service.

Prizes raffled off at the event included a trip to Israel donated by El Al Airlines, a Roots leather jacket, and a diamond pendant from Rasko Diamonds.

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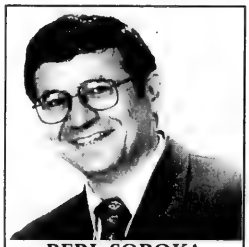

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From coast to coast

Vancouver Federation changes funding process

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver (JFGV) is switching from an agency-based to a program-based method of funding local services.

The goal is to show donors to the Lower Mainland's Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) campaign how their contributions are spent.

Mitch Gilbert, JFGV's director of planning and community services, said in an interview that the new system was used this year to allocate $1.8 million for the 1998-99 fiscal year (Sept. 1-Aug. 30).

"The board of Federation had been discussing switching to program-based allocation for years," Gilbert said. "The board decided in the spring of 1997 to go to the new system."

Since JFGV was formed in 1986, he said, it has allocated funds from the campaign directly to its constituent agencies (currently 21, including day and supplemental schools). Under the old method, each agency submitted its budget to an eight-person allocations planning committee (APC) of the federation's board.

The APC looked at all the budgets presented to it, and then divided up the available funds among the agencies.

Under the new system, Gilbert said, the agencies submit applications for each of the programs they administer. The APC then meets two or three times a week over the next three months to sift through the applications it receives. The committee writes a report containing its recommendations, which it presents to the federation's full board of directors. Finally, the board votes on the committee's recommendations and makes the allocations.

Gilbert said the allocations are made from five "envelopes," or funding areas:

- Infrastructure – a predetermined "core grant" for each of the three largest agencies supported by the campaign – JFGV itself, the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver and the Jewish Family Service Agency;
- Social services – for poverty relief, immigrant resettlement and seniors programs;
- Education – for formal Jewish education, including day and supplemental schools, and for the first time, the Jewish Education Council;
- Youth – for youth programs and camping bursaries;
- Arts and culture – for Jewish history programs and the annual Jewish film festival.

Gilbert said the federation board decided to switch to program-based allocation so that donors to the CJA campaign can get a better idea of how their money is being spent.

He said the new method of allocation allows JFGV to play a more proactive role in the community. "Federation is not here just to raise money. We're also here to build the community. In partnership with the agencies, the new system lets us point to the programs and say, 'Those are the services that are needed.'"

Barry Corrin, executive director of Jewish Family Service Agency (JFSA), told *The CJN* he understands the desire of donors and funders to monitor contributions to the campaign. "I know what it's like, because I'm a donor, too," Corrin said.

For program-based allocation to be effective, Corrin said, there needs to be a process in place that accurately determines the spending priorities of the community.

"Otherwise, there is the possibility that real community needs will be missed," Corrin said. "The agencies are often in the best position to determine what the real needs of the community are."

Gabe Meranda, executive director of Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation, said Hillel has an advantage over some other agencies in the Lower Mainland. "We're unique. We target a particular demographic group – Jewish university students – that nobody else serves. As a result, the competition for dollars from the youth envelope isn't as fierce, even though Hillel still has to sell its programs to Federation."

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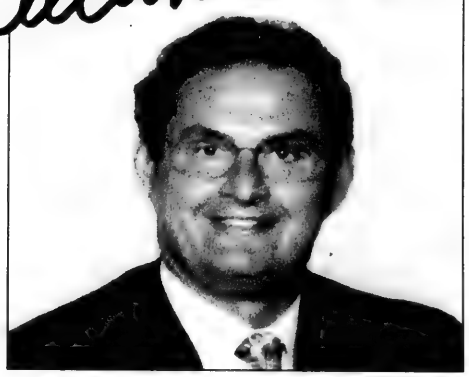

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Hamilton UJA campaign up

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — After raising $890,000 in 1997-98, organizers hope this year's local UJA campaign will break the $900,000 barrier.

"We have the potential. If everyone gives this year what they gave last year and comes through, we'll go over $900,000," said 1998-99 campaign co-chair Al Rams. Cele Steinberg is this year's other co-chair.

The 1997-98 United Jewish Appeal campaign was the most successful in recent years, according to Rams.

Thanks to last year's successful campaign, the federation was able to increase allocations to all local Jewish schools this year, Hamilton-Wentworth Jewish Federation executive director Patricia Tolkin Eppel said.

This year's campaign is already "off to a very, very good start," Rams said, noting that past campaign results indicate "we've been giving a little more each year."

The campaign opened with a recent concert by the Israeli singing group Yovel: Israel at 50 (part of its cross-country tour).

This year, Hamilton is continuing with its "Plus Giving" project, which allows donors to designate 50 percent of any amount they give over and above their pledge to a beneficiary organization of their choice.

The program has proven so successful that other communities are adopting the idea, Tolkin Eppel said.

Sandy Morris and Vivienne Epstein co-chair the Women's Division this year, "and there is a large UJA cabinet overseeing the campaign," Tolkin Eppel said.

New to this year's campaign is a Youth Division, headed by former Women's Division co-chair Lynne Czutrin. At the other end of the scale, said Tolkin Eppel, is Ben Davine, who at 87 is one of the oldest canvassers and still going strong.

***

In other news, the Legacy Endowment Fund was recently launched as part of an evening honoring former Hamiltonian Dr. Myron Scholes, the 1997 Nobel laureate in economics. The Myron Scholes Nobel Fund for Jewish Education was established in his honor.

Also, 12 members of the Hamilton community will attend this year's General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations in Jerusalem in November, the largest contingent ever. Heading the group will be former federation president David Steinberg and and his wife Cele.

Bonds honors volunteers

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — A granddaughter's recollections of her famous grandfather highlighted the recent Hamilton State of Israel Bonds Women's Division luncheon honoring five volunteers for their years of dedicated community service.

The granddaughter was author Bel Kaufman; her grandfather was the great Yiddish writer and humorist Shalom Aleichem.

An English professor and author of the bestseller *Up The Down Staircase*, Kaufman is still amazingly active at age 87. "I am still so busy and so full of energy I have no time to grow old. When I have time, I shall sit down and grow old.

She captivated the more than 200 guests at Adas Israel Synagogue with warmth, wit and her obvious affection for her grandfather.

Shalom Aleichem "loved the sound of laughter," Kaufman said. "And the sound of laughter is the sound of survival, especially for us Jews. The essence of his humor was thumbing his nose at adversity. Shalom Aleichem did not depend on what happens, but on what people say. He begins with laughter, but makes us think."

The writer spent the last 1½ years of his life "in a shabby apartment in the Bronx," Kaufman said. He died in 1916 at age 57. Thousands followed his coffin at his funeral.

He "left a remarkable legacy of laughter in his will," Kaufman said. He commanded his family to read his stories every year on the anniversary of his death, which "to this day is an inviolable tradition in our family."

Honorees Tishelle Adelman, Stephanie McLean, Flora Rams and Sarah Rochwerg all spoke briefly and lovingly of growing up in homes with parents who instilled in them a love of Judaism and an ethic of service to their community.

The fifth honoree, Holocaust survivor Nadia Rosa, dedicated her honor to her many cousins who did not survive the war.

The Hebrew word for charity, Rosa noted, is tzedakah, which is derived from tzedek, meaning righteousness. "All my life," Rosa said, "I have tried to do the right thing... to be true to my principles."

Judy Schwartz gave the tribute and made the presentation to the honorees; past honoree Dolly Cohen spoke on behalf of Israel Bonds; and Dodi Weill, co-chair, national Women's Division State of Israel Bonds, Canada, and Cheryl Greenbaum, president, Jewish Federation of Hamilton-Wentworth, brought greetings.

Hamilton Bonds Women's Division co-chairs, Sandra Fuss and Marcia Halpren, opened the meeting and introduced the speaker.

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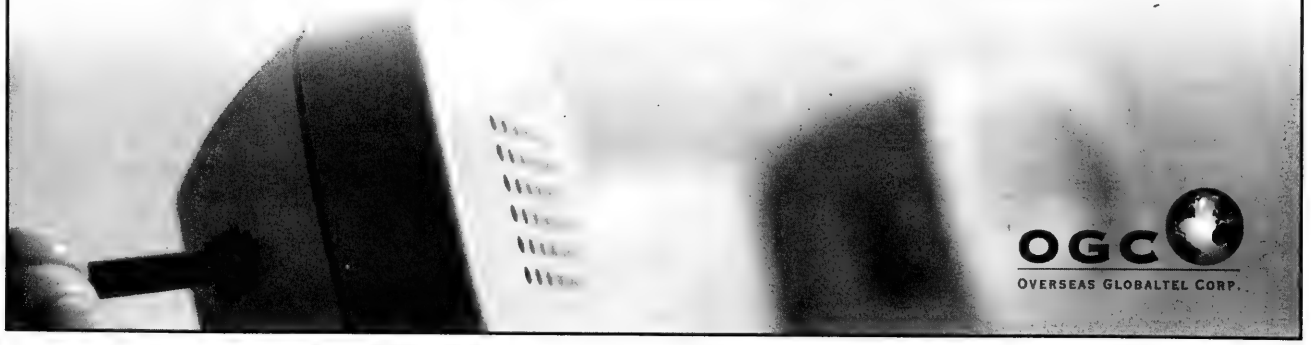

From coast to coast

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

How MPs spent their summer vacation

OTTAWA — So what did you do for your summer vacation? Part 2.

After another arduous summer of barbeques and ribbon cutting, MPs have returned to the House of Commons, and senators – at least most of them – have returned to the upper chamber.

The business of government has, at last, resumed.

Here's an update on what's been happening with some of the colorful cast of characters around Parliament Hill we introduced you to over the past year:

• Jewish Liberal MP Jacques Saada has received a couple of promotions.

The Tunisian-born rookie backbencher has been appointed parliamentary secretary to Solicitor General Andy Scott, beating out several other Quebec MPs.

Saada, elected last year in the Montreal-area riding of Brossard-La Prairie, was already regarded as an up-and-comer in Liberal circles. The fluently bilingual MP was chosen by Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy to head a Canadian fact-finding mission of parliamentarians to the troubled Mexican region of Chiapas and was co-chair of the biennial Liberal party convention that gave Prime Minister Jean Chretien an overwhelming vote of confidence.

Now, as parliamentary secretary, he'll fill in for Scott during question period, and shepherd legislation through the Commons.

Saada was also named as chair of the Canadian section of the Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence, which meets twice a year to discuss defence and security issues with representatives of the U.S. State Department and armed forces.

Though by no means a sure ticket to cabinet, the recent appointments are another sign he has caught Chretien's eye. As the respected *Hill Times* reported recently, "Mr. Saada seems to be in favor with the movers and shakers on Parliament Hill."

• Brash Reform (as in Preston Manning) aide Ezra Levant had an interesting and controversial summer job; he managed Reform's campaign for the upcoming Senate election in Alberta.

The Calgary native, Manning's special assistant who helps put words into the Opposition Leader's mouth for question period, returned to his home province.

He coordinated the selection of candidates for this month's vote, helped raise funds, planned advertising and, as he puts it, "hassled senators" all summer.

"It was a fun summer. It was good grassrooty stuff. Just travelling to every nook and cranny and talking about Senate reform, I put a lot of miles on the car," says Levant, a charter member of Reform's snack pack, a group of young MPs and backroomers aptly named because of their love of talking politics while eating fast food.

In typical fashion, Levant was anything but understated.

Lawyers for Conservative Senator Ron Ghitter have served Levant, the party and MP Rob Anders with a notice threatening a defamation lawsuit unless he gets a formal apology for comments in a successful fundraising letter sent to thousands of Albertans.

The four-page letter invited donations to "clean out the Senate stables...because Alberta shouldn't have to put up with Ron Ghitter a minute longer than we have to."

"Bring it on, let's put the Senate on trial, that's my point of view," says Levant.

• Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stephane Dion, who visited Israel this summer, won the critical Supreme Court of Canada ruling he had been seeking.

The country's top court ruled in August that Quebec did not have the right – either under domestic or international law – to unilaterally separate from the rest of Canada. Surprisingly, the Supreme Court did acknowledge that there was a legal obligation on the rest of the country to negotiate secession if a "clear majority" of Quebecers decided after a clear referendum question that they want to leave.

Dion and two staffers spent a dizzying week touring and meeting with officials of all political stripes, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PLO chief Yasser Arafat.

Dion said afterwards, he came to understand how complex Israel's problems are for such a tiny country.

"I would not like to exchange our problems with them," the university professor commented.

Interestingly, with Arafat now threatening to unilaterally declare an independent Palestinian state, Netanyahu may soon come knocking on Dion's door for advice.

• And Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray...what else can you say but he keeps on ticking.

After a scary bout with cancer a few years ago, the longest-serving MP continues to flawlessly fill in for Chretien in the Commons and coordinate Canada's plans for the millennium.

Though he has lost several key staffers over the past few months, he shows no signs of slowing down or deciding to end a remarkable political career.

Stephen Bindman is national legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

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Features

Jewish calendars for the millennium

By ROSE KLEINER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — An essential part of a Jewish home, or office, the Jewish calendar is a daily link to our heritage. It holds our plans and schedules within the framework of a Hebrew month and day. It gives us candlelighting times for the Sabbath and holidays, Torah readings and other information that keeps us attuned to the rhythms of Jewish life.

Calendars which are illustrated with beautiful Judaic artwork add yet another dimension to our environment. They serve as a mini-gallery in our home or office, bringing us images of priceless and rare works of art, and Judaica pieces which are housed in museums often too distant for us to frequent.

This year's calendars, being the last of the millennium, have a good chance of being collector's items someday.

All the calendars below continue through December 1999. All list Jewish and secular holidays and candlelighting times for major cities in the U.S. and Canada.

The British Library's vast collection of Hebrew manuscripts is the subject of *Pomegranate's Illuminations – A Jewish Calendar from the British Library*. The illustrations come from the Barcelona Haggadah, one of the most beautiful and important illuminated texts in the British Library collection.

Completed in mid-to-late 14th century it is decorated with images of holiday rituals and biblical scenes. It serves as a valuable source of information on Jewish costume, ritual and musical life in medieval Spain. The vibrant colors and imagery in the illustrations contrast sharply with the simplicity of the costumes worn by the figures depicted.

The Jewish Calendar 1999, from Hugh Lauter Associates is decorated with illustration from the collection of the Jewish Museum in New York. Among the paintings gracing this calendar is Isidor Kaufmann's Friday Evening (c. 1920) which captures a moment of Sabbath serenity.

An 1850 oil painting of Simchat Torah celebrations in a Leghorn, Italy synagogue, by English painter Solomon A. Hart shows the magnificence of the architecture, art and costumes in Italian Jewish life of the period.

Other fascinating items in this calendar include a Persian Ketubah (1898), written in Persian and decorated with Hebrew passages in watercolor and gold paint. A floral New Year Greeting card printed in Germany before 1939 and a silver Chanukah menorah, from 19th century Vienna both speak to us of beauty and history.

This calendar lists Jewish holidays through the year 2004, and contains the blessings over the candles for Shabbat and holidays, in transliterated Hebrew with English translation.

Bursts of brilliant color characterize *A Calendar for the Jewish Year 1998-99* (Universe) with its illustrations of illuminated manuscripts from the Collection of the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary. The library, founded in 1893, contains one of the world's largest Hebraica and Judaica manuscript collections.

An international array of brightly colored Hebrew manuscripts from many different periods fills the pages of this calendar. The Song of Songs manuscript, from the Rothschild Mahzor, comes from Florence, 1492. Another manuscript is from 1853 Persia. Images from the Corfu Mahzor (1709) literally burst with color. Other beautiful manuscripts come from Mannheim, Germany (1736), Isfahan, Iran (1867) and India (1875).

Two attractive desk calendars merit special attention. *The Jewish Calendar 5759* (Universe) has full-color illustrations of remarkable works of art and artifacts from the B'nai Brith Klutznick National Jewish Museum in Washington D.C.

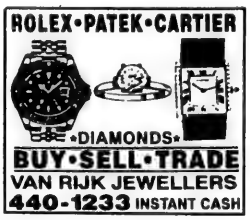
As we turn the pages of this calendar we see treasures such as the silver Havdalah set by artist Ludwig Wolpert, a painting by an Argentine Jewish artist, which gives a concise, visual summary of Argentine Jewish life, a silver wedding plate from Persia (19th century), engraved with traditional Hebrew and Aramaic wedding chants.

One cannot help but marvel at the 19th century Etrog holder that is made of a carved coconut shell and set on a graceful silver base.

A feature unique to this calendar is the very practical Jewish holiday chart, giving at a glance the various characteristics which distinguish each holiday. This includes the date, candle blessings, Biblical readings, the holiday's major theme and its historical and seasonal significance.

Another desk calendar that will bring a veritable exhibition of Judaica into the home or office is the *Jewish Engagement Calendar 1999* (Hugh Lauter Levin Associates). Filled with stunning Judaica illustrations from the Jewish museum collection (New York) this calendar lists Jewish holidays through to 2013.

A most timely gift for youngsters is *My Very Own Jewish Calendar* which can charm adults as well. Full of all sorts of information and trivia it keeps us aware of more than just Hebrew dates. We learn such diverse things as the origin of the names of the Hebrew months, the improvements synagogues have made to be accessible to physically-disabled congregants, the meaning of terms as "amen", "hiddur mitzvah", "pidyon haben" and "havdalah" to name but a few.



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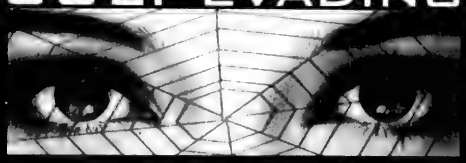

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Colman re-releases his album as a CD

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Kenny Colman, a former Winnipegger, has recently re-released his *Dreamscape* album as a CD on the Justin Time label out of Montreal.

Colman's career as a jazz singer has taken him from New York to Las Vegas to Monte Carlo. He has appeared in numerous clubs and major talk shows, and has been compared to Tony Bennett by Frank Sinatra.

Colman grew up in Winnipeg in the 1930s and '40s as Kenny Ludwig, before his family moved to Vancouver. In the late 1950s, he travelled to Bermuda where he worked as a disc jockey.

Colman originally recorded *Dreamscape* with the London Symphony Orchestra more than 10 years ago. The songs included ballads such as *Laura*, *Angel Eyes*, *Stardust* and *As Times Goes By*. His own favorite is *When Joanna Loved Me*.

He is currently promoting the CD across the country and working on a new jazz-oriented album for a fall release.

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OCTOBER 19
Why do 85% of people at risk of Huntington's disease, which can be predicted through genetic testing, choose not to be tested?

OCTOBER 26
Why is the Human Genome Project, an international genetic research project, being accused of pirating the genes of First Nations People?

NOVEMBER 2
How did Hopi traditional beliefs influence a scientist to halt his leading-edge genetic research?

NOVEMBER 9
Why does a world-class geneticist give-up hundreds of thousands of dollars in research grants? *Smart Choices*, a new *Skylight* weekly feature, focuses on what to look for in the supermarket to avoid genetically engineered foods.

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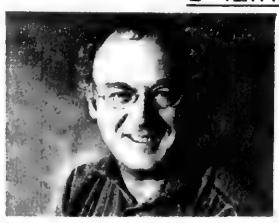
גידי קורן וחברים



תיאטרון "גשר"- נס אמיתי :

למני מספר חודשים המליץ כאן יהורם מירוצקי על תיאטרון "גשר" ועל הצגת "עירה". שמוצגת ביפו העתיקה. בעקבות המלצתו של יהורם, הלכנו להצגה בימים האחרונים שלפני ראש השנה, ולמרות הדברים החמים שכתב יהורם, אני מוצא לנחוץ להקדיש ללהקה המופלאה הזו עוד טור. בעיקר בגלל מחשבות שונות שהתעוררו במוחי. בשנות השמונים-תשעים היגרו מרוסיה כשש מאות אלף יהודים לישראל, והשפעתם על כל תחומי החיים בישראל היא עצומה. עם כל מגבלותיה של "אמא רוסיה"- נהנו שם רוב היהודים מהשכלה טובה, גם מקצועית וגם תרבותית, ולכן, ההשפעה שלהם מאוד מבורכת. צריך להודות על האמת- כל מי שמיכם נוסע לביקור בישראל מתרשם מצד אחד מהתפתחות הטכנולוגית ומצד שני מההדרדרות האנושית. המקום נראה יותר ויותר כמו ניו, מצרים, טורקיה ופורטוגל. סגנון הדיבור הבוטה, הנסויות באמצעי התקשורת, בכנסת,ברחוב, סכנת החיים בכביש, כל אלה מלמדים שההשפעה המזרח תיכונית גוברת לתרבות האירופאית שהביאו איתם רבים מהעולים בתחילת המאה ובאמצעה- להימהל ולהתבטל.

והינה, לתוך האווירה הזו באה קבוצה מצויינת של עולים ומשנה את כל המשוואה. רופאים. מדענים, מוסיקאים ואמנים. תיאטרון "גשר" הוא לא עוד תיאטרון שהקימו עולים חדשים. זוהי ארוחה צרפתית חמישה כוכבים במסעדה שכל הקליינטים שלה רגילים לאכול רק צ'יפס ושניצלים. המחזה עצמו (על פי המחאזי היהודי הרוסי יצחק באבל, הבימוי הדמיון, השחקנים - ממש מדהים ! זוהי קפיצה של עשרות שנים לתיאטרון הישראלי! האולם מלא מפה לפה כמעט כל ערב כבר שנתיים רצופות, כמו גם האולמות בכל שאר ההצגות של "גשר" ! יוצר הלהקה והבמאי שלה - יבני אריה, עשה לתרבות הישראלית את מה שעשה הוברמן בשנת 1938, כשקיבץ את המוסיקאים שנמלטו מאירופה והקים את התזמורת הפילהרמונית ברמה בינלאמית. רוב ההצגה עוסקת בבנדיטים יהודיים באודיסה של תחילת המאה, ועל כן רוב ההצגה היא משעשעת- מפתיעה- ציונית. ורק בתמונה האחרונה מסכר יצחק באבל את נסיונו האישי בפוגרום נגד יהודים- פוגרום שבו נרצח סבו האהוב. התמונה הזו של כך חזקה ומזעזעת, וכל כך מחזירה את התיאטרון הזה למציאות! באבל עצמו היה מחסידי הקומוניזם והוא השתתף במהפכה של שנת 1918. כל זה לא מנע מסטאלין להוציא אותו להורג ב- 1940 כבונד. טיהור שמו על ידי חרושצוב בשנות החמישים לא עזר הרבה, ושמו של המחזאי הנפלא הזה די נעלם. - עד שבא תיאטרון גשר ומחזיר אותו לחיים. אז ככה- כשאתם מתכננים ליסוע ארצה שבקשו מקרוביכם שם רק בקשה אחת - להזמין לכם כרטיסים לתיאטרון גשר! זה יהיה ערב שיראה לכם את ישראל של שנות התשעים כמו ששום דבר אחר ל א יוכל! אבל שיישאר בינינו.

רונית שחר בקונצרט:

רונית שחר, זמרת ישראלית צעירה, שזכתה בפרס אקו"ם היוקרתי לשנת 1996 ב"תמליליות השנה" מגיעה לקונצרט בטורונטו. את הקריירה שלה התחילה רונית בתזמורתו של שלמה ארצי, שאף הזמין אותה לשיר סולו בתקליטו "ירח" ולמי שמכיר את ארצי זה אומר הרבה. אלבום הבכורה שלה שהופיע ב- 1996 ("שלום תמימות") נמכר היטב וזכה אותה בפרס היוקרתי של אקו"ם. בישראל- השיר שלה "אהוב יקר" נבחר לייצג את המסע לגיוס מילגות אוניברסיטה לחיילים משוחררים. בחודש מרץ השנה הופיעה רונית בסרט טלביזיה קנדי שהוקדש למוסיקה ישראלית והוקרן ב - Much Music . אז פנו לכם את אוקטובר 25 ובואו (אחרי שהזמנתם כרטיס) ל - Lee's Place, 529 Bloor West (ליד Bathurst) לכרטיסים צלצלו 8000-870-416.

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- מה אמר האל שבוע אחרי שיצר את אדם? - "אני בטוח שאני יכול לעשות משהוא יותר מוצלח"
- מדוע קשה לנשים למצוא גברים שהם גם רגישים, גם איכפתיים ונם נראים טוב? כי לגברים כאלה בדרך כלל יש כבר חבר צמוד
- מה ההבדל בין גבר ואי טי? - אי טי לפחות מנסה לצלצל הביתה.

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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Oct. 19, is deadline for Oct. 29 issue, and Monday, Oct. 26, is deadline for Nov. 5. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Oct. 18

YUJJIES CAFÉ

At Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning Yujjies Café (young urban Jews), **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein** discusses Women Are From Genesis, Men Are From Leviticus, 7:30 p.m., Indigo Books Music and Café, 2300 Yonge St. 905-709-1900.

TERROR, MEDIA, ISRAEL

Dr. Avi Sadeh, Department of Psychology, Tel Aviv University, speaks on Terror, Media and the Response of the Israeli Public at the Beth Tzedec Israel action committee and Men's Club breakfast. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, speaker at 10.

CONCERT

Aviva chapter of Hadassah-WIZO concert supports Youth Aliyah and young musicians in Canada, pianist **Maneli Pirzadeh** and clarinetist **Guy Yehuda**, 2:30 p.m., Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

JEWISH SINGLES

Afternoon of interactive computer fun with a Jewish twist, Cyber Office Café, Newtonbrook Plaza (Yonge and Cummer) 2 p.m. Reserve 905-881-0376. Thanks to a grant from UJA Federation.

GARAGE SALE

Orah branch, National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, 9 a.m. to noon, Council House, 4700 Bathurst St.

Monday, Oct. 19

BIBLICAL CONUNDRUMS

Prof. Carl Ehrlich opens the series with Who Created the World? (Genesis 1-3), 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation.

BAGELS AND BOOKS

Beth Sholom Sisterhood book review of *The Colour of Water* by **James McBride**, with **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich**, 12:30 p.m. Reserve. 783-6103.

JEWISH MUSIC

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of United Jewish People's Order and Winchevsky Centre present An Afternoon of Jewish Musical Heritage featuring vocalist **Lenka Lichtenberg**, 12:30 p.m. at Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Preceded by light lunch. $5.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood, board meeting 7:30 p.m., general meeting 8 p.m. **Rosalie Moscoe** speaks on Super Nutrition for the Millennium. 633-3838.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111

OUT OF THE COLD

Temple Har Zion community information session on Out of the Cold – feeding, clothing and sheltering homeless persons, Wednesday evenings in December. 905-709-3563.

Tuesday, Oct. 20

NAVIGATING THE BIBLE

ORT Navigating the Bible is launched in Canada Tuesday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Reena, 927 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. See, hear the Five Books of Moses at the click of a mouse! Reserve 787-0339.

KOSHER COOKING

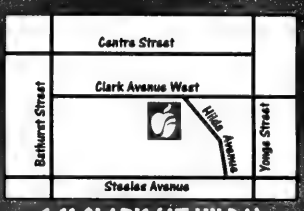
Kashruth Council of Toronto Kosher Cooking School course, Soups for All Seasons, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. Reserve 635-9550. Next course, Pasta Pasta Meat is on Oct. 27.

BEAUTY AND HEALTH

Club Masada Na'amat presents Face Forward to Beauty and Health, **Dr. Sheldon Pollack**, **Sherrie Montgomery, Paula Schipper**, 7:30 p.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. $18. Proceeds to Na'amat Canada Shelter & Counselling Centre, Tel Aviv.

Continued on page 29

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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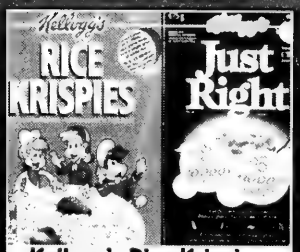

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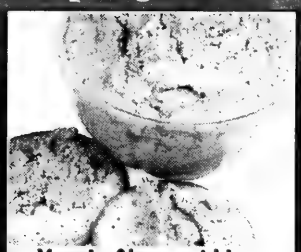
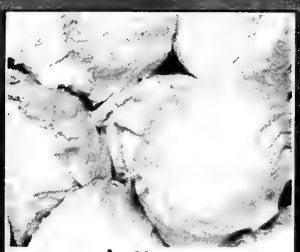


Yossis Chopped Liver
From The Deli
1.10 /100g
499 lb.



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What's New

Continued from page 28

FALL FASHION SHOW

Fall Fashion Show and Boutiques at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Boutiques open 6 p.m., showtime 8 p.m. Sisterhood fundraiser. $20 at door.

MUSICAL PROGRAM

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood opening meeting, 12:15 p.m., luncheon, musical program with **Michael Khinkis**. Reserve. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660 or **Kay Burger** 787-8463

Wednesday, Oct. 21

FREE LOAN CASSA

Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa G'milath Chasodim Association annual meeting, gala launch of 75th anniversary, special recognition to **Morrie Latchman**, musical presentation **Judith and Joseph Peleg**, 6:30 p.m., Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Dinner couvert $36. RSVP 635-1217.

JOIN IN THE LAUGHTER

Jewish Women International's Tikvah chapter (ages 20s and 30s) evening of laughter at Comedywood (Bathurst and Steeles) 7 p.m. Advance tickets only, $2 JWI members, $3 non-members. **Sharon D.** 224-2656 or **Sharyn F.** 631-7585.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement features economist **Ruth Getter** speaking on Through the Crystal Ball: A Peek at the Future of the Canadian Economy, at noon. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served. $1.

Thursday, Oct. 22

TRANS-ISRAEL HIGHWAY

Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce hosts an executive briefing on the Trans-Israel Highway to be financed and built by Canadian companies, noon to 2 p.m., offices of Newcourt Credit Group, BCE Place, 181 Bay St. Speaker **Warren Thomson**. Members $20, non-members $25 includes lunch. **Ronitte** 256-3929.

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINES

Adath Sholom Sisterhood seminar Alternative Medicines – Acupuncture, Cellulite Treatment, Massage Therapy, Nutrition, Chiropractic, **Dr. Brian Sieber**, 7:30 p.m., 864 Sheppard Ave. W. $3. Reserve. 635-0131.

ABOUT MOUNT SINAI

Leslie Barsky, author of *From Generation to Generation*, the history of Mount Sinai Hospital, speaks about the hospital at Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

PILLAR OF FIRE

Documentary of the history of Israel's rebirth from 1898-1948, Chapter XV, introduction and commentary **David Goldberg** , 7:30 p.m. Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 633-5500 or 633-3988.

THE NUCLEAR THREAT

Beth Tzedec lecture series, Israel and the Conflict of Nations, continues with The Nuclear Threat with **Prof. Aurel Braun**, 7:30 p.m.

And What Else Is New

THE FAMILY SQUEEZE

The Family Squeeze: Surviving the Sandwich Generation, **Ben** and **Rachel Schlesinger,** Wednesday Oct. 21 and 28, 7:30 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. $5/series. 633-3838.

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT

Toronto Jewish Healing Project three-session workshop in November for Jewish professionals in the helping field on Leading a Jewish Healing Group – How Study and Meditation Help Toward Healing with **Rabbi John Moskowitz, Jack Kugelmass, Michelle Katz**, Tuesdays 7:30 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple. $60. Register. **Etta Ginsberg McEwan** 944-3359.

ONE-WOMAN SHOW

Israel Cancer Research Fund presents *The WALTONsteins*, a one-woman show created, co-written, performed by **Frannie Sheridan** Monday, Nov. 2, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $60 and $100. Dessert reception. 487-5246.

LEARNING COUNCIL

Downtown Jewish Learning Council classes at Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Register **Cheryl Wetstein** 924-6211.

Judaism on Reincarnation, Mondays, Oct. 19, 26, 8 p.m., **Rabbi Shmuel Spero**, $20.

Famous Trials in Jewish History, Tuesdays, Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3, 10, 7:30-9 p.m. with **Aaron Nussbaum** instructor in Bible at York University. No fee.

SHABBAT CELEBRATION

Oraynu Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism and Winchevsky Centre evening of music, stories and dance based on **Shalom Aleichem** stories, with Camco Productions of Montreal, Friday, Oct. 23, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Shabbat ceremony 7 p.m., performance 7:30 p.m. Reserve 385-3910.

AISH HATORAH EVENTS

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Men and Women in Judaism Seminar: Equal But Different. Keynote speaker **Sarah Chana Radcliffe** followed by choice of workshops, Sunday, Oct. 18, 8 p.m.

University Students and Young Professionals (ages 19-29) ext. 225: Judaism @WWW.EDU: The What, Why and Way of Jewish Life and Wisdom, **Rabbi Mitch Mandel**, Wednesdays, 9 p.m., Oct. 21-Dec. 16

Shabbat dinner Friday, Oct. 23

COURSE ON PROPHETS

Six-session course, Prophets of the Old Testament – Israel, offered by University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies, Mondays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Oct. 26-Nov. 30, taught by **Aaron Nussbaum**, York University lecturer. Register. 978-2400.

SINGLES BRUNCH

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles (35-55) Brunch N' Mingle, **Andrea Moses** discusses Choosing a Relationship That Will Make You Happy, Sunday, Oct. 25, 11:30 a.m. at Beth Tikvah. $20 (prepaid by Oct. 20). RSVP **Ellen** 905-731-7348 or **Anne** 495-0734.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

Jews for Judaism Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 10 weeks beginning Oct. 22, at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Sponsored by Lou Schiller Memorial Lecture Series on Jewish Continuity and by the brotherhood. Register. **Edra** 633-3838.

DRAMA CLASSES

Register now for Leah Posluns Theatre School drama classes for children, teens, adults. All sessions run 10 weeks. Information 636-1880, ext. 464; to register ext. 231

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Shoshana Zolty evening classes for women at Beth Jacob, 147 Overbrook Pl., begin Tuesday, Oct 20 with an analysis of Yehuda and Tamar and continuing with the Joseph story. 638-5955.

JEWISH LITERACY

With **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich**, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Beth Sholom Synagogue, Oct. 21-Dec. 2, different set of writings each week from the Books of Moses to modern reflections.

AT OHR SOMAYACH

Kabbalah: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Universe Through Jewish Mysticism with **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz**,Wednesdays, Oct. 21-Dec. 9 1:45-3:15 p.m. Lecture concurrent with Kids' Magical Musical Tour ages 2½-5 Register 905-886-5730.

YIDDISH CONVERSATION

Classes for adults, all levels, locations in downtown and uptown Toronto and Thornhill. 635-2883, ext. 150.

SINGLES SCENE

Singles, ages 25-35 and 36-55, community-wide Shabbat service, luncheon, speaker **Rabbi Jay Kelman,** Saturday, Oct. 24, 10 a.m. $10. Reserve 633-3838. Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 or **Mitchel** 223-8244.

FOR SENIORS

The Alliance of Seniors to Protect Canada's Social Programs forum, Seniors Under Attack, Tuesday, Oct. 20, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., North York Memorial Community Hall, 5100 Yonge St.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Oct. 15, games; Oct. 22, **Hannah Laslo** and **Tiki Dyan** Hebrew Theatre; Oct. 29, members meeting. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Opening meeting Monday, Oct. 20, 12:30 p.m., Stress Management Workshop, **Dr. Michael Brickman**, chiropractor; Israel trip Nov. 22-Dec. 9. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami Trip 1999, four, six or eight weeks. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Oct. 15 and 28; Shaw Festival, Oct. 22, *You Can't Take It With You*, Oct. 29, *Lady Windermere's Fan*; Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel Nov. 22-25. 395-7881.

Total Living – The New Image 50 Plus dance, Saturday, Oct. 24, and Sunday, Nov. 8, 7-10:30 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. members $3, guests $5. membership open $15.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Fall concert, Festival of Wind Orchestra, conductor **Gennady Gefter,** light classics, Broadway tunes, Tuesday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. Co-sponsored with Israeli Club Etrog.

Healthy Cooking, dietician/nutritionist **Andrea Stark**, Tuesday, Oct. 20, 1 p.m. $1 for materials.

Fall programs beginning this week: Bible Study, **Kolya Shimrat;** Intermediate Hebrew, Kolya Shimrat; Ballroom Dancing, **Gita Miller**; Painting with Watercolor, **Bilha Morgan**.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Oct. 20 is Festival of Wind Orchestra. **Anna.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Toronto Jewish Film Society screens *Mr. Klein* (France 1976) Sunday, Oct. 18, at Art Gallery of Ontario, 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Night Wellness Talks continue with discussions of issues of interest to women, Oct. 21, 7 p.m. **Alison.**

Seniors Club: New discussion group, Topic of the Week, with **Sylvia Galvanek**, Selective Memory, Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2:15 p.m. (Board of Education class); Workshop with **Allan Pinkus**, How to Find the Energy You Are Seeking, Thursday, Oct. 22; Fitness for Fun class Tuesday and Thursday. **Judy**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

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Applications are now being accepted for the 1999/2000 academic year. For more information on tours, interviews and financial aid, please contact the Admissions Office at **(416) 920-9741 ext. 268.**

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Rift growing between militant right, NRP

By AMIRA SEGEV
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — A growing rift is discernible between extra-parliamentary militant right-wing groups and the National Religious Party (NRP), their major representative in the Knesset, in anticipation of the upcoming Israeli-Palestinian summit in the United States.

NRP representatives emerged from a meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu claiming they were conciliated, their faith restored. But at the same time, the joint leadership of the right-wing groups – which ceased their activity in the wake of Netanyahu's election in May 1996 – met yesterday for the first time since the election.

Effectively, the coalition of militant right-wing groups has been re-established, as their faith in Netanyahu's leadership erodes. The coalition includes the Land of Israel Front of Knesset members, the Yesha Council of settlements, Chabad and others.

Following a lengthy meeting with Netanyahu, NRP spokespeople dropped the uncompromising tone that had characterized their statements in recent days.

"We did not demand that the prime minister add one of our representatives to the Washington delegation," Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom said after the meeting. "The prime minister is perfectly capable of safeguarding the interests of the nation and the state."

Netanyahu promised the NRP that he will convene a special cabinet meeting before leaving for the United States.

He assured the delegation that in the agreement he would insist on the principle of mutuality, meaning that the Palestinians must uphold their part of the deal: annulment of the clauses in the Palestinian Covenant that call for Israel's destruction and extradition of murderers, and that he would further insist on no harm to the settlements.

Education minister and NRP leader Yitzhak Levy said that Netanyahu's clarifications were such "that they can definitely leave the government intact." Netanyahu, he said, "told the NRP group that Israel would demand that the third redeployment not exceed one percent" – thus tacitly admitting that the NRP had reconciled itself to the 13 percent pullback of the second redeployment.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (left), Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright shake hands at the start of a recent round of peace talks.[RNS/Reuters photo]

Levy reported that Netanyahu said "he does not intend to arrive in the United States feeling intimidated. 'If pressure is applied, I can withstand it,' the prime minister assured us."

Yahalom said the scope of the second pullback had not been discussed, "but we made it clear to him that if the territorial contiguity [between the settlements] is affected, and if even one of our 160 settlements is harmed, we will not be with him."

A senior member of the Yesha Council, Uri Ariel, said that "the right wing, which worked so hard for [Netanyahu's] election, is now coming out against him. He is relying on the Americans, so the situation is clear."

The right-wing activists decided yesterday to maintain a vigil outside the prime minister's residence during his stay in the United States. A second decision being considered is to demonstrate outside the homes of the three ministers who will accompany Netanyahu – Yitzhak Mordechai, Ariel Sharon and Natan Sharansky – until their return.

Sharon has long been considered the settlers' patron, and this would be the first-ever demonstration against him by right-wing militants.

"He is our minister," Yesha Council director-general Aharon Domb said. "This is a very problematic proposal for us. But we are afraid that afterward he will say, 'I was wrong,' as he did after Yamit" – referring to Sharon's order to level the settlement of Yamit in Sinai after Israel signed the peace treaty with Egypt – "and we don't want another mistake."

Meanwhile, Meimad, the dovish religious movement, yesterday called on the NRP to stop practising "political extortion" against the prime minister and cease its efforts to prevent the agreement.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Pope beatifies controversial Croat

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — Pope John Paul II has beatified a controversial cardinal revered by Croatians as an anti-Communist martyr but reviled by others as a fascist collaborator.

The pope, on a recent two-day visit to Croatia, proclaimed Zagreb's World War II archbishop Alojzije Stepinac a "blessed" of the Roman Catholic Church – the step before sainthood – before an ecstatic crowd of 350,000 at a shrine near Zagreb.

The ceremony consecrated Stepinac as a Croatian national symbol as well as a Catholic religious hero.

To illustrate the ceremony's national and religious purposes, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, whose policy often pays homage to Croatia's national identity, joined the pope on the altar at the end of the beatification mass to the strains of the national anthem.

The beatification took place despite protests by the Serbian government, and a call by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre to put it off "until after the completion of an exhaustive study of Stepinac's wartime record."

Croatian Jewish groups however, disassociated themselves from the protest.

Historians differ sharply as to Stepinac's role under the regime of the Ustashe, the fascists who ruled Croatia as a Nazi puppet state from 1941 to 1945.

Yugoslavia's hard-line postwar Communist government jailed the anti-Communist Stepinac for collaborating with the Ustashe regime, which staged forced conversions and massacres of Serbs, Jews and Gypsies.

After a show trial, he was sentenced in 1946 to 16 years of hard labor. He died under house arrest in 1960.

As archbishop of Zagreb in 1941, Stepinac, who admitted feeling nationalist fervor, had supported the regime of Ustashe leader Ante Pavelic. But by 1942 he withdrew his backing and denounced its policy.

Many Serbs, who are Orthodox Christians, continue to view Stepinac as a war criminal and as a symbol of Croatian Catholics who openly backed the Ustashe.

Polish government slammed over crosses

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — A group of prominent Polish intellectuals and an association of Polish war veterans have criticized the Polish government for failing to take action that would end the crisis over the crosses erected by Catholic fundamentalists at Auschwitz.

Six eminent Polish intellectuals, including Nobel Prize-winning poets Czeslaw Milosz and Wislawa Szymborska, published an open letter to Polish Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek last week calling for government intervention to halt the crisis.

The letter, published in the newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza*, said the controversy over the hundreds of crosses erected by Catholic extremists since July "disturbs Poles, insults Jews and causes concern in world opinion."

The militants who claim to be "defending" the crosses, actually want to provoke unrest and conflict in Poland, the letter said.

It urged Buzek to step in and "stop the provocation" at Auschwitz.

A Krakow-based association of "veterans and freedom fighters," meanwhile, issued a statement supporting the intellectuals' letter, according to the Polish news agency PAP.

PAP said the association represented some 20 organizations. It said the veterans protested "the incomprehensible passivity of Polish state authorities in the face of the protracted conflict" at Auschwitz.

"The government is responsible for tolerating this political and religious provocation which causes public anxiety."

At the same time, however, extreme right-wing activists, including Leszek Bubel, one of the leaders of the campaign to erect the crosses, have published the first issue of what they said will be a monthly magazine called *Now, Poland*.

Stanislaw Krajewski, a member of the board of the Union of Jewish Religious Communities in Poland and a consultant to the American Jewish Committee, called the magazine "frightening" because of its apparently wide distribution, anti-Semitic content and aggressive tone.

The Week in Israel

Oct. 5

• An Arab League official accused Israel of being behind Turkey's row with Syria and said the Jewish state stands to gain from the crisis. *(Turkey has demanded Syria expel the leader of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK). The PKK is fighting the Turks for independence.)*

Oct. 6

• Chemicals sold to the Biological Institute of Nes Ziona, which were being carried aboard an El Al plane that crashed in Holland in 1992 were not part of any chemical weapons, according to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office.

• Haifa police arrested 157 stowaways hidden on a ship in the Haifa harbor. Virtually all those detained were Moldavians who had come to seek work in Israel illegally.

Oct. 7

• The National Student Union announced plans to boycott the opening of the university academic year on Oct. 25, demanding that the treasury issue orders to lower tuition by 20 percent. The treasury does not intend to deal with the question until 2002.

• About 400 pro-Syrian Druze from Majdal Shams in the Golan Heights marked the 25th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War with a demonstration condemning Turkey for the recent tension with Syria and for its ties with Israel.

Oct. 8

• The spiritual leader of the Ethiopian Jewish community died at the age of 92. Kes Menashe Zemro was described as "this generation's greatest leader," by Knesset member Adisu Massala.

• Supreme Court Justice Yaacov Kedmi issued a restraining order that delayed demolition by the IDF of the shrine around the Kiryat Arba grave of Baruch Goldstein.

Oct. 9

• The "kitchen cabinet" reached an understanding that a proposed new highway in the Judean Desert will have to be moved in order to accommodate a Palestinian nature reserve east of Hebron.

Files from the JTA and Ha'aretz

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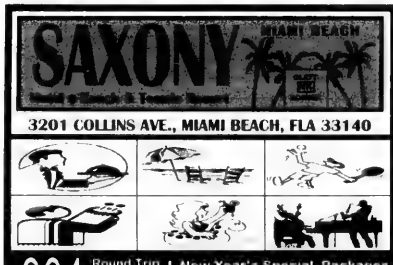

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Israel, Palestinian Authority near agreement

Continued from page 1

Some cite Netanyahu's coalition difficulties; others point to the premier's reluctance to abandon tracts of the biblical homeland.

And even among the more optimistic observers, there are warnings that even if Netanyahu and Arafat sign an agreement under the watchful eye of President Bill Clinton, there is no guarantee it will be implemented.

Israel and the Palestinians, nudged on by American officials, are inching closer to a long-elusive accord under which Israel will redeploy from a further 13 percent of the West Bank in return for stepped-up security arrangements with the Palestinian Authority.

During a Sept. 28 meeting with Netanyahu and Arafat at the White House, Clinton proposed a summit in the middle of October in Washington to sign the accord and to agree on methods for pursuing the permanent-status negotiations, which are already long overdue.

Albright, who visited the region to lay the groundwork for that summit, told reporters that Arafat and Netanyahu made "significant and substantial progress" on a host of issues, including security arrangements and the further Israeli redeployment.

But Albright also cautioned that much work remains to be done after she met with Arafat and Netanyahu for more than three hours at the Erez Crossing between Israel and the Gaza Strip.

Clinton said that he believes the Israelis and Palestinians are "close enough" in their stances to be able to reach an agreement at the Washington summit which is slated to begin this week Oct. 15 at the Wye Plantation, a conference site on the eastern shore of Maryland.

Speaking with reporters after he met with Arafat, Netanyahu agreed with Albright's assessment of progress in the talks.

But he added a cautionary note.

"Although we have climbed up on a steep hill, the hill is still ahead of us," Netanyahu said.

The fragility of the situation is exemplified by security incidents that have been occurring almost daily.

Among them were a grenade attack on soldiers in Hebron on Yom Kippur and a mysterious explosion of a car bomb near Ramallah.

Israel imposed a closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip after security officials warned that Hamas is planning to carry out a major terror attack against the Jewish state.

The army chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz, and senior Shin Bet and Mossad officials have all warned the cabinet that militant Palestinians are planning major terrorist attacks to derail the peace process.

Indeed, the terrorists' efforts represent the gravest danger to the process. A terror attack inside Israel with heavy civilian casualties could instantly turn Clinton's best-laid plans to ashes.

It is perhaps the understanding that this is the case -- coupled with a healthy dose of skepticism based on almost two years of diplomatic stagnation -- that has left the Israeli public skeptical about the latest diplomatic activity.

The Netanyahu-Arafat meeting in New York on Sept. 27, their first in nearly a year, left many Israelis unimpressed as they made their preparations for Yom Kippur. Indeed, the Israeli media were almost indifferent in reporting the meeting.

And the two leaders' White House meeting and photo-op the next day with Clinton were widely dismissed here as the president's attempt to demonstrate on camera that he was still functioning despite the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal.

Official spokespersons on both sides who carefully played down expectations contributed to a general sense of wait and see.

But one group that is not willing to wait is the Israeli right.

After his return from Washington, Netanyahu faced angry hard-liners in his cabinet.

Rabbi Yitzhak Levy, the minister of education and National Religious Party (NRP) leader, reportedly warned him at a cabinet meeting that if he returns from the proposed mini-summit with Clinton and Arafat having divested Israel of more West Bank land, he would find himself divested of his government.

Levy and his NRP colleague, Transportation Minister Shaul Yahalom, demanded that the premier submit any accord to the cabinet before signing it on Israel's behalf.

Netanyahu refused to give this commitment.

The NRP ministers and other cabinet hawks are now focusing their efforts on the issues of security and reciprocity that remain outstanding in the negotiations.

They acknowledge, reluctantly, that Netanyahu has already acceded to the American proposal for the 13 percent redeployment.

Recently, a group of 10 right-wing Knesset members took out large ads in the major Israeli newspapers in which they warned the premier in an open letter against any territorial concession whatever.

"If the government decides to undertake any further withdrawal from the territories of Eretz Yisrael – we will no longer be party to your coalition," they said in the open letter. "We will make every effort to bring down the government."

In the letter, the 10 assert that the Palestinian Authority has not honored "a single one of the commitments it undertook in the Oslo accords."

Netanyahu has said repeatedly that once his security concerns are satisfied he will go ahead and conclude the deal, despite the political risk.

Some political observers discount that risk, pointing to the strong support that Netanyahu can effectively count on from the opposition Labor party.

But that bipartisan backing would presumably only be a short-term prospect.

Once the 12-week implementation period that is proposed for the new accord ends, Labor would doubtless resume its opposition role.

If the hard-liners persist in their attempts to topple Netanyahu – in order to put up their own candidate for premier in a new election – the government would be doomed.

As a result, politicians and analysts are once again assessing the prospects of a Likud-Labor unity government being created after the redeployment deal is finally concluded – if it is.

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CIA chief puts spotlight on security during visit

By AMOS HAREL
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — CIA director George Tenet met last week with Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to discuss various regional security issues, but their talk focused mainly on Israel's demand that the Palestinian Authority clearly demonstrate its commitment to systematically fighting terrorism.

Tenet is here to help promote the signing of a joint Israeli-Palestinian security memorandum.

Mordechai told Tenet that "Israel is sincere in its intention to reach an agreement with the Palestinians but insists that its national security and the personal security of its citizens be a foundation of every agreement."

The meeting was also attended by chief of staff Shaul Mofaz, Shin Bet director Ami Ayalon, and director of military intelligence Amos Malcha.

Military sources said yesterday that the recent wave of attempted terrorist acts in the territories and preparations for such actions, uncovered both by Israel and by the Palestinians, point to the extensive terrorist infrastructure set up by the Hamas in the territories over the last year.

Chief of Staff Mofaz made reference to this issue at the latest cabinet meeting, saying that the terrorist infrastructure in the territories is "far larger than we had imagined."

The security establishment recently expressed satisfaction at the agreements reached in talks with the Palestinians regarding the opening of an industrial park at the Karni crossing. Senior security sources said it is possible that after more than two years of negotiations, the road is finally clear for the industrial park to be opened.

The sources said the opening of the industrial park would be an immense boost to the Palestinian economy, which has stagnated since the Oslo accords were signed.

The sources noted that the details of the agreement have in effect been concluded for months, but that the Palestinian representatives are apparently delaying the signing until progress is achieved on the main front – the second West Bank pullback.

VIOLENCE IN HEBRON

A Palestinian woman joins the unrest in Hebron as she prepares to hurl a large stone at Israeli soldiers. At least seven Palestinians were wounded in three days of violence. The violence began after two hand grenades were thrown by a Palestinian at an Israeli military patrol operating in the Israeli-controlled sector close to the city's Jewish enclave. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Islamic decree bans Arabs from serving in the IDF

By ALIZA ARBELI
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — A fatwa, or Islamic religious decree, has been issued prohibiting Bedouin and Arab citizens from serving in the Israel Defence Forces.

The decree was issued by Sheikh Abu Farakh from Rahat, the leader of the Islamic movement branch in the Negev. He is considered an influential spiritual leader among Bedouin in the south of the country.

"The fatwa rules that anyone who enlists in a conquering army, not only the IDF, shall be considered a heretic," Abu Farakh said.

Abu Farakh was speaking at a gathering of Negev Bedouin who support the Arabs of Umm al-Fahm, whose violent riots in the lower Galilee city last week were spurred by the army's appropriation of Arab farm land.

Umm al-Fahm Mayor Sheikh Raed Saleh belongs to Abu Farakh's flock.

Some 400 people attended the gathering, held in Lakia in the Negev, including Knesset members, mayors and a delegation of Arabs from the north of the country. According to the fatwa, any Arab or Bedouin who serves in the Israeli army is considered a heretic. He cannot be buried in a Muslim cemetery, and the community must force him to divorce his wife until he retracts his decision to serve.

Abu Farakh said he issued the decree after he learned that there were Bedouin soldiers among the forces who suppressed the riots in Umm al-Fahm, and that together with Jewish soldiers they stepped on the backs of Muslim worshippers and hurt their Arab brethren.

"In our sector, there is no mandatory draft," the cleric declared. "A situation has been created in which members of our community volunteer to serve in an army that expropriates their lands for training."

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Infertility consultant stresses need for education

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Thorough, extensive and intelligent research on infertility is needed to help couples who are experiencing difficulty having a child, said Rhonda Levy, a corporate lawyer turned infertility consultant.

Speaking at a symposium on infertility recently at Women's College Hospital, Levy emphasized that couples must realize that a successful pregnancy does not just mean getting pregnant; it means, she said, delivering a live child.

Levy defined in vitro fertilization as a process whereby the woman's ovary is stimulated to produce more than one egg, after which the eggs are retrieved, sperm is injected into the cytoplasm of the egg or eggs, and the mixture is inserted into the uterus past the cervix.

Interpreting information is a very real problem, Levy said. Referring to in vitro fertilization statistics put out in 1997 by the Society for Artificial Reproductive Technology of the U.S. Centre for Disease Control, she noted that those statistics can be presented in different ways – from pregnancies resulting in immediate miscarriage, to eggs retrieved, to embryos transferred into a woman's body, to live births.

"The most reasonable statistics, are those gathered over a 12 month period," she said, as this method allows for those who achieve pregnancy and then miscarry.

Be aware that these statistics are only for U.S. clinics, she said, adding that Canadian figures are currently being collected.

It is also important when evaluating a program to make sure that the statistics are for women your age, as well as for those with the same reason for infertility.

In addition, those statistics are not the only measure of a program's quality, Levy said.

"Check the entry criteria," she advised. Some centres attract those with more difficult problems or those who have tried in vitro fertilization many times before; some only accept those with the best chance of being successful or have an age cutoff.

Medical staff must be meticulous, skilled, and experienced in micromanipulation, she said. Some facilities transfer many embryos, and couples must be aware of the dangers of multiple births.

Check also, she said, how aware they are of the process of "assisted hatching," in which a small hole is made in the covering around the embryo, making it easier for it to implant into the sides of the uterus. They should be willing to consider doing this procedure.

"You must become your own best advocate," Levy counselled.

Ellen Greenblatt, from the University of Toronto IVF Program, the Toronto Hospital and the Toronto Centre for Advanced Reproductive Technology, said there is a great deal of research being carried out on different methods of in vitro fertilization.

Some of these involve cryopreservation (freezing) of either eggs or sperm; recognition and enhancement of the role of the cytoplasm of the egg (cytoplasm is the liquid in the egg surrounding the genetic-bearing nucleus); allowing embryos to mature to some extent in the laboratory until they can be fertilized; transferring, not the egg, but the blastocyst (the fertilized egg that has already divided); the role of the endometrium (the lining of the uterus); and improving the follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) levels.

In reply to questions from the audience, Levy and Greenblatt said that donor eggs or sperm, and gestational carrying (one method of this is surrogate motherhood), while not actually illegal, are not actually legal, either.

"It is a gray area," Greenblatt said, explaining that the issue, besides its moral and ethical aspects, tends to revolve around the question of its being a commercial transaction.

If a woman comes in and says that she wants to give her extra eggs to someone as an act of kindness, or carry a baby for her sister, that seems to be acceptable, Levy and Greenblatt agreed.

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The Baycrest Centre and the University of Toronto recently marked the establishment of the Dr. Max and Gianna Glassman Chair in Neuropsychology. Seen here (from left) Stephen W. Herbert, Baycrest president and CEO; Dr. Max Glassman; Robert Prichard, president of the U of T; Gianna Glassman; and Dr. Fergus Craik, who was named to the Chair.

What's new on the Internet?
THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS
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Travel, Arts & Business

Diverse Israeli films at AGO festival

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

In honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, Cinematheque Ontario is presenting an Israeli film festival at the Art Gallery of Ontario from Oct. 22 to Nov. 1.

Composed of old and contemporary movies, notably documentaries and features, the festival is co-sponsored by Air Canada and Daniels Financial Corporation.

Here, in capsule form, is a sampler:

They Were Ten (Nov. 1 at 1 p.m.), billed as the first feature-length film made entirely by an Israeli cast and crew, was released in 1960, when the state was but 12 years old.

Directed by Baruch Dienar, and starring Leo Filler and Yisrael Rubinshik, it is set in late 19th century Palestine, depicted as a harsh land of bleak, unforgiving landscapes.

Based on the diaries of Zionist pioneers from Russia, *They Were Ten* focuses on a group of people – nine men and one woman – who've been given the task of building a colony on a remote hilltop in western Galilee.

Constant struggle is the lot of the newcomers, who live all jumbled together in a hut and who tend to burst into Hebrew folk songs after a hard day's work of clearing the rocky ground.

They must put up with heat, drought, hunger and disease, as well as inhospitable Arabs and a malevolent Ottoman Turkish policeman on horseback. In this sense, the film seems quite realistic in content.

The settlers' encounter with Palestinian Arabs in an adjacent village prefigures the Arab-Israeli conflict. Calling their Jewish neighbors the "children of death," some of the Arabs mock the Jews. "Look at them! Jewish farmers!"

More seriously, there are disputes over water and grazing rights and the theft of a horse. These confrontations spark a debate among the Jews as to whether they should resort to force to gain redress.

The film's view of Arabs, however, is not uniformly negative, as suggested by the growing friendship between a settler and the village sheik.

Though not always gripping, *They Were Ten* moves along briskly thanks to a taut and balanced script, a credible cast and exceptional cinematography.

Awodah (Oct. 25 at 1 p.m.), a relic from 1935 directed by Helmar Lerski, is nothing less than a paean to Jewish labor in pre-state Israel.

A perfect example of Zionist agitprop, the documentary is driven by ecstatic images of workers toiling under a blazing sun by the sweat of their brows. The classical score, performed with brio by the Budapest Symphony Orchestra, complements the film's idealistic mood.

The heroes, of course, are Jewish farmers ploughing the land, road builders breaking stones, bricklayers constructing homes and roughnecks drilling for water.

Awodah looks dated today, but it must have been stirring once upon a time.

Afula Express (Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m.), which swept last year's Israeli Academy Awards in six categories, including best picture, is fresh and expressive, a contemporary and colloquial dramatic comedy by Julie Shles.

The protagonists are David (Zvika Hadar) and Batya (Esti Zackheim), a young, unmarried couple living in a tenement in southern Tel Aviv.

David, a car mechanic, wants to follow his dream and become a famous magician. Batya, a supermarket cashier with a practical bent who yearns for a "normal life," is skeptical of his ambition. In addition to this disagreement, the fractious lovers quarrel over marriage and the right place to settle down.

By any yardstick, *Afula Express* is brash and likeable, with salt-of-the-earth characters whose naturalness is never less than disarming. Among them are Shimon, David's unemployed friend, and Natasha, a Russian prostitute whose goal is to immigrate to America.

Zackheim, zaftig and appealing, steals the show with her gutsy acting.

Emile Habibi – I Stayed in Haifa (Nov. 1 at 3 p.m.) walked away with the 1997 Jerusalem Film Festival's documentary award. Dalia Karpel's sensitive and sympathetic portrait of an Israeli Arab writer and politician speaks volumes about the identity of Israel's Arab citizens.

Born in Haifa in 1922 into a Protestant family, Habibi was one of the leaders of the Communist party, prior to and after Israel's establishment, and served in the Knesset for 19 years. He was also a newspaper editor and a novelist, winning the Israel Prize in 1992, four years before his death of cancer.

In the movie, filmed just weeks before he died, Habibi – an advocate of Arab-Jewish reconciliation – discusses the past, expresses his hopes and dreams, and pays visits to old haunts in Haifa, Acre, Jerusalem and Ramallah.

This is a sober and sombre film suffused with painful reminiscences and wistful longings.

The following movies will also be screened:

• *The 92 Minutes of Mr. Baum*, a black comedy by Assi Dayan, on Oct. 24 at 8:45 p.m.

• *Palestine in 1896*, a silent documentary by the Lumiere brothers, on Oct. 25 at 1 p.m.

• *Life According to Agfa*, a bruising drama starring Gila Almagor, on Oct. 25 at 2:30 p.m.

• *Fragments*Jerusalem*, a six-hour epic by Ron Havilio, on Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m. and Oct. 27 at 6:30 p.m.

• *Beyond the Walls*, a hard-hitting prison drama, on Oct. 28 at 8:45 p.m.

• *Avanti Popolo*, a war film nominated for best foreign language movie at the 1986 Academy Awards, on Oct. 29 at 6:30 p.m.

• *Siege*, a psychological drama about a grieving widow after the Six Day War, on Oct. 29 at 8:15 p.m.

• *Mom's First Olympics*, a 1997 portrait of a disabled athlete who competes at the 1996 para-Olympic Games in Atlanta.

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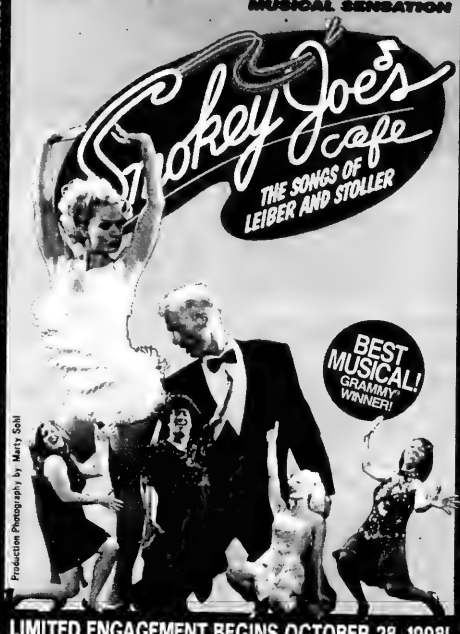

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

YIDDISH MUSIC GALORE

The Friends of Yiddish present an unforgettable evening of Yiddish song and dance with "one of the city's most exciting new talents...." He is **Michael Smolash**, fresh from his starring role in the smash stage hit *Forever Plaid*, accompanied by musicians **Brian Katz** on guitar and piano, and **Jonno Lightstone** on clarinet.

In a program called A Bisl Zun, Smolash sings songs of the Yiddish theatre and some selections — in Yiddish — from *Forever Plaid*. The concert is "followed by a nosh."

B'nai Brith Auditorium, 15 Hove St. Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. Members free; guests $8. RSVP to Min, 905-709-4602.

* * *

Yiddish Music Two: The Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the United Jewish People's Order presents An Afternoon of Jewish Musical Heritage with **Lenka Lichtenberg**, singer, guitarist and pianist. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Oct. 19, 12:30 p.m. $5. 416-789-5502.

* * *

New Bette Midler CD: Songstress **Bette Midler** returns to her roots and dishes out an eclectic mix of music in her latest CD, **Bathhouse Betty**. In this package, the inimitable "Divine Miss M" embraces such styles as Hawaiian music, rap, blues, old-fashioned and new-fangled jazz, and simple love ballads.

The CD's opening selection is the exquisitely-written *Song of Bernadette*, composed by **Leonard Cohen**, **Bill Elliot** and **Jennifer Warnes**. Fans of Warnes will remember her definitive version of the tune in *Famous Blue Raincoat*, her popular CD of Leonard Cohen songs of about 10 years ago.

Alas, Midler's interpretation of *Song of Bernadette* seems highly derivative of Warnes. That's a shame, because there are many worthwhile tunes, though none seem on the order of *Wind Beneath My Wings* or *From A Distance*.

Midler is in top form in the soft emotional ballad *Lullabye in Blue*, which was written by **Brock Walsh** and **Adam Cohen**. Could this be the same Adam Cohen who released a debut CD recently and who – you guessed it – is the son of poet-troubador Leonard Cohen of Montreal?

* * *

Standing Tall: Speaking of Montreal, Association of Jewish Artists in that city of continuing linguistic wars is planning an art exhibition, Soyons Fiers/Stand Tall, to combat "the increasing polarization of ethnic populations." The show opens Oct. 18, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Decarie Square, 6900 Decarie Blvd., and runs Oct. 19 to Nov 1.

"We feel our group can build bridges by revealing our similarities and that our creative expressions are a gift to be shared; to show that we are more alike than we are different," an association press release asserts.

* * *

Out-of-Town Opening: Winnipeg Jewish Theatre presents *The Immigrant*, by **Mark Harelik**, recounting the story of two Russian Jews who immigrate to a small North American town in the 1900s. Oct. 15 to 25 at the Warehouse. $18-$25. 204-477-7478.

* * *

Toronto Arts Awards: Arts Toronto recently announced the recipients of this year's Toronto Arts Awards, presented annually to eight artists who have made a major contribution to the city's cultural life. Toronto's Jewish community should be proud to claim such a high proportion of the recipients as our own.

Winners are composer **Louis Applebaum** (Lifetime Achievement Award); novelist **Matt Cohen** (Writing & Publishing Award); composer **John Weinzweig** (Music Award); landscape architect **Janet Rosenberg** (Architecture & Design Award); dancer-choreographer **Danny Grossman** (William Kilbourn Award); ballet teacher **Mavis Staines** (Performing Arts Award); television actor **Ken Finkleman** (Media Arts Award); and artist **Noel Harding** (Visual Arts Award).

The awards presentation is Oct. 26 at the Atlantis Pavillion, Ontario Place. Tickets for a gala dinner and a show featuring film profiles of each recipient are $175. Show and party only, $35. 416-597-8223.

An exquisite and harrowing new novel from the author of The Bird Artist

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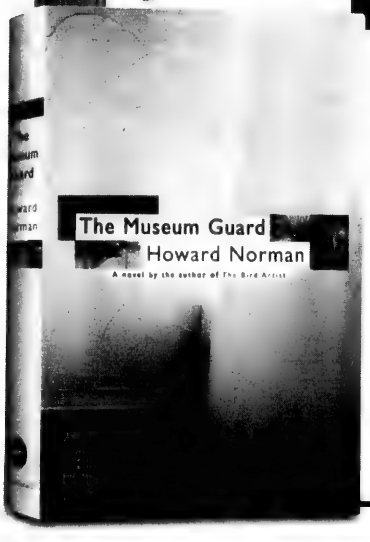
The Museum Guard



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– Quill & Quire

"In the current reign of the epic novel, Howard Norman proves that small is beautiful."
– GQ

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Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY TO HOST MACCABI GAMES

Next August the Jewish community of Rochester, NY expects to be plenty busy. That's because the 20,000-to-25,000-strong community is preparing to host the North American JCC Maccabi Youth Games, a colossal endeavor that in its own way seems almost as challenging as any of the sporting events that the games will offer.

As many as 4,000 athletes are expected for the annual competition, and that means that 400 or 500 hosting families must be found, according to Judith Kaplan, president of the Rochester Jewish Community Center.

Last August the games were held in two cities, Detroit and Charlotte, so as not to overtax the resources of any one community, and in 1997 no less than six cities shared the hosting responsibilities. But as solo host, the Rochester JCC hopes to reap all the rewards associated with the Maccabi Games even as it takes on the major logistical challenge alone.

"It's more than a sports event," says Kaplan. "Infused in every part is a celebration of our Jewish values and our Jewish identity."

Jacob Schreiber, program director for the Rochester JCC, says the games are bound to strengthen the community. "Every single JCC that has hosted the Maccabi Games has reported how well they build community spirit and bring people out of the woodwork. It's a community-building experience in which the kids win and the community will become more numerous."

Numerically only about one-seventh the size of Toronto's community, Rochester seems to have a surprisingly full and impressive communal infrastructure, beginning with the JCC itself. At 48 pages, the JCC's Fall Program Guide is filled with activities from adult aquatics to a book festival to a theatre series.

Whereas the first Jewish 'Y's in America were instituted to introduce a generation of Jewish immigrants and their children to American life, Schreiber notes that modern JCCs are important instruments of Jewish continuity.

"The old Jewish 'Y' used to make Jews into Americans," he quips. "Now the JCC makes Americans into Jews."

It's not too worrisome to locals that Rochester's main Orthodox synagogue is known as the St. Regis Temple. Situated on St. Regis Drive, its full name is the Congregation Beth Kahneses Hachodosh.

The large Reform Temple, Brith Kodesh, holds one of the oldest Reform congregations in the country; it has just started a new Kolel or learning institution, based jointly on similar institutions in both Toronto and New York. "They're trying to see how a small city can adapt a big-city model to its purposes," Kaplan explains.

The major Conservative synagogue, Temple Beth El, has another Toronto connection: its pulpit once belonged to Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg, who later came to Toronto. Beth El has a membership of about 1,200 families and congregants do not normally have to worry about finding a tenth man since some 500 people attend weekly Shabbat services.

There's also a strong Hillel presence on city campuses, a Hillel day school, a yeshiva and a girl's high school, a Judaica store (Traditions), a kosher bakery and a kosher butcher; Wegman's supermarket also has a large kosher section. A kosher cafeteria at the JCC is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For the past two Passovers the community has held a large feminist seder; last year some 550 women attended. "We asked, 'Why is this night different than every other night?' Kaplan recalls. "The answer was, 'Because we don't have to cook.'"

Besides several sections of downtown, Jewish neighborhoods of Rochester include sections of Brighton, Pittsford and Henrietta. For further details about Jewish life in Rochester, pick up The Source, a 96-page guide distributed free at the JCC (716-461-2000). Members of Toronto's BJC or Bloor JCC are invited to show their membership cards for a one-time free visit to the Rochester JCC.

* * *

Israel Museum: This month one of the most remarkable private art collections goes on view for an exclusive four-month showing at the Israel Museum. The Joy of Color: The Merzbacher Collection of Modern Masters includes works by 77 artists, including Picasso, Van Gogh, Renoir, Monet, Matisse, Cezanne, Chagall, Kandinsky, Klee, Modigliani, Chagall and Braque.

* * *

Caribbean Cruise: Regent Holidays of Toronto presents Yiddish Af'n Yam, a Klezmer/Yiddish cruise of the Caribbean, featuring much on-board entertainment and stops in Santo Domingo, San Juan, St. Thomas, Antigua, Dominica, St. Barthelemy and Virgin Gorda. The ship sails Jan. 30, 1999. For details, contact Matilda or Peter at Cruise Holidays, 694-5599 (fax 694-3599).

New times for Passages

The Torah discussion show, *Passages*, on Crossroads Television airs Saturdays 10 p.m and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Art exhibit

Mirta Kupferminc is one of the artists featured in the 1998 exhibit of Arte Hoy, an outstanding collection of lithographs, etchings, aquatints, and acrylics by internationally acclaimed Argentine artists.

Presented by Ruth Schweitzer, Fine Arts, the exhibition runs Oct. 17 to 25.

Kupferminc's exhibit includes a selection of Jewish themes, ceremonies and festivities.

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Professional coach focuses on running hockey school

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At age 28, Michael Lende was on the fast track to a career most hockey people can only dream about – coaching in the NHL.

Young Entrepreneurs

He had already coached for two years in the International Hockey League (IHL), he'd spent one year with Chicoutimi Sagueneens in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, and he'd coached high-calibre youngsters with the Toronto Marlboros Midgets. As coordinator of the U.S. Coaches Clinic, he'd developed personal contacts with NHL people.

But instead of pursuing an NHL career, he decided to change course and devote himself to the world of business.

Along with his new partner Anthony Cornacchia, Lende is the owner/operator of Lende & Cornacchia's Hockey Academy of Toronto, a high-end hockey school geared to top young talents with a future in the game. He is also the majority owner of a hockey school based in Detroit that is the flagship of his burgeoning empire.

The estimated value of his U.S. company has been set at $1 million (US), and last summer it generated a weekly profit of $33,000 (US) during the six-week summer hockey camp season, Lende said.

The scale of operations is substantially smaller in Canada, mostly because he has been living in the United States and he has been devoting his time to developing the company there.

With Cornacchia as his partner (they own 90 percent of the Canadian operation), the Canadian school is picking up business. In one week, it generates approximately $21,000 in revenue, with expenses eating up slightly less than half of that. Lende has added Roots as a Canadian corporate sponsor while in the United States, it's Jeep.

Participants get five hours a day of on-ice instruction and a one-hour lecture/analysis by Paul Dennis, video analyst and sports psychologist with the Toronto Maple Leafs. Rounding out the day is one hour of laser tag.

Lende concedes his school is not for everyone. It's geared for AA and AAA players – the elite of the minor hockey system.

"I'm strict, loud and demanding," he said. "I give parents their money back if their kids aren't interested."

The schools maintain a five to one student-teacher ratio, with a maximum of 25 skaters per class. "I have a mandate for discipline and the work ethic," an approach that can generate results in only two or three days, Lende contends.

As a youngster playing in the York Mills Hockey Association, where his late father Stephen was president, Lende played AA and AAA hockey.

At age 19, he began to coach. At first he worked with 9-year-olds, and soon he was also coaching at York Mills Collegiate, his old school. From there he went on to coach the Bantam Marlies AAA team and then the Midgets Marlies.

At 22, he opened The Hockey Academy of Toronto in Richmond Hill. In its first year of operation, 100 children attended. One of the parents of an American boy was so impressed with her son's improvement that she suggested Lende open a similar school in the United States.

Intrigued by the suggestion, he headed to Detroit and scouted rival schools. He was surprised to see that U.S. camps were not of a particularly high quality.

While his brother Dan ran the Canadian operation, Mike worked in the United States. In his first six weeks, he netted $120,000 (US).

By the next summer, he was a hot commodity on the hockey school circuit. He had spent the winter coaching with the Detroit Falcons, a Colonial League team affiliated with the IHL's Detroit Vipers. The Americans "figured a Canadian from Toronto would know what he's doing," Lende said.

Lende moved on to a role as assistant coach with the Vipers in the next winter while operating the Detroit camps in the summer. Last season, 600 kids were enrolled.

In recent months, "I had to chose between my business and coaching pro. One of them had to give," he said. "I decided the business gave me a house at 26, while in coaching, one week you're the cat's meow, the next week you're out. I also wanted to have my weekends to be a family man like my father," Lende said.

Turning down three coaching offers from American Hockey League teams, each affiliated with an NHL squad, Lende decided to devote himself to his company. He'll keep his hand in coaching, however, returning to the Midget Marlies after a six-year absence.

Mike Lende behind the bench of the Detroit Vipers

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family. There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah. They cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, 1998.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50. Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 4, 1998.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 10, 1998. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Unique cookbook offers a culinary history lesson

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — First, let me lay my knishes on the table. By no means am I an accomplished cook.

Sure, over the years I've been able to master the male-dominated avocation of grilling slabs of meat on propane-heated or charcoal-fired barbecues. But that's just cookery kindergarten. After all, how much skill does it take to flip a nice piece of meat before it turns to shoe leather?

The delicate art of selecting ingredients, seasoning them, mixing them carefully and modifying recipes to add a personal touch – well, that's another story entirely. It might even mean going shopping for exotic ingredients and actually knowing what you're doing.

As my mother, Clara, might say – she whose blintzes are renowned on three continents – "from cooking you don't know."

That's why even I like kitchen impresario Joan Nathan's newest Jewish cookbook, *Jewish Cooking in America*, Alfred A. Knopf, distributed in Canada by Random House, $49. You need not know the first thing about cooking to enjoy this volume, an updated version of Nathan's 1994 edition.

The book itself contains hundreds of recipes from the four corners of the Jewish world, featuring just about every Jewish community from Massachusetts to Marrakesh. There's also plenty of humor in the book (How can one recognize a Reform Jew in a bakery on Friday? He orders a challah and says, "slice it."), but what really sets it apart is its devotion to history.

Not just any history, mind you, but the anthropological description of Jewish food, cooking and eating establishments in the United States.

The story begins in New Amsterdam, which later became New York. In 1654, 23 Sephardi Jews fleeing the Catholic Inquisition in Recife, Brazil, arrived in the Dutch settlement. The Jewish settlers adapted their way of cooking to the New World's new ingredients while maintaining Jewish dietary laws (kashrut), Nathan tells us. They slaughtered their own animals, fried foods in vegetable oil as opposed to lard and, thanks to their cleaning and preparation techniques, developed a reputation among their neighbors for quality and cleanliness.

Successive waves of immigrants brought their cooking styles to America and by 1917 there were a million Jews eating 156 million pounds of kosher meat annually.

While meat was at the heart of a good meal for many, Nathan also includes numerous vegetarian dishes and lower-cholesterol concoctions.

Especially intriguing are the regional recipes Nathan delights in including, things like "Baton Rouge Matzah Balls," "Passover Bumuelos" (fried donuts),"Chef Allen's Rhubarb Tsimmes," "Sarina Roffe's Adjwah" (Syrian date-filled crescents), "Libyan haroset" and "Kuchen, North Carolina style."

Nathan has clearly solicited the family recipes of good cooks from all over the United States, but she's missed out on Canadian classics like "Clara Lungen's Prairie gefilte fish" or "Sharron Lungen's ultra-decadent chocolate chewy cookies," each of which generate lots of "Paul Lungen's brownie points," which are redeemable for favors all year round.

There's plenty here to sink your teeth into, particularly the historic background behind the foods we take for granted. Did you know:

• that pastrami was brought to North America by Romanian immigrants and originally was made from goose meat. With the decline in popularity of geese and the rise of the beef industry, goose was replaced with a fatty cut of brisket;

• the "Reuben sandwich" was named for Arnold Reuben, who ran a delicatessen in Manhattan and who developed the sandwich in 1918 for a famous actress;

• bagel recipes include boiling because itinerant Jewish peddlers did not have clean water to ritually wash their hands while saying a blessing, so they boiled the dough rather than bake it. That put the bagels outside the category of traditional bread and it meant they no longer had to complete the ritual handwashing before eating it;

• "matjes" herring means maiden or young, tender herring. It has come to refer to Dutch, Swedish or Icelandic herring that is cured in sugar and salt and often is pickled in a red sauce with sandalwood;

• around the turn of the century, there were almost 4,000 kosher butcher shops in New York City;

• the brand name "Sara Lee" originated with Chicago baker Charley Lubin, who named his frozen (cheese) cake after his daughter.

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Lovely penthouse suite in Forest Hill features High ceilings, skylight, balcony, 2 parking spaces, 24 hr. security. Wonderful building amenities. *Leslie Dennis.

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AVENUE RD./FAIRLAWN - $739,000.
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OTTER CRES/CARIBOU - $589,000.
Centre hall plan. 3+ bdrms. Updated kitchen & bath. Main fl. family rm. Finished lower level. Skylight. Fireplaces. Lovely landscaped grounds. *Susan Bandler.

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BAYVIEW/DAVISVILLE - $349,000.
Fabulous renovated 3 bdrm. home on quiet street. Kitchen/solarium. Lovely finished lower level. 2 car parking. Inviting deck w/hot tub. *Carol Cotton

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Fabulous 2 sty., 3+1 bdrm., main floor family room, 2 FP's. Huge master w/ensuite, fin. bsmt. Frances Novack*

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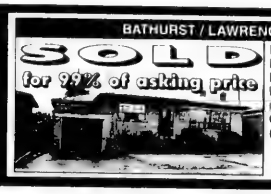

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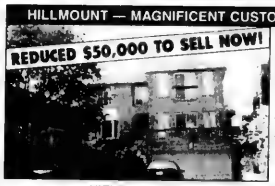

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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

Polish cleaning lady w/5 years exp. seeks work. 416-694-8301.

Polish cleaning lady w/exp. for apts. & houses. 416-693-0279

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Experienced caregiver, live-in required for senior lady. Dufferin/Glencairn area. References required. 416-502-2688.

P/T Nanny/Hskpr, Mon.-Thurs., 3:30-8pm,Bath./Egl. Must speak Hebrew. Call Shelley 402-8379

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Gentle Care Nursing Agency, Catering to the sick, elderly, & children. High quality service. 24 hrs/day. Prof. trained RN's, RPN's, HCA's companions, attendants. Call us: 905-839-9065

Nurse/homemaker., $10-12/hr. Liveout. Refs. 905-738-8225.

RN, Yiddish speaking, avail for private duty in the home. Also exp. in dialysis. 416-962-3684.

259 SENIORS

Looking For The Perfect Senior Care? Sincere, exp., quality senior caregivers, HCA, nurses avail. F/t, P/t. Bonded, refs. **Call # 1 Domestics. 416-224-9907.**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together can find you the right person, view photos. Ruth at 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1650 registered 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cole/Flesher - Seth & Roberta Cole are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter **Sharon Elana**, born on Sep. 21, 1998 at 3:06pm, weighing 8lbs. 5oz. Proud grandparents are Bruce Cole and Stanley & Cynthia Flesher of Guelph and great grandparents Rose Grader, Frances Rubin of Ottawa and Rose Flesher also of Ottawa. Lots of excited aunts and uncles and cousins. Grandmother Sharon Cole is greatly missed at this time.

Helen Waksberg and Nancy & Barry Freeman are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children **Heather & Daniel**. Proud Bubie is Sarah Hartstone. Also thrilled are brothers and sisters Reeva Waksberg, Judy & Ralph Bassett, Jane & Elden Freeman and Noga & Shawn Freeman. Sadly missed and always cherished is Philip Waksberg.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Youthful senior, semi-retired, self sufficient, healthy, thoughtful humourous, sincere, looking for that special attractive woman, slim & trim of body and mind, age 50-65 to share love, care, understanding, friendship and options. Don't miss out. Integrity advised. CJN Box 7108.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr. male, 54 years, young looking, 5'7", average build, London, U.K., seeks initial correspondence view serious relationship with attr. lady 44 - 50 yrs. No ties, must have natural, happy disposition, intelligence,& common sense. Gold diggers, libbers or high flier seekers need not apply. Snaps exchanged. I'll answer all replies Reply to CJN Box 7105 or fax 011-44-181-952-0083.

Elegant, beautiful woman looking for man to travel with, 50-65. Must be generous, financially secure, fit in mind/body. CJN Box 7103

JMW, 50's, happy & easy going, financially successful prof., physically active, enjoys classical music, theatre, seeking JF under 50 who is slim, compassionate, warm & caring for a relationship. CJN Box # 7107.

Sincere male, 50, honest & caring would like to meet younger female for a serious relationship. CJN Box # 7106.

Prof. male 43 seeks attractive lady, 33-42 for casual dining, movies, near by travel. Reply to CJN Box # 7109.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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Women seeking Men

SPICE UP MY LIFE
Single female, pretty, trim, affectionate, cheerful. Seeking a male, 50+, wise, witty, content with his accomplishments in life AD#1563

WARM MY NIGHTS
Single Jewish lady, slim, bright green eyes, romantic, varied interests Seeking a Jewish male, 49+, 5'9"+, intelligent, kind, caring AD#1570

BEST FRIEND, LOVER, PARTNER
Single Jewish lady, 47, 5', auburn hair, blue eyes, sparkling smile, bright, pretty, playful, romantic, non-smoker, loves kids, pets Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, open, honest, handsome, for long term relationship AD#1571

VIVA LAS VEGAS
Single Jewish female, very stylish, dark hair, green eyes, enjoy dining & dancing, comedy clubs, movies, music, trips to Las Vegas. Seeking a single male, handsome, 31-43, with similar interests and outlook. AD#1572

FAMILY VALUES
Single female, enjoy entertaining, theater, travelling. Seeking a male, honest, thoughtful, respectful, with similar interests. AD# 1575

FRIENDSHIP AND MORE
Single professional Jewish female, non-traditional, 29, well travelled, has cultural interests. Seeking a stimulating, intelligent Jewish male, with good sense of humour, bold, 25-35. AD#1589

SOULMATE NEEDED
Single female, 41, long red hair, vibrant, attractive, a dreamer, teacher & a writer. Seeking a handsome, intellectual male, a soulmate to rome the universe with. AD#1542

ENGLISH ROSE
Single female, red hair, blue eyes, outgoing personality, non-smoker, enjoy opera, ballet, music, theater, travelling, especially europe, fine dining Seeking a tall, bright, established male, kind, clean shaven AD#1549

ENERGETIC
Single female, professional, 40, slim, attractive, athletic, enjoy golfing, travelling dining out, fine wines. Seeking a male with a sense of humour, enjoys the finer things in life, similar interests AD#1552

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single female, European background, orthodox, attractive, intelligent, educated, 5'7" Seeking a single male, 34-43, honest, kind, caring, good sense of humour and family values AD# 1554

SUNSHINE SMILE
Single female, slim, petite, 5'2", brown hair & eyes, radiant smile, music teacher, professional, self-employed, enjoy dining, dancing, cycling, swimming Seeking a considerate fit, young at heart male with similar values and interests AD#1555

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
Single, professional female, 5'6", slim, positive outlook on life, enjoy dining & dancing, yoga, exercising, sports, outdoor activities Seeking a well educated, tall, professional male, for long term relationship, possibly marriage. AD#1548

SOMETIMES SILLY
Single Jewish female, attractive, teacher, sometimes silly, sometimes serious, enjoy bike riding, good conversation, non-smoker, kind, sincere. Seeking a Jewish male with similar interests and values. AD#1628

ROMANTIC WALKS
Single Jewish female, attractive, enjoy theatre, dining out, travelling and romantic walks. Seeking a Jewish male, 54-65, with a great sense of humour. AD#1531

DREAMING OF YOU
Professional, ambitious, educated, understanding, very attractive, originally from montreal, down to earth, spontaneous, practical Seeking a Jewish male, late 20's-early 30's, masculine, classy, sense of style, really knows what he wants. AD#1638

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish Female, 38, petite, non-smoker, easy going, never been married, down to earth, laid back with good values. Seeking a male, 35-45, for a best friend and a life time partner AD#1528

TO SHARE LIFE WITH
Attractive Jewish mother of 2, brown hair, green eyes, well educated, kind heart, gentle, humorous, non-smoker, enjoy dining, long walks, art, music, jogging. Seeking a male, late 40's-mid 50's, professional with similar interests. AD#1516

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single mother of 1, from Island, 5'5", attractive, brown complexion, enjoy dining out. Seeking a male with similar interests. AD#1624

COMPASSIONATE
Single female, 5'6", 165lbs, blond hair, Business professional, compassionate, honest, with integrity. Seeking a professional male, 48-58, affectionate, romantic. AD#1517

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, 33, enjoy long romantic walks, tennis, theater, dining & dancing. Seeking a Jewish male, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, & fun to be with. AD#1522

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Divorced Jewish female, 5'6", 128lbs, blond hair, attractive, non-smoker, outgoing, likes to travel, movies. Seeking a male, kind, educated, good sense of humour, for possible long term relationship. AD#1509

Men seeking Women

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests AD#1616

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking. Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 5'6", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing. Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times. AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times. Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour. AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace. Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group. AD#1547

LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing. Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests. AD#1527

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

NO HEAD GAMES
single male, 40, originally from Montreal, handsome, sincere, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hardworking. Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour AD#1543

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38. Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship AD#1523

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male, late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling. Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded. AD#1534

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-faceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tete-a tetes, lots of T.L.C. to give. Seeking a slim, elegant, non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre". AD#1504

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Professional gentleman, Jewish, 52, traditional values, handsome, healthy, successful, enjoy good food, dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking marriage minded lady, looks are not important, for a long term relationship AD#1513

ROMANTIC & LOYAL
Gentleman, early 50's, tall, athletic, Canadian, non-smoker, easy to look at & talk to, enjoy life's pleasures. Seeking an attractive, fit, single Jewish female, 39-45, for lasting love, no pretenders pls. AD#1514

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling. Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile. AD#1485

GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER
Single attractive male, 58, 5'11", slim, brown hair & blue eyes, great sense of humour, caring, enjoy going away for the winter to Florida, Australia, or California Seeking a female, attractive, well kept, good personality, great sense of humour. AD#1519

JEWISH DOCTOR
Jewish male, 47, 5'7", doctor, honest, slim, fit, European background, has shared custody of his 2 children, keep commitments & promises. Seeking a female under 40, slim, nice & intelligent AD#1501

SHY AT FIRST
Single Jewish male, 41, no dependents, brown hair & eyes, handsome, sincere, caring, enjoy dining & dancing, travelling, music, not a pet lover Seeking a single lady, non-smoker, 32-40, up to 5'3", sincere, no head games pls. AD#1525

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music, movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth. Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship AD#1469

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, early 60's, 5'9", 160lbs, fit, enjoy arts, sports, good conversation, good sense of humour. Seeking an elegant, slim, non-smoker, proud of her heritage lady. AD#1504

COMPANION NEEDED
Single male, handsome, slim. Seeking a companion to share expenses for winter trip to Florida for 3 months. Pls call. AD#1506

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single male, 50, 5'10", 184lbs, handsome, well built, responsible, financially secure, honest, sincere, non-smoker, non-drinker, well established. Seeking a Jewish female, 40-50, with similar interests. AD#1465

To renew your ad call
416-236-6644

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

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330 OBITUARIES

GOLD, Leah - on Sept. 25, 1998, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
COVANT, Jack - on Sept. 25, 1998, late of 605 Finch Ave. W.
SNIZETSKY, Louis - on Sept. 27, 1998.
GROSSBERG, Issy - on Sept. 28, 1998, late of 87 Pendrith St.
MALDOWSKY, Morris - on Sept. 28, 1998, late of 2121 Bathurst St.
MALAMUD, Batia - on Sept. 28, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KRAKOVSKY, Hilda - on Sept. 28, 1998.
TORNECK, Ruth - on Sept. 28, 1998, late of 4383 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of
MAXWELL DAVID JOEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 2:00 p.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Section 8
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX GREENSPAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 25th, 10:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth Radom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROMA GRYNBERG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 11:00 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Sons of Abraham Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

Trainer savors Skip Away's success

By HARLAN ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — Thousands of sports fans know Hubert "Sonny" Hine as the trainer of America's best race horse, Skip Away.

Sports

But few of them also know:
• that Hine is the grandson of a cantor and the great-grandson and great-great-grandson of rabbis;
• that Hine spent a year at Yale;
• that he served behind enemy lines in North Korea;
• that he was recruited into the FBI by J. Edgar Hoover himself;
• that he's paid hospital bills for dozens of needy race-trackers;
• and that he'll never enter a horse in a race on Yom Kippur.

For Hine, Skip Away is the "cherry on top" of a 40 year career in the horse racing business. With an eight-race winning streak and more than $9 million in earnings so far, Skip Away's production is pretty impressive for a $22,500 birthday present intended for his wife Carolyn.

"If he remains undefeated through the Breeders Cup Classic (Nov. 7 for $2 million) he'll retire as the biggest money-winning horse ever," his trainer said.

"We want him to leave a legacy. We owe it to the horse."

Until Skip Away made him a nationally recognized sports figure, Hine had carved out a distinguished career for himself with such stakes winners as Guilty Conscience, Amber Pass, Bet Big, Technology, Norquestor and Skip Trial, Skip Away's sire.

Nearly all were bought, like Skip Away, at sales of two-year-olds in training, and nearly all for modest prices.

Skip Away's value as a breeding stallion has been estimated between $4 million to $6 million. He could be bred to about 80 mares a year at a stud fee of $20,000 to $30,000 per mare.

But until that decision is made, Sonny and Carolyn Hine (are enjoying the thrills Skip Away brings them.

Hine said he prefers "to buy young horses as two-year-olds in training rather than as yearlings. At two, you can see if they can stand training, and you can see how well they move.

"After more than 40 years of experience, I can't tell you which of the sale two-year-olds will be a great horse – but I can tell you which ones won't be," he said.

"Of perhaps 200 horses at a sale, I'll only take a further look at 50 or 60."

Great horses like Skip Away are so few and far between that the Hines want to savor every minute of their time with the best race horse in America, despite the extra travel required and demands on their time.

In Skip Away's second stakes race on grass, "he came flying down the home stretch to be second," Hine said. "Then I knew I had a super horse. He won his next start by 18 lengths."

Next year, with Skip Away retired, "We'll take life a little easier," Hine predicted.

"But you know, I've never really learned how to live...just how to work."

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of
ROSE WOLKOFF ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Linitzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PHILIP RUBINOFF ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 18th at 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ETHEL MANDELL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Anshei Minsk Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
TAMARA ZEITMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 18th at 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of
HENRY MOOS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 2:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JACK SHAPIRO ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 10:15 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Linitzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LOUIS KERNERMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 10:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of
PAUL RAPHAEL FEIG ז"ל
will take place
Sun., Oct. 18th
at
10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ALEXANDER SZENDER ASHKENAZY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 18th, at 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Maramorsher Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SHIRLEY WEISS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 1:00 p.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARRY STRAUSS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 18th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ostrovster Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ANNA LAND ז"ל
(mother of Enid Lesser)
will take place
Sunday, October 18th at 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

338 SHIVA CATERING

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Choosing kids hockey equipment a safety issue

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — You don't have to drop a bundle to outfit a child for hockey, according to an expert on skates and hockey equipment.

Joel Majer, 31, founder of JM Marketing Ltd., a hockey supply company based at Centennial Arena in North York, has specialized in fitting children and teenagers with new and used skates and equipment for more than 15 years.

One of the country's largest independent suppliers of hockey equipment, and an expert in sharpening and aligning skates, Majer stressed that proper fit is much more important than the quality of the equipment used.

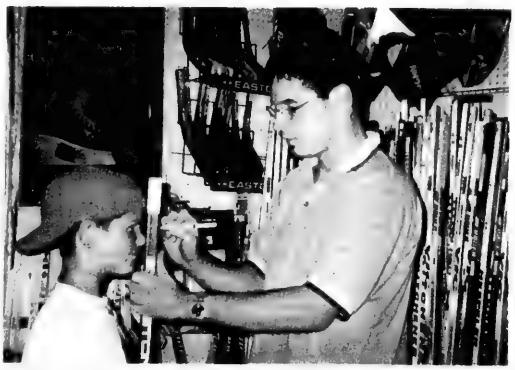
"You grow out of hockey equipment instead of into it." Proper fit is essential for the skater's safety, protection and performance, he stressed.

In deciding the quality of the equipment, Majer said he assesses the child's needs, and often recommends used equipment for young skaters who are growing, particularly those who are not playing at a high competitive level.

The two most important pieces of equipment are the helmet and the skates, he said. A helmet should be bought new or relatively new because it only has a lifespan of seven or eight years. Helmets ($60 to $90 new, $25 to $35 used) are adjustable. Majer suggested a helmet be bought at the smallest setting so it can be adjusted as the child grows.

"A helmet has to fit snugly. The cage should lock into the chin and not be able to lift up. I usually lift the child up by the cage to see if the helmet moves."

A mouth guard ($5 to $10) can reduce concussions by an estimated 25 percent while a neck guard ($20) prevents cuts to the neck, he added.



Hockey equipment expert Joel Majer outfits 13-year-old Aaron Orzech with the right size stick. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Well-fitting skates ($100 new, $40 used) are necessary for good performance, and it is important to make sure used skates are solid at the ankles. "You hold the skate by the back and squeeze the ankle. You want the skates to be hard. Check the blade. Rust doesn't matter, but you need to have some blade. Three quarters of an inch is the minimum size."

Majer measures the front, length, width and the back of the feet before selecting a skate, and he cautioned against choosing a brand name first, because all skates fit differently. Check the fit of skates, he suggested. They "should be snug. Undo the laces. The toes should be nice and firm and make sure there's a pencil width between the heel and the skate. If you can get two fingers in, it's too big. If the skates are big, the child will be skating on an angle. More people have wider feet. The worst thing you can do is go for a bigger skate to compensate for a wide foot."

Majer recommended keeping the same brand of skates if they're comfortable. "We're very careful about switching brands. We always check if the kid can walk straight. Then it's the right fit. New skates are not always comfortable. You need to know how to break in a skate."

An accessory kit which includes jock strap, garter belt, suspenders and velcro straps for shin pads will run about $21. He said shin pads ($10 to $40 new, $10 used) should fit with the cup over the centre of the knee, and the bottom one-quarter inch above the ankle bone. "Make sure there's not too much of a gap between the shin pad and skate," he said.

Majer said the hockey pant (new $30 to $100, used start at $15) should go to the middle of the knee with the waist band high enough to protect the kidneys; shoulder pads (new $20 to $100, used $10) should be tried with the pants, and there should be very little space between the waist band of the pants and the bottom of the shoulder pads.

Majer recommended new elbow pads ($15 to $20) because the "velcro stretches and can slip and move around, and that's useless." The shoulder pad should reach the top of the elbow pad, and the bottom of the elbow pad should reach the top of the gloves. Hockey gloves ($30 new, $15 used) should not slip off. They have to be comfortable. The more flexible the glove, the easier it is for the child to shoot."

Kids should use new hockey sticks ($15) but they should not use an adult stick that has been cut down. "It won't have the right balance," Majer said. "A beginner needs a flexible stick with a nice, thin shaft and solid blade."

The stick should reach the top of the nose if the child is out of skates and the bottom of the chin when wearing skates.

As for equipment care, Majer suggested drying the skates with a rag, and air drying all equipment, especially skates, after a game. Skate blades should be sharpened by a professional after every four to six hours of ice time.

Majer suggested washing all the hockey equipment in cold water with detergent – he recommends an industrial washer – several times a year, to prevent the growth of bacteria.

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ONTARIO LOTTERY CORPORATION
CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS
ADVANCE FUNDING
The Ontario Lottery Corporation has set up the Advance Funding Program allocating 40 million dollars in interim funding in 1998. Primarily these funds are to replace revenues generated by charities who operated Monte Carlo events which ceased March 31, 1998, but all eligible charitable organizations may apply for funding. Each Municipality has been allotted a per capita share of the advance funds for distribution to local charities on a local priority basis.
Eligibility: Groups must be charitable organizations that meet the requirements as set out in the Lottery Licensing Policy Manual provided by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario.
Applications: All organizations must apply to their "home base municipality" to pick up the application/roster form. (Home Base Municipality" is defined as that municipality in which your head office is presently located.
Priority will be given to those organizations that held Monte Carlo events between January 01, 1996 and March 31, 1998.
Only applications received by 4:30 PM, November 13, 1998, will be considered.
For additional information, please contact the City of Vaughan Licensing Dept. at (905) 832-8505 ext. 8364.
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J. D. Leach
City Clerk

Marathon ready to go

TORONTO — The Canadian International Marathon is set for its fourth annual run through the streets of Toronto beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Oct. 18.

An estimated 5,000 runners from more than 20 countries are expected to participate in four race events, making it Canada's largest marathon.

The race components include: the full marathon (26.2 miles), the Home Depot half marathon, the wheelchair marathon and the corporate/school challenge.

All races begin at Mel Lastman Square and conclude at Queen's Park.

The marathon's charitable beneficiary, the Ontario Cancer Institute/Princess Margaret Hospital, received $170,000 in pledges in the weeks leading up to the event.

For more information, check out the marathon Web site at [www.RunToronto.com] or call (416) 972-1062.

The Inside Back

Breisheet: the Series

By JORDAN MAX

I hear that Hollywood has discovered spirituality as this year's latest fad. Can television be far behind? Here are some episodes for the Breisheet (Genesis) dramatic presentation series I'll soon be pitching to the networks, complete with possible commercial sponsor angles.

Last Laugh

Snake Eyes: the Adam and Eve Story – The story of adamant nudists who, after being talked into trying a new food product by a fast-talking tree-to-tree salesman, eat without thinking or even checking for a hechsher. They subsequently discover haute couture, and are banished from the Garden of Yiddin for the fashion crime of wearing spring colors when it is clearly more appropriate that they wear autumn colors. Suggest fashion or kashrut sponsors.

Noach and the Big Mabul – Not only is Noach the only righteous person in his generation, he's also the only one who regularly watches the weather channel. He can't interest anyone in joining him for an unlimited world cruise without ports-of-call, sundeck or gambling facilities, and with lousy weather to boot. The Big Mabul is a world-wide phenomenon started by El Nino, that badly behaved kid who sat in the last row at school. Og of Bashan finds the waves great for surfing. Suggest weather oriented/sports utility vehicle sponsors.

Castle Improvements: The Tower of Bavel – It starts out simply as a house addition, but is designed by committee, isn't tendered, doesn't meet local building codes, has too many subcontractors, and goes way over budget. In the end, the owner is just left with a pile of bricks and huge bills. Faced with a pending lawsuit for negligence, the subcontractors suddenly acquire different languages and take off to the four corners of the earth. Suggest do-it-yourself hardware sponsors.

The Akedah, the Ties that Bind – (Binding of Yitzhak) – Avraham knows the interview question for the CEO position, "Would you kill your son in order to get this job?," is a trick one.

He knows all along that God is going to blink at the last minute, and just goes along with the plan in order to stay on the recruitment short list. Suggest career development sponsors.

Switched after Birth: the Yaacov/Esau story – In this high drama episode, the long-standing broigas over the birthright results in a more fundamental disagreement over the future strategic directions of Abraham Inc., the family business. Esau wants to take the company in the field of resource exploration, entertainment and global investing, while Yaacov prefers to focus on academic research. Suggest management consulting sponsors.

Veil of Secrecy: the Leah/Rachel story – The original reason for shidduch insurance. Leah and Rachel both want to marry Yaacov, and flip a coin to decide. Amid all the wedding preparations, with the caterers, the flowers, the bridal gown, etc., they just forget to tell Yaacov about the change in plans prior to the chuppah. Loads of laughs in this comedy of mistaken identity. Suggest bridal/personal identity products sponsors.

World's Biggest Mistakes: The Shechem Bris-o-Rama – Portrays an attempt by Yaacov's sons, Shimon and Levi, to enter the Genesis Book of World Records for the largest mass brit milah.

Unfortunately, they forget to consult with their lawyers about getting written medical consent and securing appropriate malpractice insurance, leading to a whole mess o'trouble and a speedy departure for the whole mishpachah to a different jurisdiction. Suggest legal sponsors.

Yehuda and Tamar's Excellent Adventure – Yehuda's a bit lonely for intellectual conversation, and seeks out a local escort service for a discrete relationship. Tamar, a young biblical escort-in-training, is seeking a permanent job in the Yovel Office. The only problem is that he gives her a special gift as payment, however, by then she has vanished. Convinced by friends and lawyers, she decides to demand larger payments for his acknowledging the relationship. Yehuda, finally caught by the evidence, is left with no choice but to publicly admit the truth. Look for spinoff series and a possible Impeachment episode. Suggest dry cleaning/legal sponsors.

Yoseph: From Shmattes to Gold – Yoseph is not actually sold by his brothers, rather he runs away to join what he thinks is a circus caravan, which he eventually leaves in order to go to the University of Cairo Law School. He later sues the caravan owners for $30 million in damages, settles out of court for an undisclosed amount, profits heavily from investing in grain futures, and retires early in a nice condominium with its own golf course in Goshen, the Borsht Belt of Egypt. Suggest insurance/investment sponsors.

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PLUM SAUCE CHICKEN

4 deboned chicken breasts
1 8 oz. can blue plums
1 tblsp. pareve margarine
1/4 cup dry sherry
3 tblsp. flour
1/2 tsp. paprika
salt & pepper
dash cayenne pepper

Sauce
1 tblsp. brown sugar
1/8 tsp. cinnamon
juice from 1/4 lemon
1 tsp. cornstarch
1 tsp. water

Pit 8 oz. can of blue plums and mash in half their juice. Heat brown sugar, cinnamon, lemon juice and mashed plums in saucepan. Bring to a boil and thicken with corn starch mixed with water. Set aside.

Toss chicken in mixture of flour, cayenne, salt, pepper and paprika.

Brown chicken in margarine. Add sherry, cover and simmer 5 mins. Add plum sauce and simmer uncovered 15 minutes.

Serve with rice.

About Teens

Dear Karilani,

I am going to a Hebrew school where I have many friends. Most of my friends come from families that are well off. I was accepted to this school even though my parents don't have a lot of money. The problem is that I don't have the latest and greatest clothes and I can't always afford to go to a lot of movies. I also have trouble buying nice gifts like my friends do. It might be my imagination, but I think they are starting to ignore me and not invite me out anymore. I'm feeling very hurt. Do you think I should say something to them?

Unsure in Montreal

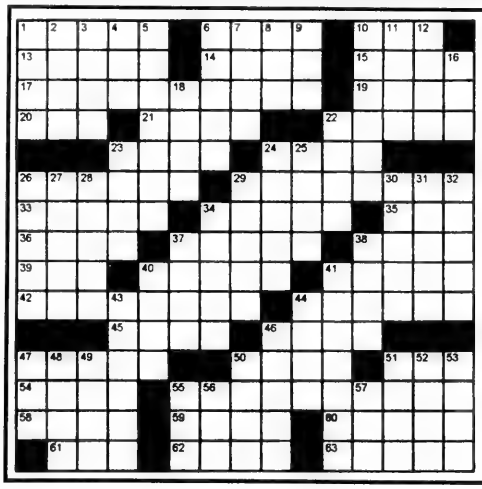
Dear Unsure in Montreal,

In today's society, people should not look down on others because of their lack of money. You should not feel inferior to your friends, as superficial differences should not interfere with true friendship. There are more important things in life that determine the differences between people, and money is not one of them. Please do not feel that physical appearances and material possessions determine your popularity.

When something really worries a person, they imagine that it seems worse than it actually is. Give your friends a chance and try to think positively. There are many ways that you and your friends can hang out together and still not spend a lot of money. Try to tell your friends about cheap and fun activities that you can do instead of going out for dinner or going to the movies. There are lots of great movies to rent. There are tons of great things to do around the city and we are sure that with some more brainstorming you can come up with some really fun ideas.

If your friends do not follow your suggestions, then try to budget your money. As far as clothing goes, there are many ways to save. Instead of buying clothing at the mall, try going to the various outlets and warehouse stores, where the clothing is half the price of the same clothes sold in the mall. Try shopping at used clothing stores, as there are so many cool things to be found there. Most clothing at used stores is about one-third of the cost of regular mall clothing. Have faith in yourself, and regardless of how much money you carry around in your wallet, you will always have friends and people who care for you.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Tower
6. Observant (Yid.)
10. Gaza to Jerusalem (dir.)
13. Emulate Abba Eban
14. Chai
15. "Funny __" Streisand film
17. Abba Eban
19. Ancestory
20. Pastrami on __
21. Few
22. Israeli resort
23. Many colored
24. Part for Peerce
26. Etrog cousins
29. Pollard
33. Specials for Bubbies
34. Rosenblatt move
35. __ Carte
36. Isaac on Mt. Moriah?
37. The Yellow star
38. Streimi border
39. Imitate Newman
40. Betim in Spain
41. Exit
42. Israeli town
44. Enjoyed the Seder
45. Dance
46. Sat shiva
47. Foodbag?
50. Seder salt water
51. Pouch
54. "A priest with __ and Thummim"
55. Writer
58. Hummus holder
59. "High tref"
60. Hebrew letters
61. Joe's Bro
62. Sacrificed often
63. Yiddish busybody

Down

1. Chazzer (Eng.)
2. Tsahal
3. Moses in the bullrushes
4. Arkia stat
5. Yeshiva
6. Moses' bush
7. Not on Shabbat
8. Alien craft?
9. "Sea" to Chagall
10. Actor Gould
11. Sisrah's temple piercer
12. Writer Ferber
16. Soon
18. Shiva sounds
22. Israeli Valley
23. Via Maris, "Sea __"
24. Helen Reddy specialty
25. One time
26. Jacob's father-in-law
27. Writer Jong
28. 15th Century talmudist
29. A Maccabee
30. Abram's brother
31. Breathing
32. Happened at baby ceremony
34. Italian varnishkes?
37. Boxer Max
38. Buddy Rich specialty
40. Spelt
41. Miriam's ailment at times
43. Anakim giant
44. Laban's eldest
46. Shavuot (Eng.)
47. Sit at the Seder
48. Baby holder
49. Circumcision
50. Wealthy ancient city
51. Shema starter
52. Leah to Joseph
53. "House" to Marranos?
55. Imitate
56. Ark front?
57. Her

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. ***(Last week's answers are on page 37.)***

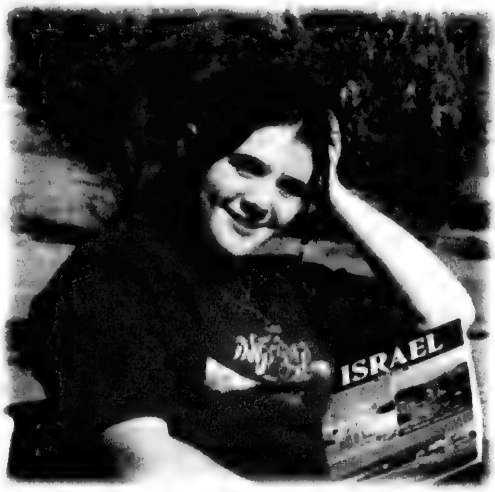
STRENGTHENING JEWISH IDENTITY

When you give to UJA, where will your money go?

Ask Jaqlin Walters.

THIS IS THE STORY OF ONE TEENAGER WHOSE LIFE IS OFF TO A FRESH START BECAUSE OF UJA FEDERATION.

A kind comment. A gentle touch. An unexpected experience. The little things that change Jewish lives forever. For 16 year old Jaqlin Walters, who went through the motions of Jewish education and religious services, but felt little, it was a gift from her grandparents. An Israel experience, subsidized by UJA Federation. It gave Jaqlin an entirely new perspective. "Visiting the Western Wall really got to me. I just started crying. It's been there for 3,000 years and represents all the people who fought for it. It symbolizes the obstacles that Israel has overcome and where we are today as a Jewish people," she explains. With a deeper understanding of the Holocaust, thanks to a three day seminar at Yad Vashem, Jaqlin hopes to participate in the next March of the Living before attending Hebrew University. Today, because of her visit to Israel, Jaqlin's Jewish vision includes a past present and future. "I feel more Jewish now, like



I'm not the only one," she says. "I feel like I'm part of the circle."

UJA Federation's community **Campaign for Fifty** will allocate $6.5 million in new funds to help Jews like Jaqlin strengthen their identities. These additional dollars will support, among other projects, family education programs, more day school subsidies for families in need, enhanced supplementary schools and greater participation by Toronto teenagers in the March of the Living.

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR FIFTY

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The Canadian Jewish news

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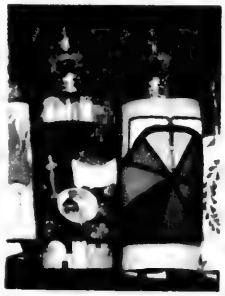
This Week

National

Jewish homelessness: A tale of two women. *Page 3*

Plans for new CHAT building put on hold. *Page 5*



Artist Elena Keen puts personal touch into Torah covers. *Page 24*

Arts

Poetry and photography join to create new art form. *Page 44*

New Israeli singing sensation Ronit Shachar to appear at Lee's Palace. *Page 47*

Sports

Corey Mincovitch wins international taekwon-do championships in Birmingham, England. *Page 54*

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Candlelighting: 6:05
Cheshvan 3, 5759
Havdalah: 7:10

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Talks go into overtime

Negotiations continue despite terror attack

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

WYE MILLS, Maryland — Talks between Israel and the Palestinan Authority were extended amidst reports Monday from Israel of a terrorist attack on a bus in Beersheba.

More than 50 people were reported injured after two hand grenades were thrown at the bus. As of this writing, one suspect was arrested.

Despite the attack, the parties continued their efforts in Maryland to try to find common ground. On Sunday night, the United States put forward a "bridging proposal" seeking to resolve the wide gaps between the sides on outstanding security issues.

At one point in the proceedings, the parties even halted direct bilateral talks. The halt in the bilateral meetings appeared to be a result of the apparent inability of either side to move from their opening positions since arriving at Wye.

"It doesn't seem as if we are any closer to an agreement now than we were yesterday," said an Israeli source on Sunday. "The mood is glum because the Palestinians have not budged," said another source.

"We are back at square one, except for security, because there are no new suggestions from Israel," countered a Palestinian source. Senior Israeli delegates said that on certain security issues the gaps had even widened.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright put forward a paper on security issues over the weekend for the parties to consider.

The Palestinians put forward principles on fighting terrorism that were worked out during talks with CIA director George Tenet earlier this month.

U.S. President Bill Clinton walks between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat in the Rose Garden at the White House last week to inaugurate the Wye Plantation summit talks. There was very little progress at the talks. However at the insistence of the U.S. the summit was extended. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

The Israelis have called these points "good" but insist they are still "insufficient, because they have not translated this into an operational 12-week working plan."

One difference remaining on security is the Palestinian insistence on symmetry between disarming Hamas militants and radical elements among the settlers.

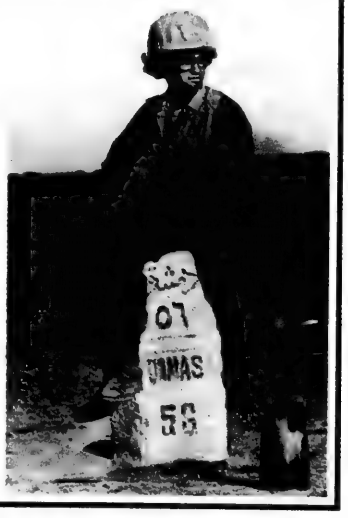
The United States is unsure if Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Prime Minister Yasser Arafat have the political will to conclude a peace agreement at the Wye summit, State Department Spokesman James Rubin said yesterday.

Rubin repeatedly refused to say explicitly if U.S. mediators felt they had made progress in the intensive negotiations, that began last Thursday.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon joined the talks on Sunday. Industry and Trade Minister Natan

Continued on page 42

A TIRED SOLDIER SCANS THE HORIZON



This file photo shows an Israeli soldier during the Yom Kippur War of 1973 resting on a highway marker 56 kilometres from Damascus. For a retrospective of that war, 25 years ago please see pages 4, 8 and 9.

[IPPO photo]

INSIDE

Ha'aretz commentator Danny Rubenstein speculates on a possible new "Jordanian Option" for peace with the Palestinians. *Please see page 39.*

Chief Sephardi rabbi encourages ties with non orthodox — page 12

The News in Brief

CANADA

Purple Ribbon Campaign

TORONTO — Jewish Family & Child Service is reminding the community that during October, Children's Aid Societies across Ontario are distributing purple ribbons to raise awareness of the need to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Reiser Appointed Judge

OTTAWA — Longtime Jewish community activist Sigmund (Siggy) Reiser has been appointed a citizenship judge. Lucienne Robillard, federal minister of citizenship and immigration, made the announcement late last month. Reiser, a Holocaust survivor, is active in many communal groups, including Canadian Jewish Congress.

ISRAEL

Forest Fires Spread

JERUSALEM — Five Israeli Arab youths confessed last week to setting fires in central Israel. The fires were part of a week-long forest blaze that burned out of control in northern and central Israel, causing thousands of inhabitants to evacuate the area north of Haifa. Unseasonably dry weather and heavy winds also contributed to the fires, some of which were caused by Sukkot picnickers who left coals burning.

Hebron Curfew Lifted

HEBRON — The Israeli army ended a curfew on Palestinians in the Israeli-controlled section of Hebron. The decision to end the curfew, which had been prompted by a Sept. 30 grenade attack that wounded 14 Israeli soldiers and 11 Palestinians, came one day after the easing of a 10-day closure on the West Bank and Gaza.

WORLD

Party To Expel Lawmaker

MOSCOW — Russian prosecutors are considering criminal charges against Gen. Albert Makashov, a Communist lawmaker who recently uttered several anti-Semitic comments. And leaders of the Russian Communist party promised to expel Makashov, who earlier this month said, "It is time to expel all Yids out of Russia." At recent mass rallies, Makashov said Jews are to blame for Russia's economic crisis, and that President Boris Yeltsin should be "turned to soap."

Rabbi Beaten

MOSCOW — Two unidentified men attacked a Lubavitch rabbi in the central Russian city of Nizhniy Novgorod last week. Rabbi Zalman Yoffe, 31, was attacked near his home in the city, about 400 kilometres east of Moscow. He suffered serious head injuries. His condition was described as stable.

Clinton Opens Records

WASHINGTON — Additional U.S. records on Nazi war criminals will see the light of day. On Oct. 8, President Bill Clinton signed the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act, which was passed by Congress in August. The new law calls for the creation of the Nazi War Criminal Records Interagency Working Group, which will make formerly classified records concerning the Holocaust available to the public.

Doctor Praises Mengele

LOS ANGELES — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre has called on the German state government of Bavaria to condemn and detain an admitted concentration camp doctor. Hans Muench, 87, in a recent interview with the weekly magazine *Der Spiegel*, boasted of his experiments on Jewish inmates at Auschwitz, spoke of Jews as subhumans and praised the infamous Nazi doctor Joseph Mengele for his "intelligence and convictions."

Bonds To Honor Cotler

NEW YORK — Prof. Irwin Cotler of McGill University of Montreal will be among 23 former leaders of the Soviet Jewry movement to be honored by Israel Bonds at a dinner here Oct. 25. Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and former Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Shamir are slated to attend. Toronto's Wendy Eisen is also an honoree.

A Shnapps and Pickle For Gore

WASHINGTON — Vice-President Al Gore stood in front of a Conservative congregation with a shot glass filled with vodka in his left hand, and a pickle and a piece of pumpernickel bread in his right.

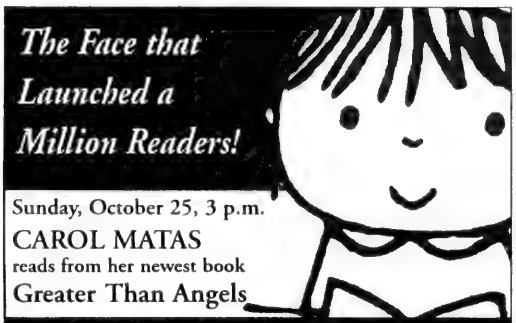
"Rabbi, teach me how to do this," he implored Rabbi Leonid Feldman.

Gore joined about 150 congregants of Temple Emanuel in Palm Beach, Fla., in their Simchat Torah service before attending a Democratic party fundraising event that raised some $500,000.

"What a way to start a day," joked Gore. "A shot of vodka taken in a synagogue."

The Soviet-born Rabbi Feldman introduced the vodka tradition into the shul's Simchat Torah and Purim celebrations 10 years ago.

"Mr. Vice-President, you have met many rabbis, but I am sure they didn't feel the way I do today," said Rabbi Feldman, who was imprisoned in the former Soviet Union for his Jewish activities.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Jewish homelessness: A tale of two women

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — This is the story of two Jewish women. One used to be a social worker, who never lost her professional instincts. The other, until recently, spent a year as one of roughly 4,700 homeless in Toronto, sleeping in bus shelters, fending off physical attacks, and eating what and when she could.

The year on Toronto's streets took its toll on Rachel (not her real name). She is about 50, and frightfully thin. Her lower legs, although better now, are caked in pink and gray sores, a condition that is said to be common among the homeless. Under a donated winter coat, which she clutches to herself, she wears a tattered skirt and skimpy top. Her sneakers have holes in them.

But a few weeks ago, her luck changed. She met Lillian Freedman, who found her a one-room apartment in downtown Toronto. And as a result of Freedman's vocal efforts since then, Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) has inaugurated a two-month pilot project to find Jewish homeless in the city.

The development comes on the heels of front-page media reports on the homeless, now that winter is around the corner.

Earlier this month, a coalition of social activists, academics and business people termed the plight of Toronto's homeless "a national disaster," and called for emergency action.

"If there are homeless Jews out there, we need to be aware and we need to respond to them," says JF&CS executive director Gordon Wolfe. "I don't believe there are a lot of Jewish homeless, but even one is too many."

Lillian Freedman

Simon Kalkstein, a social worker at the downtown branch of JF&CS, estimates there are fewer than a dozen Jewish homeless in the city's core, and some suffer from mental illness. That would be in keeping with a recent study that showed 66 percent of homeless have been diagnosed with a mental illness at some point in their lives.

Freedman has the agency's backing and authority – and a small supply of cash – to find Jewish homeless and put them up at an inexpensive hotel for up to three nights until JF&CS can deal with them on a more lasting basis.

JF&CS has also struck a committee to deal with Jewish homeless, once more are found.

One morning in late August, Freedman happened to be at the corner of College and Elizabeth streets in downtown Toronto, and she noticed a frail figure sleeping in a streetcar shelter. The old social work skills kicked in.

"She looked fragile and tired," Freedman recalls. "And she was close to my age. I thought, 'Why is a woman my age sleeping in a streetcar shelter?'

"I went over to talk to her. I gave her some money for breakfast. She was very polite. And I know this sounds funny, but she looked and sounded Jewish. I asked if she was. And she is."

Rachel was raised in a Jewish home in Toronto. She remembers learning some Hebrew. She's a graduate of a well-known high school and attended the University of Toronto. She has siblings, from whom she is estranged.

Although quite lucid, she's nervous – still terrified by her ordeal, which included sleeping in dangerous flop houses, being robbed and enduring last winter mainly outdoors. Her eyes dart about when she is asked questions, but she displays a quick wit, followed by an open, genuine smile.

Her rent is $426 a month, and now that she has an address, her welfare will go up to $520 monthly. JF&CS has paid the first and last month's rent on her modest apartment, and through its financial assistance program, will top up the welfare.

But Rachel can't help being suspicious of her benefactor's generosity. She has yet to unpack her belongings, all contained in one shopping bag. She simply can't help but feel that this too is temporary; that it will be snatched away, or stolen from her.

"Yeah," she chuckles. "You can get the girl out of the streets, but you can't get the streets out of the girl. For me, survival is an ordeal."

Following their initial meeting, Freedman took Rachel to Sistering, a downtown drop-

Continued on page 7

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THE AL AND FAYE MINTZ REENA ELDERHOME

From the editor's desk

God gave them courage

Like studying an ocean in midstream, its horizon beyond comprehension, we stand in the flow of Jewish history looking back on the Day of Atonement 25 years ago that was unlike any other before or since.

An entire generation has been born into the Jewish world, into the world at large since Yom Kippur 25 years ago and the surprise attack launched against Israel by Syria and Egypt.

That generation has no memory of the fact that Israel's sheer physical survival hung in a precarious balance during the first few days of the war.

It has no memory of Israel's betrayal at the hands of the European democracies. At Israel's most desperate hour, only Portugal permitted the United States to fly through its air space to facilitate the re-supply of weaponry to the beleaguered Jewish state battling for its very life.

That generation has no memory of the moratorium imposed by Great Britain on the delivery to Israel of arms and weapons that Israel had purchased prior to the war.

Nor does it recall that Israel was placed in virtual isolation in the international community as a result of the sanctimonious and unctuous pandering to the suppliers of oil. Most African countries severed diplomatic relations with Israel.

The Soviet and Arab blocs of nations turned the UN into a topsy-turvy, morally inverted world of lies and hypocrisy.

That generation has no memory of the oil embargo imposed against industrialized nations by the Arab oil-producing states. Western, liberal, democracies were tested by the blatant oil blackmail.

They failed that test totally.

Principle, ethics, humanity, fairness and decency surrendered to economic self-interest.

But we, the older generation, are indeed old enough to remember. And we, the older generation, are old enough to recall with unforgettable clarity the eerie, unsettling sight of men wearing tallitot, scurrying back and forth from prayers in shul on Yom Kippur, sitting in their cars listening for news on the radio.

In Jerusalem, the atmosphere was surrealistic. The peace of the usually silent day was broken in the early morning by jets flying overhead. Then, at 2 p.m., the air raid siren wailed across the city and across the country.

Abraham Rabinovich described the way the people of Jerusalem received the news of the outbreak of war:

"In the crowded Sephardi Synagogue in Jerusalem's Ramat Eshkol, a young man rose from his seat when his name was shouted from the doorway by an army courier. But his father, who was sitting next to him, held him in an embrace and refused to let him go. The synagogue's rabbi told the weeping father that his son could not stay. 'His place is not here today,' said the rabbi. The father released his son and the rabbi placed his hand on the young man's head to bless him.

"Throughout Jerusalem, men wearing prayer shawls and skullcaps could be seen driving cars or thumbing lifts to mobilization points sometimes with knapsacks over their shoulders. Some had time to stop by their homes to break their fast which began at sundown Friday.

"In a synagogue in Bayit Vegan, a rabbi interrupted services in the afternoon to tell all men in the congregation that it was permissible to break their fast if they were called up and to use motor vehicles to reach their gathering points.

"In Beit Hakerem, a synagogue sexton called for silence in order to read out a list of names handed him by a courier. One of the names was that of his own son.

"'A war has begun,' said a rabbi in Katamon. 'Let us pray for our soldiers, may God give them courage and protect them.'"

In the photo inserted in this column, the distraught, grieving mother clutches the gravestone that marks her son's place of burial. The father, numb, distracted, clutches his wife.

Yet, in the freeze-frame of the parents' overwhelming personal sadness and devastation, the photographer, David Rubinger, one of Israel's finest photo artists, captures a significant, almost metaphysical irony: their son's name, Chaim Yichyeh – *Life will live.*

With deep humility, almost trepidation, lest I unintentionally diminish the sense of the parents' suffering or abate the outpouring of empathy for their pain, it is appropriate, somehow, to point out that irony.

Chaim Yichyeh fell on the field of battle so that…life will live.

So did more than 2,000 other sons and soldiers of Israel in the war that was started on Yom Kippur 25 years ago.

Twenty-five years ago, the enemy was repulsed. The tide of terrifying battle eventually turned. Once again, in the flow of Jewish history, Israel vanquished its enemies. But the sorrow of the families, of the nation and of the people was great. Every generation will always remember that.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

ON THE EVE OF WAR

Minister of defence Moshe Dayan speaks to a gathering of reporters before the outbreak of hostilities has been confirmed, Oct. 6, 1973.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Plans for new CHAT building put on hold

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The new building for the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) may not be located on the grounds of the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) after all.

Enrolment at CHAT is higher than anticipated, so the high school's plans to build are on hold, BJC executive director Deborah Pinsky recently told the centre's annual meeting.

The new CHAT building had won a rezoning bid for the BJC site, but the area is now too small to accommodate the school's needs, Pinsky said.

One location under consideration was a parking lot to the south of the swimming pool.

Alternative sites are being looked at by the three partners, CHAT, UJA Federation and BJC, she said, but no decision has been made.

CHAT is presently located in a former public school on Wilmington Avenue in what Pinsky described as an "inadequate site."

In other agenda items, the meeting heard good news from incoming president Tom Lobel: "The time of uncontrollable deficits is over and we have moved to small but real surpluses."

He was referring to the financial crises the former Jewish Community Centre encountered beginning in 1994 when it faced possible bankruptcy.

In the year just ended, the BJC made a profit of $1,900, with overall revenues increasing by two percent, treasurer Bruce Leboff reported.

Total membership in the BJC has reached 8,000 according to the meeting's chair, Helen Finder Guttman.

Program income of $2.1 million was up over 10 percent from the prior year and rental income was up more than four percent, while the cost of administration was reduced by $74,000, the treasurer said.

The BJC programs are available to all, regardless of financial means, Leboff said, and this year the BJC granted scholarships and subsidies of more than $212,000.

To finance this, the BJC depends in part on donations, but these declined by 17 percent, or $50,000.

"We remain the pre-eminent agency in our community," said outgoing president Michael Kerbel.

"We've returned to our former status and our financial integrity is maintained."

New partnerships with Mount Sinai Hospital and Baycrest Hospital, as well as the new Children's Discovery Museum, the new teenage lounge and a much upgraded energy room for all members, were listed as highlights of the year by Kerbel.

He thanked Marty Goldberg, Pinsky and Lobel "for sustaining us during our period of turmoil."

For the first time since its financial trouble, United Way has guaranteed two years of funding for the BJC, Pinsky said.

She announced that the Children's Discovery Museum, "a family affair," will open officially on Oct. 18.

Volunteer plaques, T-shirts and sweatshirts were given to Sid Cohen and Norman Mogil by executive committee member Bernie Fishbein.

Eric Bornstein is the new treasurer, while Leboff and Guttman are vice-presidents; Dorothy Shoichet, secretary; and Fishbein and Lawrence P. Haber, officers at large.

Other members of the new board of directors are Steve Ain, Barbara Bank, Phillip Daniels, Robert Furman, David Green, Paul Austin, Morris Berengut, Barry Campbell, Gerry Granek, Richard Pivnick, Ramneek Poonie, Sue Rosenblat and Howard Stevens.

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Spielberg project comes to end

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — After four years, Steven Spielberg's Holocaust documentary project has officially ended in Canada, having videotaped the testimonies of 2,800 survivors across the country.

Canadian operations ended Sept. 30, but anyone still wishing to be taped may arrange a session through the project's Los Angeles headquarters.

The focus of the project is now shifting toward cataloguing and disseminating the information contained in the testimonies.

Last week, Michael Berenbaum, president and CEO of Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, was in town to drum up support for the project's second phase.

The foundation has embarked on a $50-million (US) fundraising campaign to allow it to develop new technologies, including computer software, interactive CD-ROMs, films and videos.

Berenbaum joined Ontario culture minister Isabel Bassett and several Holocaust educators and survivors at a Queen's Park reception to discuss new ways in which the testimonies will be made available to researchers.

Michael Berenbaum, president and CEO of Steven Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation with Ontario culture minister Isabel Bassett at Queen's Park last week. [Ron Csillag photo]

Bassett visited the foundation's Los Angeles headquarters in August.

Worldwide, the project has taped 48,260 survivors' testimonies in 31 languages and 57 countries, Berenbaum noted. The goal of 50,000 will be reached in December, he added, and international operations will wrap up after that.

"We have amassed 110,000 hours of material. To view that, if you watched 24 hours a day, seven days a week, you would get up in the spring of 2010."

Originally, the project's goal was to share the testimonies with the world's leading repositories of Holocaust research, including Yad Vashem.

Now, the task at hand is to use technology to disseminate the data as widely as possible to schools, museums, libraries, universities and research centres, Berenbaum said.

A Toronto branch of the project opened in 1994, and most of the Canadian testimonies were taped here. Across the country, 500 were done in Montreal; 100 in Winnipeg; 50 in Vancouver; 50 in Ottawa; 25 in London; 20 in Calgary; 10 in Edmonton; 10 in Windsor; and six in eastern Canada.

In Los Angeles, the project is digitizing and cataloguing the material. Berenbaum said future researchers will be able to access specific portions of testimonies using searches by key words.

Berenbaum said the project's task is to make the Holocaust "no longer abstract" to young people.

"Simply by testifying, they have remembered," he said of survivors. "And by making this material public, we will not let the world forget."

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TORONTO — So you want to know what's new in kosher foods and products? Find out at the third Jewish Life and Kosher Foodfest, sponsored by Aish Hatorah.

The event will be held Nov. 1, from noon to 5 p.m., at Centerpoint Mall, at the corner of Yonge and Steeles.

There will be over 60 exhibitors, including TALK 640 FM, E.D. Smith, Levitts Meats, Eden Foods, Chocolate Charm, and Kozy Shack.

The first 10,000 people will receive full-size boxes of Maple Frosted Wheaties from General Mills. Yogen Fruz, Chai Poultry, and Lazar Yitzchok will also be offering free give-aways, and there will be lots of food samples, door prizes and raffles.

A high point will be celebrity taste tastings, at 2:30 p.m., by Ken Shaw of CFTO, Marty Galin from Talk 640 AM, Shirley Solomon, James Chatto, Elizabeth Baird, Noreen Gilletz, and *CJN* reporter and Kashruth Council public relations officer Cynthia Gasner.

Children will not be left out of the fun. There will be a live "kosher animal" petting zoo, plus puppet shows, arts and crafts, toy give-aways; clowns, musicians and live music.

Besides the food exhibitors, you can learn how a sofer (scribe) prepares mezuzot and tfillin, how to make challah and the significence of your Hebrew or Yiddish name.

For more information, call 905-764-1818.

Greater Toronto Area

Rachel spent holidays wandering the streets

Continued from page 3

in centre for homeless women. But that was temporary, as are so many avenues for the homeless.

"A lot of help is passive," Freedman observes. "It's short term or just a Band-Aid. Even the Out of the Cold Program [in which houses of worship take in the homeless for a night] is only a little better than nothing."

When Rachel left the drop-in centre, Freedman returned her to "her" streetcar shelter, where she spent the High Holy Days wandering the streets and barely scraping by on the $195 in monthly welfare some homeless are qualified to receive.

"In the back of my mind, I knew this wasn't right," says Freedman, who brought Rachel food parcels and took her to a psychiatric facility. She was turned away because she wasn't an emergency psychiatric case.

"My last call was to JF&CS," says Freedman, who worked at the agency in the early 1960s. "At first, they told me they don't do housing. I told them I would do this with or without them. I think I embarrassed them into doing something."

Through her own initiative, and with the assistance provided by JF&CS, Freedman found Rachel a place to live.

Asked what motivated a retired social worker to return to the fray, Freedman doesn't miss a beat. "My grandfather was a chassidic rabbi. I was brought up in a family where Jewish values were important. It's a shandeh not to help the most vulnerable in our society."

She sighs. "Frankly, I don't think our grandparents wanted us to become *chazzers*. I don't know what we're becoming."

In the meantime, Rachel is struggling to find that equilibrium the rest of us call normalcy. She has to re-learn how to live indoors, how to shop, how to cook. She no longer has to sleep clutching her purse, which was stolen months ago, along with all vestiges of her former self.

She won't say how she became homeless. "I'm in pain," she states matter-of-factly. "I'm in constant mental and physical pain."

But last Friday, that didn't stop her from wishing *The CJN* reporter "a good Shabbat."

Participating synagogues in Out of the Cold

Again this winter, several Metro-area synagogues will be taking part in the Out of the Cold program, in which the homeless receive a hot meal and a place to sleep for the night.

Holy Blossom Temple will be the host every Thursday evening beginning Nov. 5.

Congregation Darchei Noam will again team with St. Peter's Roman Catholic church at Bathurst and Bloor to welcome homeless at the church. The synagogue will supply 70 volunteers.

Those homeless who would normally go to St. Peter's on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve this year will be welcomed instead at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

The First Narayever synagogue on Brunswick Avenue has joined a coalition of area churches to support the program on Tuesday nights at Trinity St. Paul's Church at Bloor and Spadina. As well, a quarter of all High Holy Day appeals at the synagogue will go toward supporting the program.

And Temple Har Zion in Thornhill is planning to team up with volunteers from Temple Kol Ami and members of a neighboring Zoroastrian temple to welcome the homeless. The Jaffari Islamic Centre next door to Har Zion will be contributing financially to the interfaith effort. **– R.C.**

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More summit hopes

These words are being written while the leaders of Israel, the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the United States are still meeting at Wye Plantation in Maryland. What little news has been reported has not been positive, except that the talks were extended by at least one day. To date, the two sides have not been able to agree on any substantive issues. For Israel, the key issue is security; for the PA, it is land.

If the summit cannot produce even minor positive results, it will be very difficult to instil any hope for the peace process. And if it comes to a situation "on the ground" devoid of hope for a peace agreement, the danger of renewed and reinvigorated violence will increase. The forces seeking peace will face a strengthened enemy in the extremist forces unalterably opposed to any peace. Even as these words are being written, the news wire services have reported a terrorist attack in Beersheba that injured more than 50 people.

The majority of Israel wants the peace process to move forward. Last Friday, a Gallup poll conducted for the daily *Ma'ariv* indicated that 82 percent of Israelis want an agreement to result from the summit meeting; 13 percent do not want one, and five percent do not know if they do or not. Fifty-seven percent of the people polled would even support an IDF redeployment from 13 percent of the territories; 30 percent would not support such a redeployment, while 13 percent did not have an opinion.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is fully aware of the public's opinion back home. He has already agreed in principle to the next troop withdrawal from the territories. But as of this moment, he is still waiting for the PA to agree to keep their promises on security.

25 years ago, today

Last week, in Israel, the festivities marking the 50th year of the state's existence came officially to an end. To commemorate the anniversary, people all over the world, Jews and non-Jews, celebrated many joyous and tearful celebrations.

But one-half of its lifetime ago, the existence of this tiny remarkable state hung in an uncertain balance of courage, resolve and sacrifice. On Yom Kippur 1973, a Saturday that year, the armies of Syria and Egypt attacked. For the fourth time in 25 years, the nation was at war against neighbors who were trying, again, to destroy it.

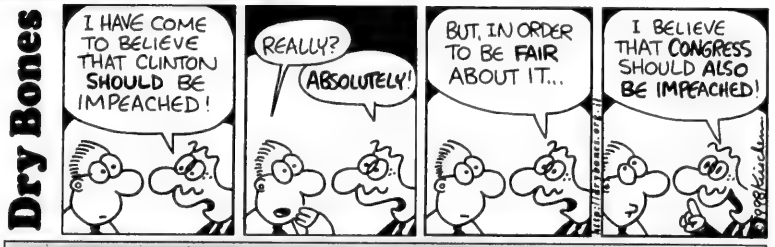
Twenty-five years ago today, on Oct. 22, the war ended. The United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 338 calling upon the warring parties to cease firing. Although there was still some sporadic shooting in the ensuing days, the war was essentially over. Israel absorbed the first devastating blows and beat back the Arab forces.

The number of people who lost their lives during those horrible two and half weeks was enormous: 2,522 Israelis and an estimated 15,000 Egyptians and 3,500 Syrians.

The late Chaim Herzog, former president of Israel, wrote *The War of Atonement*, the definitive text on the Yom Kippur War. In the foreword to the book he observed the following: "The inherent strength and resilience of the people of Israel was revealed in the stark, grim and tragic days at the outset of the war, when, fighting back against overwhelming odds, they overcame the initial setbacks and achieved military success. I came away from this work imbued with a sense of deep humility…No people in the world crave for peace more than the people of Israel, and yet none are more ready for self-sacrifice should the necessity arise."

Twenty-five years ago, during the silent introspection of atonement and the quiet travail of fasting, that necessity arose again.Thus as we turn the page in the chronicle of the year-long festivities of Israel at 50, let us linger a moment, acknowledging gratefully the "entry" dedicated to the lives that bore Israel the future we celebrated this year.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"And there will never again be a flood to destroy the earth."
Parshat Noach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Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Zac Kaye, Lou Ronson, Herb Rosenfeld, Kurt Rothschild, Joseph Steiner, Elias Toby, Elizabeth Wolfe.

Anti-Semitism and homophobia not problems at IRB

A number of recent articles in your newspaper, as well as in the mainstream media, have created an impression that anti-Semitism and homophobia are running rampant at the Immigration and Refugee Board. While there may well have been some Refugee Board members who have made intemperate remarks, these are isolated incidents and not reflective of an institutional problem.

In fact, any visitor to the Refugee Board will observe a work place that features a rainbow of visible minorities of many races and religions, from the most junior clerk to the chair herself. The problems plaguing the Refugee Board at the systemic level are hot anti-Semitism or homophobia but rather, competence or lack thereof. Refugee Board members in the vast majority of cases have no principled way of determining whether the refugee appearing before them is being truthful in narrating their history. The energy of the Refugee Board should be focused upon tackling this problem rather than being diverted by well intentioned individuals who seek to find a systemic problem where none exists.

Max Berger
Toronto

Sheila Finestone scores Bouchard on retail signs

The issue surrounding bilingual signage at department stores is not about pressure, intimidation or boycotts, as the provincial government has suggested. The issue is about the exercise of democratic rights, as well as social peace and respect for minority rights.

By asserting that bilingual signage at retail stores will disturb the "linguistic peace" in Quebec, the provincial government is attempting to burn the bridges of understanding arrived at through political compromise and legislated rights. I applaud the Retail Council of Quebec for its decision to uphold the legal rights to which it is entitled.

Contrary to the view portrayed by the provincial government in an attempt to create a crisis, the francophone and anglophone communities in Montreal live and work side by side in harmony. Both communities should feel at home and comfortable everywhere in Canada. This means that a welcoming environment should be fostered throughout Canada.

The people of Quebec are worried about health care, education and taxes. Premier Bouchard would be well advised to focus on these issues rather fostering fear and social unrest.

Sheila Finestone, P.C., M.P.
(Mount Royal)

Hold off on praise for Mandela

Re: Mandela's refusal…by Sheldon Kirshner (*CJN*, Oct. 1).

What a refreshing change to read a factual report on the Mandela/Israel relationship. Instead of the adulatory, fawning reportage about this "hero," we get a glimpse of real attitudes. I did *not* go to the love-in at the Dome. I did *not* attend any celebratory gatherings. I merely applied the only yardstick that matters in a situation like this.

How does he relate to Israel? We know about his meetings with various Arab groups. We have heard his opinions and advice on Palestinian aspirations. And we praise the dismantling of apartheid. But, let's not get carried away with blind enthusiasm. Mandela has *not* visited Israel. He does not approve of the prime minister there. He does get along with Syria, Libya, Iraq, and supports the PLO. Whenever he gets around to supporting and encouraging the further development of the Jewish state will be the appropriate time for recognizing his statesmanship.

M.L. Mador, M.D.
Toronto

Questions Israel's record on South Africa

Re Sheldon Kirshner's article (*CJN*, Oct. 1), "Mandela's refusal to visit Israel due to policy shift."

I would like to question his statement that "Mandela's refusal to visit Israel is due to policy shift," and that "Israel regularly condemned apartheid."

While much of the world imposed sanctions on the South African apartheid regime, Israel was actively involved in selling arms and providing uniforms to the regime's military. That doesn't strike me as the best approach to condemnation.

Karen Kollins
Toronto

Approves Mandela's decision on Israel

Sheldon Kirshner's analysis of Israel-South Africa relations (*CJN*, Oct. 1) is imbalanced. Kirshner summarizes his article by observing that "blips" in Israel's relations with "the old" [apartheid] South Africa rarely occurred. Do I detect in that statement a modicum of tolerance for the white-supremacist government that oppressed South Africa's non-white majority? Jews can be proud that South Africa's large and outspoken Jewish community made some great contributions to the fight against apartheid.

Kirshner mentions that Israel regularly condemned apartheid. But Israel was a strong ally of the apartheid regime, supplying weapons, equipment and training to the South African Defence Force.

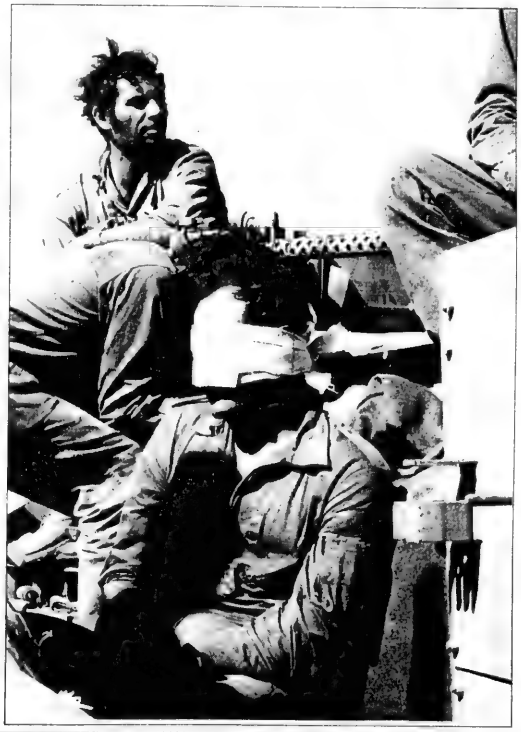
In light of these facts I find it understandable that Nelson Mandela would refuse to visit Israel, his distaste for the current Likud government aside. Israel should be far more discriminating when choosing clients for its weapons industry.

Daniel Douek
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

The War of Atonement: A Pictorial Essay

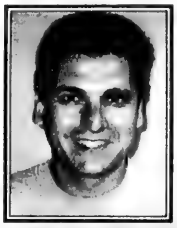
Photographs can stir emotions and evoke memories. In this small pictorial essay, we have assembled merely slivers of glimpses into a tiny sampling of the awful, straining and terribly human moments of the Yom Kippur War. Clockwise from the right: soldiers in the Sinai building a makeshift sukkah atop their vehicle; chaplains trying to lend comfort to a grieving father mourning his son's death; a blind-folded Syrian pilot in Israeli captivity; Israeli forces moving westward across the Suez Canal into Egypt; Gen. Abdel Gamasy (in the light colored suit), head of the Egyptian disengagement team, walks past Israeli soldiers and leaves the negotiations at the infamous Kilometer 101 along the Cairo-Suez road; Chief of Staff David Elazar (right) and former chief of staff Yitzhak Rabin (in civilian clothing) tour the battle scene on the Golan Heights. [IPPO photos]



Opinions

Jerusalem's pedal pushers

There are few minorities in Jerusalem smaller than the one I joined several weeks ago. To be an adult cyclist in Jerusalem is to know what it is to stand out alone in a crowd.



By Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

For the few brave souls who regularly take to the city's streets on two wheels, using their bicycles as a means of transportation, it's an urban jungle out there. I've come to appreciate the plight of Jerusalem's pedal pushers, ever since I became one myself last month. It was not a casual decision, knowing in advance what I would be up against.

Few major cities in the world are less hospitable to cyclists than the Israeli capital. To begin with, the city's topography hardly lends itself to bike travel. Built on a series of hills, Jerusalem is anything but a casual ride. Without good lungs, strong legs and a decent bike, forget it.

It's virtually impossible to peddle for more than five minutes in any direction without hitting some daunting uphill slope.

That's the easy part. Far more treacherous are the city's heavily congested arteries on which bike riders must negotiate countless potholes, sunken sewer gratings and a minefield of broken glass. If only that were the worst of it.

The real enemy is the one you can't fight or even barely defend yourself against. Cyclists in Jerusalem are known to say their prayers before mounting their bikes, aware they'll be facing some of the planet's most inconsiderate, undisciplined and otherwise psychopathic drivers.

Admittedly, even between the best drivers and cyclists, there's little compatibility. That's why God created bike paths and special bike lanes.

Everywhere except in the Holy City. Unlike most major capitals in the world, Jerusalem has done nothing to facilitate cycling within its boundaries. No bike routes, no bike parking facilities, no special events for cyclists. Nothing. Small wonder cyclists are such a rare sight in the capital.

Given Jerusalem's acute traffic and parking problems, the municipality should welcome any alternative to cars and buses. Especially if it's relatively inexpensive and environmentally friendly. Instead, city hall shows as much concern about encouraging cyclists as it does about building an ice rink for deprived immigrant hockey players.

But for all this adversity, once a year for 26 hours, Jerusalem turns into a cyclist's paradise. It happens quite by default, with no thanks to city hall.

Picture it, if you can, a metropolis devoid of cars. Without the incessant rumble of motors and horns. Without the relentless fumes and exhaust.

Without the mass of moving metal and chrome. In short, imagine the antithesis of modern urban life – and one of my fantasies come true.

Such ideal conditions for bike riders come about only because of Yom Kippur. In an uncharacteristic display of unity, all of (west) Jerusalem's residents – religious and secular – respect a time-honored tradition, dating back well before the state was established, according to which nobody drives their cars on Yom Kippur. The resulting tranquility is at once soothing and almost eerie – and perfect for cycling.

At around 5 p.m., with the sun nearly set and Yom Kippur officially kicking in, kids on bikes take over the city's streets, reveling in their sudden freedom from the menace of motorists.

This year, I promised my kids that for the first time I would join them in their city cycle safari on Yom Kippur. That meant I would have to buy a bike, something I would do only if I was confident I would also use it after the holiday was over.

In my previous life, I was an avid city cyclist. Since moving to Israel eight years ago, I often toyed with the idea of getting a bike but never followed through. Now, with my kids as a catalyst, I decided to take the plunge.

Finally, a few weeks ago on a warm evening, I joined my three children for our first-ever major excursion together on bikes. We rode for hours through several neighborhoods, unimpeded by automobile traffic. It was magnificent.

The next day, after exploring more of the city by bike, we felt an impending sense of doom as the sun began to set. We knew our bicycle bliss was about to expire. Soon, it would be another year before we would be able to savor such freedom in the city.

Since then, under far less favorable conditions, I have been cautiously riding to work every day, attracting strange looks of pity from people baffled by the sight of an adult riding a bike through Jerusalem.

Israel's prolonged leadership drought

Like many other democratic countries, Israel is in the midst of a prolonged leadership drought, but the costs are much higher than elsewhere.

By Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

The Zionist movement and the early days of the state were characterized by unusually gifted leaders – Ben Gurion, Weizmann, Begin, and Golda Meir – but like the Israelite Judges of 3,000 ago, they failed to develop successors.

For many years, the average age of the "youth wings" of the major parties was close to 50, and the "best and the brightest" of Israelis decided not to wait. Second-rate political operators, dreyers and machers moved in to fill the vacuum, and politics became corrupt and corrupting.

This process is clearly seen in the municipal election campaigns, which are in full swing. Israel is too small to have provinces or states, so the major cities (Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa) are the most important level of government below the national level. For anyone who wants to get a start in Israeli politics, to show a flair for public life, this is the logical place to begin and to make a mark.

The position of mayor of Jerusalem, with its political and religious dimensions and importance, is one of the most important posts in the country, even compared to many Cabinet positions.

A close look at the candidates and campaigns in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv is a depressing experience for anyone concerned about Israel's future. In Jerusalem, Israel's "eternal capital", which was brought back to life after 2000 years by Teddy Kollek, the candidates for mayor and city council are totally uninspiring. Kollek hung on for too long, and all of the younger leaders with experience gave up long before he retired.

In 1994, Ehud Olmert, a Likud backbencher, defeated Kollek, who had stopped functioning effectively but refused to retire gracefully.

Olmert has used the powers of his office and the taxpayers money to gain the support of the ultra-orthodox blocks which make up at least one-third of the eligible voters. Under Olmert, the city has continued to function, but the civic culture and sense of pride and unity that Kollek fostered in his early days has disappeared. Olmert has served time, but has not contributed to Jerusalem's glory.

Olmert is not particularly popular, and a serious candidate committed to good government and the vision of Jerusalem as the jewel in the crown of the Jewish renaissance, could win in the current elections. But no such candidate has stepped forward, and the Labor party is reduced to running a former minister who failed miserably in his previous position, and whose chances are close to zero. There simply is no leader (or even unaffiliated personality) in Jerusalem who is prepared to go through the election campaign, and who can present an effective alternative.

Similarly, most of the candidates for the city council are practitioners of the spoils system of politics, supported by various interest groups who expect licences and public funding for their schemes.

In Tel Aviv, the situation is not any better. Roni Milo has decided to retire as mayor, rather than risking defeat, after he built a record marked by friction between secular and religious groups, traffic congestion, and by garbage piled on the streets of "the city that never sleeps". In his years as mayor, Milo has accomplished little for the city, reflecting his lack of vision and sense of public responsibility. But with the field wide open, no appropriate figures have stepped forward to seek this job.

Both major political parties (Labor and Likud) failed to find suitable candidates for this pivotal position.

Amidst this gloomy picture, Haifa presents a somewhat brighter image.

Amram Mitzna, who began his political activities after a successful first career in the IDF where he served as director of the planning branch, is the antithesis of the Labor party apparatchik whom he defeated. Mitzna is a full-time mayor, whose activities are focused on the needs of his constituents, and not on gaining headlines in the pursuit of higher positions.

Successful in his own right, he does not need to buy off interest group and wealthy contributors seeking favors, or to play on the fears of different groups, in order to be elected. As a result, Haifa is Israel's best-run city, and a model for the rest of the country. Mitzna could become a major figure on the national political scene, but to date, he has been reluctant to become involved in the mud-slinging and PR campaigns that are the norm in Israel, as in other democratic countries.

In the upcoming decades, Israel will face challenges that are as formidable as those of the past 50 years. To survive and prosper, Israel desperately needs a leadership revolution. On this score, the evidence from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv is not encouraging.

Memories of Dad

On erev Yom Kippur, 50 years ago, my Dad was buried in St. Paul, Minn. It was a sudden and totally unexpected death. I lost my mentor and friend, and the 50 years since his passing have not dimmed my memory of him, nor have they reduced his influence. Much of my rabbinate was made meaningful because of his teaching, and I want to tell you about one aspect of what I learned from him.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Dad had come from a very small village in the backwoods of Germany. In the middle of the 18th century when our family first appeared in the little village, they were poor, and when Dad was born they still were. In time, he and an older brother liberated themselves from their environment and sought a higher education in a nearby town. My dad became a teacher, and I was born in a Jewish teachers seminary where Dad was the rector. Eventually he headed an orphanage in Berlin, where I grew up. It looked as if the struggles of his life would at last be compensated by happy years ahead, but inflation robbed them of everything that he and Mother had saved.

Then the Nazis came to power and my parents fled to England for their lives. They became strangers in a strange land. Upon his arrival in England, Dad was imprisoned on the Isle of Man, because war had broken out. Dad, who in Germany was banned because he was a Jew, had now become a German enemy alien in Britain and was considered a threat to the war effort.

Eventually he was released and he worked hard at making a go of a refugee hostel in Brighton on the south coast of England. I tried to bring my parents to the United States but was unsuccessful – I later found out that four of the five commissioners were outright anti-Semites. I have dealt with this in another medium and I will not repeat it here, for I want to tell you about the man who died 50 years ago, at age 66.

At last he had crossed ocean, but he was still a newcomer to America.

What I remember above all about Dad was his sense of what Jews and their Judaism ought to be. He was firm in his belief that God had set us aside in a special way and that it was forever our responsibility to set an example for the world – not in what we would achieve economically, but rather as a model in our behavior, in our standards and in the way we treated others. That was the central lesson I carried away from the many times we talked about what it meant to be a Jew.

We are special, Dad asserted, but we have to earn it. If we become like the others, we have lost our place in history and have reneged on the Covenant we once made with the Almighty. His was not a shoddy morality that allowed us to have it either way. He felt that there were things that were right and things that were wrong, and this is what he passed on to his children.

The Kirshner File

*Fragments*Jerusalem* defines a city

By Sheldon Kirshner

For the past 11 years, Ron Havilio has been obsessed by a vision of a hallowed city on a hill, a city of tranquillity and strife, a city at once ancient and modern.

"I've always been fascinated by Jerusalem," said Havilio, whose six-hour movie, *Fragments*Jerusalem (Shivrei T'Munot*Yerushalayim)*, was screened at the recent Toronto International Film Festival.

Born and partially raised in Jerusalem, Havilio, 48, is a painter and photographer who turned to cinema as a means by which to distil the essence of a metropolis he knows intimately.

Although Havilio spent much of his childhood and youth in such far-flung countries as France, Turkey and Cameroon, his point of reference was unshakably Jerusalem. In this sense, he has been faithful to the 137th Psalm: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning."

Gentle and soft-spoken, he grew up in the Mamila district, whose fate has mirrored the Arab-Israeli conflict. Until the late 1940s, Mamila was Jerusalem's commercial centre. From about 1948 to 1967, much of it was a desolate, depressing and dangerous no-man's land between Israel and Jordan. In the aftermath of the Six Day War, with Jerusalem reunited, the Israeli government demolished its ruined buildings in a bid to restore Mamila.

In *Fragments*Jerusalem*, which has been applauded at nine international film festivals, including Montreal's, and dubbed into English, Japanese, Korean, German, Italian and French, Havilio painstakingly reconstructs Mamila's splendid and tortuous history.

The saga he tells is also personal, since it is entwined with that of his family. His father Shlomo's side, expelled from Spain during the Inquisition, settled in Jerusalem in the 1600s by way of the Balkans. Shlomo fought with the Haganah during the War of Independence, served in Paris with the Mossad and was then a diplomat in Istanbul and Yaounde.

His mother Haya's ancestors arrived in Jerusalem via Vilna – the Jerusalem of Lithuania – in the early 19th century, drawn by messianic fervor. Haya married Shlomo in December 1947, just days after the United Nations voted to partition Palestine into Arab and Jewish states.

In making *Fragments*Jerusalem*, his first feature film, Havilio faced the challenge of smoothly integrating these disparate components. Judging by the results, he has succeeded. On one level, it is a compelling meditation and chronology of a city in transition. On the other hand, it is a poignant look at two families whose Orthodox traditions gave way to a form of secular Jewishness.

"I had to find a special language to make this film," he explained. "I wanted a film with immediacy and authenticity."

*Fragments*Jerusalem*, which is impregnated with the stylistic influences of the Dutch painter Jan Vermeer and the French novelist Marcel Proust, unfolds through the medium of old file footage, postcards, home movies and family albums. Its score is nothing if not eclectic, being a mix of Portuguese fados, Hebrew prayers, Israeli tangos, Arab pop music and Greek laments.

Havilio, a resident of Jerusalem's picturesque Ein Kerem district, never imagined that the documentary – a word he dislikes to describe his film – would consume more than a decade of his life and drain much of his savings.

Although the Israeli government, the public television authority and the Montreal-based Bronfman foundation doled out funds, Havilio had to supply the bulk of the financing. And to save money, he conducted his own research and filmed and narrated the movie himself.

"It was basically a one-man show," he said, hastening to add that his wife Jacqueline – the daughter of Polish Holocaust survivors – and his three daughters were exceedingly helpful.

Havilio, who teaches at the Jerusalem Film School, rejects criticism that the movie is too long. "I'm not asking people to sit down for six consecutive hours. That's why it's divided into seven chapters and two cycles. You can miss one or two chapters and still appreciate the film. Each chapter stands on its own. People have usually stayed till the end."

Besides, he said, some of the greatest documentaries have been rather lengthy, citing Marcel Ophuls' *The Sorrow and the Pity* and Claude Lanzmann's *Shoah*.

If he can round up sufficient funding, Havilio intends to lengthen *Fragments*Jerusalem*. "It's very important for me to do this," he said.

Right now, the film ends in 1947. But if he fulfils his dream, he will take it up to the present day and deal with the integral subject of Arab-Jewish relations.

Havilio, whose political views are to the left of centre, strongly believes that the Israeli government was wrong to demolish Mamila. "It came from a desire to unite Jerusalem. But Mamila should have been renovated, not destroyed."

He does not think highly of the City of David, the emerging Moshe Safdie housing project at the centre of efforts to revitalize Mamila. "It's a catastrophe," he observed, arguing that the new Mamila is being built for wealthy overseas Jews who are mainly absentee owners.

"Mamila is closed most of the time. It's no longer an organic part of Jerusalem."

Havilio believes that Jerusalem should remain open and undivided, but he would not mind if the eastern sector, annexed by Israel in 1967, became the capital of a Palestinian state.

To him, human relations supersede political exigencies. "Jews and Arabs in Jerusalem can co-exist," he said. "We need the Arabs and the Arabs need us."

* * *

*Fragments*Jerusalem* will be screened in two parts on Oct. 26 and 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Cinematheque Ontario is presenting Havilio's movie at a retrospective of Israeli films marking Israel's 50th anniversary.

A guide to the peace process

Much is heard of the Arab-Israeli peace process these days. But as Israel's tortuous negotiations with the Palestinians grind on, the average onlooker is left with the job of sorting out fact from fiction.

What, then, is one to do? For starters, I refer you to Samuel Segev's illuminating book, *Crossing the Jordan: Israel's Hard Road to Peace* (McClelland & Stewart). Segev, a seasoned Israeli journalist with excellent connections, knows the subject like the back of his hand. He is personally acquainted with many of the players, he understands the issues, and he possesses a talent for putting things into context.

As a result, *Crossing the Jordan* is an extremely useful and contemporary guide to the unfolding peace process.

A former foreign correspondent for *Ma'ariv*, Segev examines the Oslo process against the backdrop of the United States' dialogue with the PLO and its consultations with Israel, the efforts by Sweden and Egypt to shape Israeli policy, the 1991 Madrid conference, and the indirect and ineffectual talks between Israel and the PLO.

He argues, quite convincingly, that the 1993 Declaration of Principles reflected the limitations of Israel's and the PLO's powers. But his claim that the Israeli negotiators were not up to the task and neglected security problems is debatable. In any event, he believes that the peace process is irreversible.

An admirer of Yitzhak Rabin, Segev disparages Shimon Peres' vision of a "new Middle East." He describes it as unconnected with "the realities of the region" and suggests that it stoked Arab fears of Israeli economic domination. A point surely worth considering.

Segev's chronology of Israel's clandestine relationships with Morocco, Jordan and Iraq is nothing less than fascinating. Indeed, the same can be said of *Crossing the Jordan*, a volume that would grace any library.

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Daniel Goldhagen

Associate Professor, Harvard University

on Saturday, November 7th, 1998 at 8:00 p.m.
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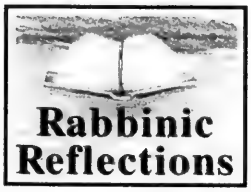


Let us always strive to rise upward

By RABBI JACOB J. ZLOTNICK

There are those who claim that Noach was a tzaddik only when compared to others in his generation, but compared to the Avos Abraham Isaac and Jacob, he wasn't. Well how should anyone be judged, by those above or by those below?

I know a man who goes to shul three days a year, on the High Holy Days. Compared to his neighbors in his apartment house who never go to shul, he is religious. But to those who attend shul daily, he is certainly religiously deficient. How should he be judged, by those below or those above.

This difficulty in judgment is not only in religious matters. In the economic sphere when is one to be considered rich? A man who has a car, goes to Florida every winter and to the Catskills for Pesach. Is he rich? Compared to others who use the metro and city buses, who brave the cold winters in Montreal, and make their Pesach at home, he is certainly rich. But compared to his local banker, he is a pauper. So how is then one to be judged?

The answer is Bashamoyian Mimal Veal Haretz Mitachus, in the heavens above and the earth below. In spiritual matters, mitzvot, charity and morality, we should compare ourselves to those above us, but in material matters, we should arrive at a point of Hasamach Bechelko, be happy with what you have, by noting comparatively how well off we are.

Shabbat Noach

This was always the way of judgment in religious circles. Ask a typical pious Jew of the last generation about the High Holy Days, and he'll tell you that he is terrified of *Yom Hadin* (Yom Kippur), but if you ask him how is your chayuna, livelihood, he will reply Baruch Hashem.

Today the dialogue with a modern Jew is different. How is your Jewishness? Reply, "pretty good, I was bar mitzvahed." But how is business?, "not so good, could be better."

The same applies in Jewish scholarship and Torah study. Two Jews came out of the apartment on the Sabbath, one was dressed for shul, and the other to play tennis. The latter was embarrassed. It was Shabbat Noach. Look, I am not going to shul today, but I read in the bulletin that the rabbi is going to talk today about the great flood. Please announce for my wife and myself twice chai for the victims of the flood. Compared to him we are all Torah scholars but compared to true scholars we indeed have much to learn.

In the final analysis, when we compare ourselves to those below, we have no reason to improve. We think we are pretty good. Let us compare ourselves to those above us, and always strive to rise upward.

Rabbi Zlotnick is the spiritual leader of Congregation Zichron Kedoshim in Montreal.

The Jewish circumcision

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Next week on Shabbat, we will read from the Torah about one of the cornerstone commandments from G-d to Abraham and the Jewish people: "This is My covenant which you shall keep between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised." (Genesis 17:10) **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/genesis/torah/17101711.htm]**.

Because of its importance, there are many Web sites devoted to explaining the significance and procedure of the The brit (or bris) milah. Over the next few weeks, I will focus on circumcision and on some of the other traditions, old and not so old, that celebrate the birth of Jewish children. (Please note that at this time, I will not be concentrating on the medical controversy over circumcision.)

Just why is a Jewish circumcision considered such a joyous ceremony?

According to Circumcision.net **[http://www.circumcision.net/Joy.htm]**, the brit milah represents the Jews' eternal bond to God. It is the choicest of offerings, offering oneself (the physical body, and the mind) to the service of the creator. Also, take a look at the LifeCycles essay on this topic **[http://www.torah.org/learning/lifecycles/milah/milah1.html]**.

But why on the eighth day (for healthy boys)? Rabbi Yehuda Lebovics of Los Angeles offers a spiritual explanation **[http://www.torahview.com/bris/html/the_bris.html]**: "The Kabbalistic writings teach us that seven days represents the physical world of creation. Thus, when a child has lived for eight days, he has transcended the physical to the metaphysical. The covenant joining body and soul, physical and spiritual, can now take place." If you would like to read the actual Halachot of brit milah, see an incredibly detailed site which lists the laws of circumcision in both English and Hebrew **[http://www.ben2.ucla.edu/~hepner/texts.html]**.

Of course, preparing for a Brit can be stressful. California's Dr. Fred Kogen provides a helpful checklist **[http://www.beritmila.com/setup.html]**. Practical tips include everything from making sure the mohel has a parking space; feeding the baby until the mohel arrives in the house; preparing a pillow for the chair of Elijah; and being sure to disconnect the telephone during the service.

Were you able to attend the brit milah of Benjamin George Zev? I guess his parents wanted the whole world to know about it since the invitation is on the World Wide Web **[http://isx.com/~mzev/personal/bris.html]**.

Alas, there are no pictures of Benjamin's brit but you can look in on the work of mohel Zachary Hepner. Don't worry, all the photos at this site are shot from a safe distance **[http://www.ben2.ucla.edu/~hepner/ceremony.html]**.

Although not an article solely about circumcision, I would like to conclude with an excerpt from a touching piece by Jeff Jacoby, a columnist for *The Boston Globe*, with his wishes to his newborn son, Caleb **[http://jewishfamily.com/scripts/newjfl/paper/article.asp?ArticleID=166]**.

"You are so tiny, little one. You have so much growing to do. As I cradle you in my arms or watch you sleep in your crib, I pray that life brings you vigor and health, delight and fortune. Like every parent, I want you to do well. But more than anything else, I want you to do good.

Sixteen days ago, you entered this world. One day – far in the future, I hope –you will leave it. If I could wish for only one thing, it would be this: that you leave it better than you found it."

Next week, I'll continue my look at brit milah and will take a look at some new ceremonies that have been created to welcome Jewish girls into the world.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Jewish Life

Judaism isn't lost — we've just misplaced it

By ERIN M. GANO

Guest Voices

It is no secret that in today's fast paced world it is becoming harder and harder to be with family, friends and loved ones. One is no longer considered successful if one does not put in long hours at the office and playing golf on the weekend. One is no longer considered a good person if one decides to spend the weekend at home with the family instead of on the computer. We are continually rushing to finish, but the question is, finish what?

Our goals seem to be forgotten along the way, and the most important thing being forgotten is being Jewish. What is a good Jew? I don't have the answer. Is it perhaps putting on tfillin everyday? It is doing mitzvot? Is it going to shul every Shabbat? Maybe.

But do we even know how to be Jewish in today's race for the finish line? It seems that more and more often, we are finding it extremely hard to incorporate Judaism into our everyday lives.

If we face the facts, we will see that there are very few Jews left. Bubbies and zaydes can't live forever. This is a fact. We must keep in mind how much and how hard our ancestors fought to keep the Jewish race alive. We must also not forget that no matter how hard things seemed or where we were, we prevailed. We must never forget that our ancestors fought for us – for the future of the Jewish people, for the children.

How many young Jews know the reason we eat apples and honey on Rosh Hashanah? How many know why we don't eat at all on Yom Kippur? Or why we light eight candles on the menorah at Chanukah? Not very many.

Unanswered questions

And the saddest part of this is that these questions about important holidays go unanswered for many young Jews because they are uneducated, in many more areas of Judaism than just the holidays. Simple questions. Not complex questions about the Torah or Rashi.

Apparently today the Internet is more important than benching after every meal.

It is a great concern of mine to see that the money and years spent on and in Hebrew school leave many children with very little. If something is not done soon, if we do not educate the children of today, there will be no tomorrow, for they are the future. And right now that future is looking rather dim.

It is true that there are some young Jews who know a great deal about Judaism and being Jewish, but they are almost microscopic compared to those who don't know anything at all. Is there an ultimate answer? No.

We need to find the will to change. Children are always losing things, but Judaism isn't lost; we just misplaced it. Will somebody please help me look?

Richler entertains

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***Belling The Cat*, by Mordecai Richler (Random House of Canada, $32).**

He is caustic, irreverent, satirical – and harbors unfeigned contempt for sacred cows. Yes, Mordecai Richler, with his penchant for common sense and sanity, rarely fails to enlighten and entertain.

Belling The Cat contains 28 recycled essays – most written in recent years, although a few go back as far as the '70s – on four major themes: books, travel, sports and politics. Deft, amusing and informative, they display the author's sharp-ear fidelity and his eyes for the colorful and preposterous.

There is a surprising emphasis on matters of Jewish interest. In a book review about Sam Bronfman, Richler points out that many of his contemporaries regarded him as "Prost (vulgar, unlearned) as well as a bit of a gonif, while others, who scorned him with equal fervor, were actually burning with envy over his riches. In any event, in 1939, Sam was thrust into the presidency of Canadian Jewish Congress."

The hope was that he would be an effective spokesman in Ottawa for Europe's menaced Jewry. Instead, Sam became a fawning Uncle Tom, more concerned with how Jews were regarded in Canada by their Christian fellow citizens than the plight of his overseas brethren.

About the Reichmanns, the author indicates that the family had been prodigiously generous, lavishing great sums on yeshivot and assorted worthy institutions in Israel, Canada and the United States. "But they did not endear themselves to Canadians at large when they took advantage of an arcane tax loophole… which earned them five hundred million dollars and led to questions in Parliament."

In an evaluation of Woody Allen, written in 1990, Richler praises him as astonishingly prolific as a filmmaker. He also indicates that after Allen wrote an article in *Tikkun* magazine defending himself as a good Jew, one of his detractors responded, "You tell us that being Jewish has nothing to do with why you don't like yourself very much. Fine. But why, in every single movie you've produced in which you appear, do you portray yourself to some degree as a self-mocking, self-degrading Jew? You're lying to yourself and your audience if you say that your 'persuasion' has nothing to do with it."

H.L. Mencken, was one of the author's heroes. Unhappily, Mencken's diaries showed that he was prejudiced against blacks and Jews. In response to those who defend Mencken's anti-Semitism as genteel, or insist that he was a victim of generational chauvinism (judging of the past by the standards of today), Richler maintains that such a defence is "hopelessly asinine." Mencken is diminished with others in failing to rise above the deplorable biases of their time.

The half dozen travel essays are evocations of exotic places – Kenya, Marrakech, Egypt and South Africa.

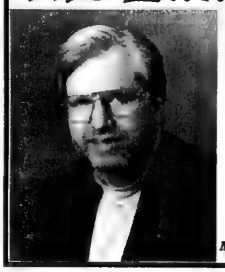
On visiting Germany in 1979, he wondered about the people he met over 50 years of age. "Where were you, my good man, on Kristallnacht? Where were you when your Jewish neighbors were being marched down the streets, DESTINATION UNKNOWN? Probably you were too cultivated to be directly involved. Maybe you didn't even approve. But how did you shut out their screams? Did your father draw the shutters? Your mother turn up the gramophone? Where were you, you bastards?"

When interviewed by Jan Wong, a *Globe and Mail* columnist who is married to a Jew, he said he was asked questions about the Jewish education of his children and similar matters. She told Richler that in her home "we have a seder every Friday night." He responded, "that must be a Jewish-Chinese custom. We manage it only once a year on Passover."

From the clutch of political essays it is clear that the author has little regard for Brian Mulroney, for the ineptitude of Audrey McLaughlin or the shenanigans in his native Quebec by obtuse separatists.

Richler is one of Canada's most popular and successful writers and this miscellany helps to explain why.

The Enneagram & Kabballah: Reading Your Soul



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TORONTO

Task Force on Community Access and Equity
We want to hear from you

The Task Force on Community Access and Equity was formed by Toronto City Council to look at how the new City can address access and equity issues.

Our recommendations, including a vision statement, principles and proposed political, community involvement and departmental structures, are outlined in an interim report *"A Work in Progress"*.

Please call 338-0338 for a copy of the report (English only), or its summary in English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Tamil, Polish, Greek, Ukrainian and Somali. The English summary is also available in braille, large print, audio cassette and computer disk. You can also check our website at www.city.toronto.on.ca.

This report will guide access and equity work in the new City. It is important for us to hear from all residents of the City.

Tell us what you think. You can choose to:

- **Attend a meeting**: 15 meetings scheduled in different communities. Call 338-0338 for meeting dates and locations.
- **Mail**: Task Force on Community Access and Equity, Metro Hall, 55 John Street, 6th Floor, Station 1060, Toronto, ON M5V 3C6
- **Fax**: 397-0888
- **E-mail**: AccessandEquity@city.toronto.on.ca
- **Call**: 338-0338
  TTY:338-0889
  Voice mail: leave your comments on 338-CHAT (338-2428), Oct 19 to 27 only.

Greater Toronto Area

Acclaimed cantor retiring after 25 years of service

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Cantor Louis Danto could have pursued a career in the secular music world, but his love of chazzanut, dating back to his childhood as a synagogue soloist in Poland, led him on a different path.

Next month the acclaimed lyric tenor will be honored at a dinner on the occasion of his retirement as cantor of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, after 25 years of service.

Among the highlights of his career was a performance at an interfaith Thanksgiving service held at Maple Leaf Gardens in the mid-1980s. The cantor sang the Prayer for the Royal Family before an audience of 16,000 including Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, both of whom congratulated him afterwards. He has performed extensively in North America, Europe and Israel.

But, he said in a recent interview at his home, surrounded by family photos, career mementos and recordings running the gamut from baroque to folk music to chazzanut, what keeps him going are things like the appreciation shown by elderly and disabled hospital patients when he sings for them.

"This is what counts. This is what life is about – to help people."

Cantor Danto (né Hersh Leib Marczuk – he adopted his mother's family name as a young adult) was born in 1929 in Suwalki, a Polish town of 30,000.

As a child, he won a scholarship to attend music school in Minsk, where he studied voice and cello. The move, in 1939, saved his life. His parents, three brothers and two sisters all perished in the Holocaust.

Reminiscing about the past before turning his attention to more current matters, the cantor recalled that one of his sisters had a beautiful voice. He speculated that she too might have made music her career. Their grandfather, he mentioned, was a baal tfillah.

When Germany invaded Russia, the young music students in Minsk were relocated to Orenbourg (now Tchkalov), in the Ural Mountains.

In 1943, Grisha, as he was then known, ran away to Turkistan, in central Asia, looking in vain for his parents. He was reunited with cousins from his hometown, and spent some time with them before resuming his musical education.

To finance his return to music school, he chopped wood and loaded it onto a raft, standing in water for hours on end.

After the war, with the help of the Joint Distribution Committee, Linke Poalei Tzion and the Bricha, he studied at the conservatory in Lodz, then at Rome's Santa Sicilia music school, where he studied the demanding 17th-century bel canto technique (the words mean "beautiful singing") that is his hallmark as a chazzan.

At age 20, he immigrated to the United States, having located an uncle through an ad in *The Forward*. He studied at the Mirrer Yeshiva in Brooklyn for three years.

He married in 1954 and was left with two young daughters when his wife died of cancer. He has been married to Rouhama, a native of Jerusalem, for almost 30 years. In addition to the two daughters, they have a son and two grandchildren.

Over the years Cantor Danto has seen the role of the chazzan change "a great deal.

"With the coming of the State of Israel, the Israeli tunes or army tunes have come into the synagogue...today some young people don't know the difference between the real *nusach hatfilah* and street music."

That's not a *bad* thing, he says, but cantorial adaptations from opera, for example, were generally "much more dignified."

Rabbi Joseph Kelman, rabbi emeritus of Beth Emeth, calls Cantor Danto "true to the art of traditional chazzanut. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur we speak of the ideal qualities of the chazzan, in his case, a wonderful voice and also a pleasing personality. He [has] high standards."

Cantor Danto admits to having mixed feelings about the concept of women cantors, because of his traditional background. In the Cantors' Assembly of America, of which he is a member, there are women cantors who are "very musical and very bright. They exist and they're wonderful. It brings pleasure, and why not? But I can not see the real cantor as a woman, not for me."

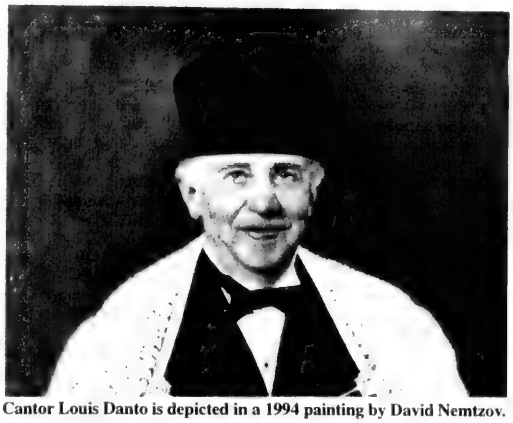
Cantor Danto's career has not been restricted to chazzanut, although he has been a synagogue chazzan his entire career, in New Jersey, New York and Ohio before moving here.

His 20 CDs – and he plans to continue recording – include Jewish operetta (several tracks of which were long-lost classics discovered by the cantor on a 1989 east European concert tour), and even German arias, a subject on which he is accustomed to fielding questions.

"I studied the German *lied*, and it's great music. I have mixed feelings [about singing it]. I studied this repertoire in childhood, before the Germans started to invade Europe. It's a pity not to use it."

"Sometimes I am amazed," said Rouhama, "that all he went through did not make him a bitter person. His goodness is so genuine."

"He's a very dedicated individual and he's always there for his congregants," said Rabbi Barry Schneider, spiritual leader of Beth Emeth." No matter how small or large the group, he gives 100 percent effort as a cantor."



Cantor Louis Danto is depicted in a 1994 painting by David Nemtzov.

SHEILA COHEN ז"ל

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Bob, Ellen, Norton, Vicki and Molly

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WEEK OF OCT. 23-OCT. 29/'98

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Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	6:05 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	7:00 & 7:45 AM	6:25 PM
Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	6:04 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 8:00 & 8:45 AM	6:30 & 7:15 AM	5:05 PM
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Ami (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:15 PM
Beth Radom (C)	18 Reiner Rd. (416) 636-3451	6:30 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:30 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	6:05 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	6:10 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	5:00 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	8:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

Greater Toronto Area

Toronto drops plans for 'McNulty Park'

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Plans to name a Toronto park after a man described as a former Nazi have been scrapped.

Earlier this year, Toronto Councillor Tom Jakobek proposed that the city honor longtime Beaches resident Joe McNulty by naming a park in his honor.

Toronto's community council even approved the plan.

But now that McNulty has been identified as a one-time leader of the Swastika Club, which often battled Jews in the days leading to the 1933 riot at Christie Pits, the plans have been quietly scrubbed.

"It's been dropped," said an aide to Councillor Howard Moscoe, who was in Israel last week on business. "It was never brought forward [to Toronto council]. It didn't even go to the parks commission."

Joel Shapiro, an aide to Jakobek, told *The CJN* the affair began this past summer when McNulty – "very much a landmark" in the Beaches – died at age 85.

A group of residents proposed that a new park be named for McNulty when one became available. Councillors Sandra Bussin and Jakobek considered it a good idea, and took it to Toronto's community council, which approved it unnoticed under new business.

Things blew up when the Beaches edition of the *Town Crier* newspaper printed a letter from McMaster University professors Cyril Levitt and William Shaffir, co-authors of *The Riots at Christie Pits.*

In their letter, Levitt and Shaffir quote from a 1933 article in the *Toronto Daily Star,* in which McNultry was identified as a leader of one of the so-called Swastika Clubs of the day. They go on to say that McNulty "was an unreconstructed anti-Semite who harbored the same negative feelings about Jews all his life."

In their book, Levitt and Shaffir note that the riot at Christie Pits on the night of Aug. 16, 1933 was preceded by several incidents at the Beaches between members of the Swastika Club and Jewish boys.

The club was founded on the pretense of "cleaning up" the Beaches, which on weekends and holidays saw an influx of immigrants who sought to escape the heat of the city, Levitt told *The CJN.*

Club members sported swastika emblems. Fights often ensued when Jewish boys tried to rip the emblems off, Levitt said.

It was in that tense atmosphere the all-night riot took place, he added.

Jakobek told *The CJN* that while he supported dropping the plan, the whole affair "has been one of the saddest incidents you can imagine" because McNulty "was like the guy next door.

"Of all the people in the world, he was the last person you would suspect [of being anti-Semitic]," Jakobek said.

He said that in the future, he would like to be informed of matters like this directly by Canadian Jewish Congress, instead of reading about them in the media.

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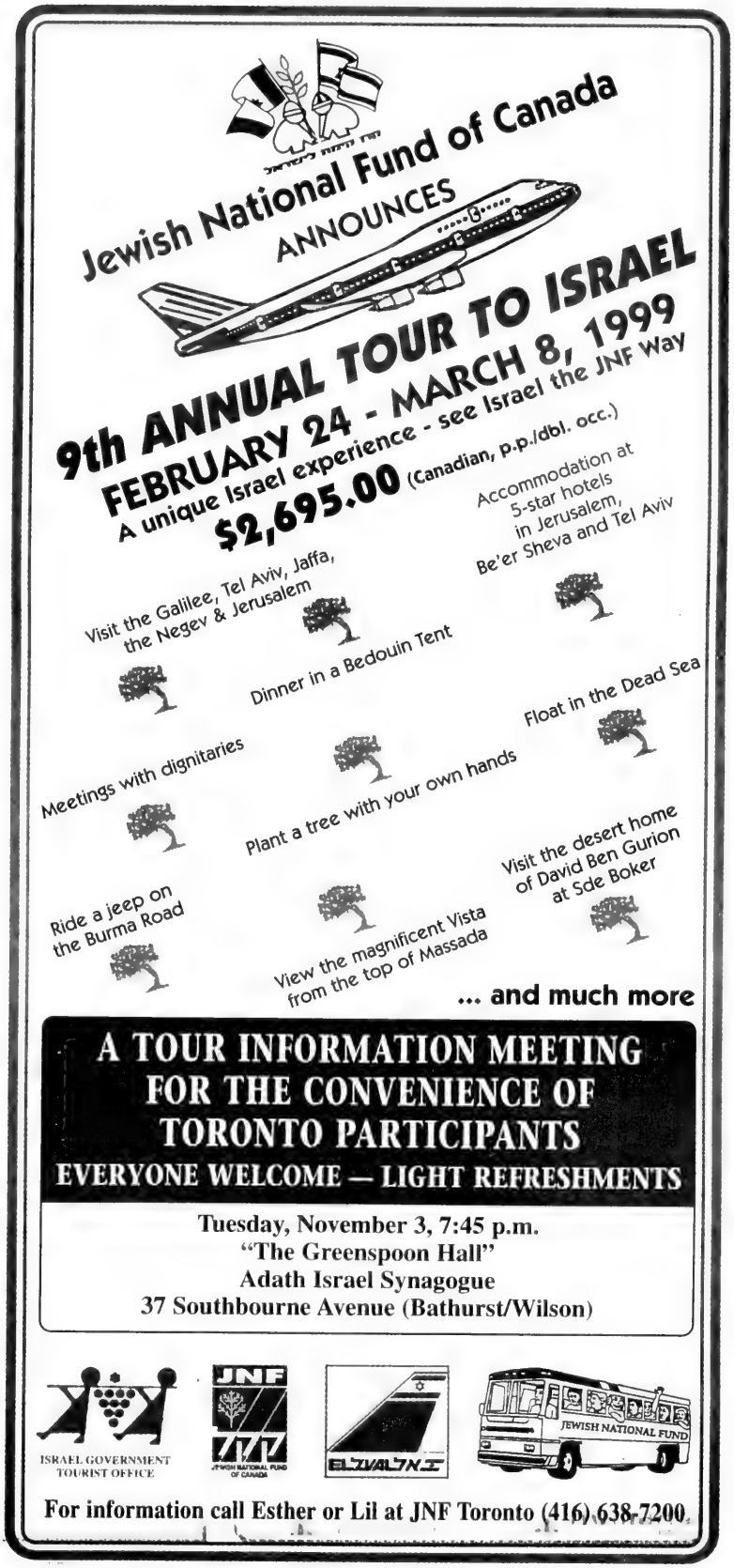
CORRECTION
We regret an error in the Oct. 8 edition.
The Sunnybrook Foods ad should have read:
"Specials valid Wed., Oct. 7 – Tues., Oct. 13"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Cochlear implant to aid deaf

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Thousands of deaf people in Canada could benefit from a cochlear implant, and enter a new world, claims Beverly Biderman, author of *Wired for Sound: A Journey Into Hearing*, published by Trifolium Books.

This new world has opened up for Biderman, 52. Now, at last, she can talk on the telephone, hear the patter of rain on the roof and exult over the singing of birds.

For the first time, she can be called from another room by her husband, Bob Biderman, just retired as an English as a Second Languge teacher. Before she had to depend on reading lips.

"When I first spoke to our son Nic on the telephone, he could hardly believe it." Nic is a 23-year-old arts student at the University of Windsor.

Biderman continues to work as a computer consultant for the University of Toronto.

She is so enthusiastic about the world of sound that she wrote the book to explain the experience of deafness, and of hearing with a cochlear implant.

Her cochlear implant surgery was done five years ago at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre. To date, the centre has performed more than 100 implants.

Although about 20,000 cochlear implants have been done in the world, only about 700 have been done so far in Canada. Here, medicare covers the expense which can amount to about $40,000.

Bev Biderman
[Arne Glassbourg photo]

Hereditary deafness occurs in many Jewish families, says Biderman, because arranged marriages were common in closed shtetl communities. She believes it occurs in the Sephardi population more often than in the general population.

The estimated incidence of congenital deafness in the Ashkenazi Jewish population is 1.2 per 1,000, which is close to the estimate for the general population, according to Prof. Bronya J.B. Keats, acting director, Centre for Molecular and Human Genetics, Louisiana State University Medical Centre.

Controversy surrounds the cochlear implant, which requires surgery to implant the artificial sensory organ with electrodes. A microphone is placed behind the ear, and a small processor, weighing about a quarter of a pound, is worn like a beeper or hidden in clothing.

Biderman hopes that in 1999 she will be eligible for a much smaller processor that can be worn behind the ear.

The implant is opposed by many in the deaf culture, the author says. Sign language is favored by members of this group, who make up roughly one-third of all deaf people in Canada.

As a child, Biderman writes, she hid her deafness from her family in Picton, Ont., until she was 5 years old. At the time, her late mother, Fay, and her older sister, Leah, were devastated. Her late father, Carl Klott of Polsk, Russia, who was deaf, was a scrap metal dealer who employed a truck driver to help negotiate his purchases.

Despite her disability, Biderman developed strategies or tricks which enabled her to function in a hearing world. She graduated in sociology from York University, but later was attracted to computers, and found employment at the University of Toronto. With her skill at lip reading she took part in round table conferences and seminars.

Besides Sunnybrook, hospitals in Canada where the procedure is done include: Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; Ottawa Civic Hospital; Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa; London Health Science Centre; Hotel Dieu, Quebec City; Alberta Children's Hospital, Calgary; Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, Edmonton; St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver; Children's Hospital, Vancouver.

She will be reading from her book at the Jewish Book Fair, Nov. 10, at 1:30 p. m.

It includes a lot of resource material and references which will be valuable to adults and to parents of deaf children.

JEWISH LIFE & KOSHER FOODFEST '98
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Lazar Yitzchok Meats
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Healthy Choice Pasta Sauces
E.D. Smith
Golan Cheese
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Community Matters

Gift Funds Innovative Israeli Services

Through the generosity of several major UJA Federation supporters, now the poor, the disabled and new immigrants will strongly benefit from a $1 million. Federations Canada grant to Haifa's Leo Baeck Education Centre.

Thousands of children use the Leo Baeck centre facilities.

The gift of $100,000 a year for ten years will support, among other initiatives, legal aid for newcomers to Israel - primarily from Russia and Ethiopia; expanded programming for the physically handicapped and more outreach to financially disadvantaged youth at risk in the Haifa region. All of the subsidized programs are supported by the Jewish Agency for Israel.

According to centre founder and director, Rabbi Robert Samuels, the facility's legal aid lawyer receives thousands of requests a year, mostly about personal status, marriage and how to buy an apartment. "We have become the major legal aid centre for the north of the country," says Samuels. These legal services, he adds, are particularly important for Ethiopian immigrants who have never conducted business through contractual agreements.

With UIA's support, the centre, which has already begun incorporating the physically and mentally challenged into some of its sports and cultural activities, will be expanding services for those with special needs. Among the major priorities is improving accessibility to and within the building itself. "We'll be promoting the availability of the centre for people with physical challenges," notes Samuels.

A significant portion of the grant will also be allocated to the financially underprivileged, especially in the nearby neighbourhood of Kiryat Sprinzhak. "We assist the needy from birth to death," says Samuels, who, with his staff, will be paying particular attention to teenagers by "helping them understand their responsibility to go into the army."

In addition, UIA funding will subsidize scholarships for early childhood students and children attending supplementary school from noon to 4 p.m.

The Leo Baeck Centre, built in 1970 and affiliated with the Reform movement, holds full time classes for over 1500 students at the junior high and secondary school level.

A Trip Toward Identity

It took a 12,000 mile journey to the Jewish homeland for Dr. Elaine Dembe to recognize the strength of her own Jewish identity and her community consciousness.

Dembe began to give to charitable causes, including UJA Federation, as soon as the Hamilton born chiropractor graduated from McMaster University and began her own practice. But it wasn't until she visited Israel twenty years later, on a UJA Federation mission, that Dembe realized how much her support meant.

"Every year I got the phone call and every year I gave," explains Dembe, who has also become a well-known writer, lecturer and motivational speaker. "I saw it as an obligation more than anything else," she confesses.

But her sense of obligation grew into a deep commitment last summer when Dembe saw, first hand, how community dollars help Jews in need, during a mission to Moscow and Israel. Dembe says she was "overwhelmed" by the life-saving work UJA Federation funds and was particularly moved by visits to elderly Jews living in squalid conditions in Moscow.

"I finally understood whom I was helping and how UJA Federation improves lives every single day," says Dembe, who decided to increase her UJA Federation gift as a result of her experience, becoming a leading Lion of Judah contributor.

Before I was giving the minimum," notes Dembe. "Now I'm taking more responsibility because I've seen with my own eyes how much of a difference I can make."

JEWISH toronto

(l-r) Abigail Brand, Sabrina Kerbel, and Nehemia Cohen were among 60 members of UJA Federation's Sephardi Network who attended a special Israel at 50 volunteer recognition reception recently held at the Lipa Green Building. They're among more than 1500 local community members who volunteered at dozens of events marking Israel's 50th anniversary throughout the year.

Oct. 29 - Nov. 9
18th Annual Holocaust Education Week

Holocaust survivor, author and lecturer **Ernest W. Michel** will recount the 60 years since *Kristallnacht* at the opening of the 18th Annual Holocaust Education Week, **October 29, 8:00 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street.** For complete program listings, call UJA Federation's Holocaust Educational and Memorial centre at (416) 635-2883 ext. 301.

November 10
22nd Annual Jewish Book Fair

Jewish Women's Federation, The Jewish Book Fair and Jewish Family & Child Service are co-sponsoring **Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, The Shame Born in Silence: Spouse Abuse in the Jewish Community, Tuesday, November 10, 8:00 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street.** Tickets at $5 per person can be purchased in advance by calling (416) 636-1880 ext. 368.

November 15 - 19

Sign up for a shift at one of UJA Federation's Phoning for Fifty Telethons. Join hundreds of community members making calls on behalf of Jews who are urgently in need. Call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

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Second Cup to join renovated Bloor JCC

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) last week announced that the Second Cup will serve as an anchor tenant for a retail development of the centre's Bloor Street frontage that will begin in early 1999.

The announcement came after a municipal committee of adjustment approved a Bloor JCC request for four bylaw variances on issues related to parking, site density, stairs to the outside and the depth of proposed retail units. The committee approval removed one of the last obstacles in the way of the centre's ambitious renovations plan and opened the door to a full-scale capital fundraising campaign that will also kick off in early 1999.

"It looks like it's all falling into place easily," said Bloor JCC director Bill Emery, who attended the committee meeting. "We're still on track for construction in early spring."

The municipal committee approved the variances after hearing from spokespeople for the centre and after letters from two local homeowners' groups and two business groups were submitted that backed the venture. In addition, local councillors Kyle Rae and Olivia Chow threw their support behind the project, said David Green, chair of the Bloor JCC's capital campaign.

The Bloor JCC's renovation plans include development of its north facade to accommodate five commercial tenants, including the Second Cup, and for substantial upgrades to the rest of the facility. A new aerobics studio, a multipurpose lounge, a 290-seat theatre/projection room, a "cardio theatre," and other renovations are some of the changes proposed for the facility.

The pace of renovations will coincide with the success of the $5-million fundraising campaign, in order to prevent the centre from falling further into debt, Green said. The campaign is sanctioned by UJA Federation and is part of a broader community effort to raise capital funds for the Bathurst Jewish Centre and for a "Y" in York Region, he added.

Five retail tenants

"The Bloor Y is the heart and soul of the campaign because just about everybody in town has passed through it at some time. We're starting from scratch now, and there's a tremendous naming opportunity" for the Bloor Street facility, he said.

Green said the Bloor JCC is being highly selective in choosing tenants to join the Second Cup. When the five retail spots, occupying 6,000 square feet, are fully rented, they will generate annual revenues of about $250,000.

The campaign's goal is to raise enough money to retire the centre's bank debt, which stood at $2.3 million in June, renovate the building and provide the facility with a tidy financial cushion.

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Night Of A Lifetime Symphony Orchestra
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Sunday, November 15, 1998
at
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Beth Tzedec Synagogue
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**Proceeds to Hearing Impaired Children in Israel: "Auditory-Verbal in Israel"; and "the Music Therapy Program" at Sharre Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem*

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18th Annual Holocaust Education Week - October 28 - November 8, 1998

The 22nd Annual Jewish Book Fair

November 7th — 18th, Leah Posluns Theatre at the Bathurst Jewish Centre

Sir Martin Gilbert

Opening Night — Saturday, November 7th, 8:00 p.m.

We welcome our distinguished guest, **Sir Martin Gilbert**, author of ***Israel: A History***, who will speak on **ISRAEL: A NATION IN CONFLICT**. *Sponsored by the Edward Bronfman Family Foundation.* **$7**

Sunday, November 8th

10:00 a.m./1:00 p.m. The Flower Horse presented by **Magical Basket Productions**. A collection of whimsical poems and songs for children, originally presented in the Terezin ghetto during WWII. Professionally-staged, it features a cast of 35 young performers. *Suitable for Gr 4-8* **$5 Child/ $10 Adult**

11:00 a.m. Gerald Tulchinsky, author of *Branching Out*, speaks on **The Transformation of the Canadian Jewish Community**. **Nora Gold**, author of *Marrow: and Other Stories*, speaks on **Women: Passionate, Intelligent, Sexual**. *Sponsored by Canadian Zionist Federation, Central Region* **Free**

12:00 p.m. MEET THE AUTHORS Rachelle and David Bronfman, authors of *CalciYum! — Delicious Calcium-Rich, Dairy-Free Vegetarian Recipes*; **David Saul**, author of *Jungle Heat: The Truth About Male Sexuality*; **MacKay L. Smith**, author of *Jews of Montreal and their Judaisms* Come shmooze with these authors **Free**

1:30 p.m. Rabbi Roy D. Tanenbaum, author of *The Man in Stripes: The Story of Auschwitz Prisoner #88*, speaking on **Zygmund Sobelewski**. Discussion follows with **Zygmund Sobelewski**. *Admission free, courtesy of Holocaust Education Week.*

3:30 p.m. Readings from **Parchment 1998-99** featuring **Ruth Panofsky, Jay Brodbar, Jack Kuper, Ken Sherman, Malca Litovitz, Dan Goorevich $3**

4:30 p.m. A POTPOURRI OF PROSE, POETRY AND A PLAY featuring **Richard Teleky**, author of *The Paris Education of Rosie Kamin*, poet **Malca Litovitz**, author of the collection *To Light, To Water*; and dramatist **Emil Sher**, author of *Making Waves*, a volume of three radio plays. *Sponsored by Oraynu Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism* **$3**

8:00 p.m. BOOK LAUNCH Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, author of *Re-Visions: Seeing Torah Through a Feminist Lens*, and Special Guest, noted journalist and author, **Michele Landsberg** will speak on **HOW FEMINISM SAVED JUDAISM**. *Sponsored by Kolel and Key Porter Books.* **$7**

Monday, November 9th

10:30 a.m./12:30 p.m MY GRANDMOTHER'S STORIES by **Adèle Geras** Play performed by Dr. Abraham Shore Academy — Shearim Hebrew Day School, as part of the "Learning Skills Through Drama" Program. K-Gr. 8. **Child & Student $1/Adult $3**

1:30 p.m. FAMILY MATTERS Nomi Berger, author of *My Brother Peter: Murder or Suicide?*, speaking on **TRAUMA IN THE FAMILY AND THE PATH TO HEALING. Suanne Kelman**, author of *All in the Family*, speaking on **A CULTURAL HISTORY OF FAMILY LIFE. $3**

8:00 p.m. SHOWCASING MALCOLM LESTER BOOKS featuring **Irena Karafilly**, author of *Ashes and Miracles*, **Alti Rodal**, author of *Travesty of Justice*, and **Morley Torgov**, author of *The War to End All Wars. Sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada Commission for Jewish Culture.* **$5**

Tuesday, November 10th

10:00 a.m./12:30 p.m. THE FLOWER HORSE See Sunday Nov. 8th at 10:00 a.m. **$5**

1:30 p.m. Bev Biderman, author of *Wired for Sound*, speaks on **A JOURNEY INTO HEARING. $3**

Rabbi A.J. Twerski

8:00 p.m. Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, M.D., author of *The Shame Borne in Silence*, speaking on **SPOUSE ABUSE IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY**. *Sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation and Jewish Family & Child Services.* **$5**

Wednesday, November 11th

10:00 a.m./12:30 p.m. THE FLOWER HORSE See Sunday Nov. 8th at 10:00 a.m. **$5**

11:00 a.m. WHAT'S COOKING? Screening of the video **NO SCHMALTZ** and **Norene Gilletz** speaks on her latest book *Meal Leani Yumm!* **Free**

1:30 p.m. Lesley Marrus Barsky, author of *From Generation to Generation — a History of Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital*, will speak on medicine, anti-semitism and 75 years of community growth. *Sponsored by Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary.* **$3**

Bonnie Goldstein & Jaclyn Shulman

8:00 p.m. Bonnie Goldstein and **Jaclyn Shulman**, editors of *Voices from the Heart — A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel*. Readings by contributing writers including **Irving Abella, Maurice Benzacar, Donald Carr, Judy Feld Carr, Ben Dunkelman Family, Allan Gross, Jack Kuper, Julie Morton, Dianna Roberts Zauderer, Roman Ziegler, Barbara Hehner Zweig**. *Sponsored by UJA Federation and Hongkong Bank of Canada.* **$5**

Thursday, November 12th

10:00 a.m./12:30 p.m. THE FLOWER HORSE See Sunday Nov. 8th at 10:00 a.m. **$5**

1:30 p.m. Irene Burstyn, author of *Picking Up Pearls*, speaks on **Reinventing Ourselves at Eighty. $3**

Yaffa Eliach

8:00 p.m. Yaffa Eliach, author of *There Once Was a World*, speaks on **A 900-Year Chronicle of the Shtetl of Eishyshok: A Portrait and Tribute to a Vanished Culture**. *Sponsored by Canadian Friends of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.* **$5**

Saturday, November 14th

7:30 p.m. Screening of the documentary film **THE ROAD TO RABIN SQUARE** followed by **Michael Karpin**, author of *Murder in the Name of God*, speaking on **THE PLOT TO KILL YITZHAK RABIN**. *Sponsored by Canadian Friends of Peace Now. Screening and Lecture* **$7**

Sunday, November 15th

11:00 a.m. Aubrey Davis, Storyteller *Suitable for Gr. 1-3.* **$1**

11:00 a.m. Stuart Lyall, co-author, and **Ken Borden**, illustrator, will speak on their book *My Kids Are Gonna Be Rich (Your Kids Too!)*. **Free**

1:30-4:30 p.m. WRITING JEWISHLY WORKSHOP with **Libby Scheier** is geared to Jewish writers at all levels who want to explore our varied experiences and traditions through writing **$3**

1:30 p.m. Shirley Kumove, author of *More Words, More Arrows*, will speak on **CATCHING ARROWS: TRANSLATING YIDDISH FOLK SAYINGS**. *Sponsored by Friends of Yiddish, Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation and The Shlomo Steinhart Fund.* **$3**

3:00 p.m. MORE FAMILY MATTERS Dr. Ben Schlesinger, co-author of *The Family Squeeze*, will speak on **THE SANDWICH GENERATION. Dr. David Posen**, author of *Staying Afloat When the Water Gets Rough*, speaks on **How To Live in a Rapidly Changing World. Free**

8:00 p.m. JEWISH WOMEN'S VOICES — HEAR WHAT THEY SAY A wonderfully rich evening of performance featuring documentary film protagonists **Faigl** and **Shirley Brown**, musicologist **Judith Cohen**, the Minyan of Crones, writers **Susan G. Cole** and **Sarah Swartz**, and artist **Yvonne Singer**. *Sponsored by Na'amat Canada — Toronto.* **$7**

Monday, November 16th

8:00 p.m. Sandy Schreier, author of *Hollywood Dressed and Undressed: A Century of Cinema Style*, speaks on **HOW JEWS CREATED THE HOLLYWOOD STYLE**. *Sponsored by Hadassah — WIZO Organization of Toronto.* **$5**

Tuesday, November 17th

8:00 p.m. A literary "stir" **Allan Levine**, author of *Fugitives of the Forest*, speaks on the heroic story of Jewish resistance and Survival during the Second World War. **Judith Kalman**, author of *The County of Birches*, speaks on **LUCKY CHILD OF FORTUNE: FROM BUDAPEST TO MONTREAL, A YOUNG GIRL'S STORY OF LOSS AND NEW BEGINNINGS. Bob Rae**, author of *The Three Questions*, speaks on **PROSPERITY AND THE PUBLIC GOOD**. *Sponsored by Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University.* **$5**

Wednesday, November 18th

Wendy Dennis

8:00 p.m. Wendy Dennis, author of *The Divorce From Hell*, speaks on **REINVENTING DIVORCE: IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OUR CHILDREN**. *Sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women in Canada.* **$5**

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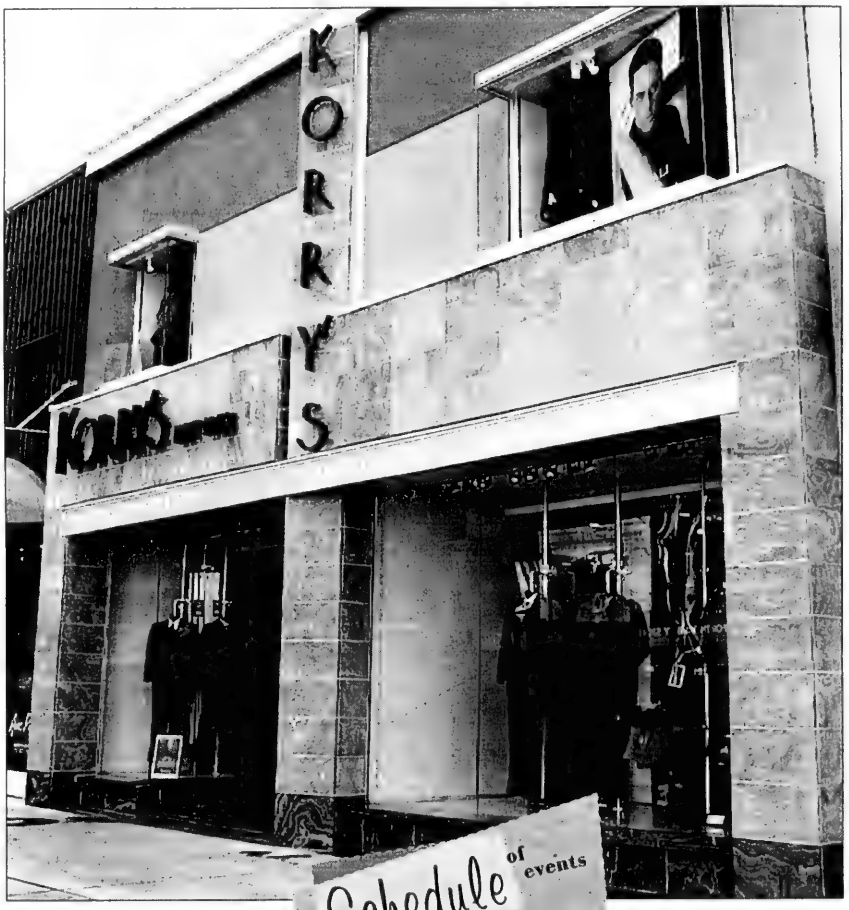

Schedule of events

Thursday, Oct. 22, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
CANALI TRUNK SHOW

Canali's Canadian representative, Mr. Bruno Mancini, will be on hand to show off all the new styles for 1999. Those wishing to custom-order their tailored clothing direct from Canali headquarters in Italy may do so at special ready-to-wear prices. Catering courtesy of "Fancy Shoes" restaurant.

Friday, Oct. 23, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
ARNOLD BRANT TRUNK SHOW

Join Canada's top men's designer, Mr. Arnold Brant Silverstone, for a fashionable afternoon detailing the latest looks and trends, plus take the opportunity to custom-order your next season's tailored wear direct from the Arnold Brant headquarters in Montreal. Catering courtesy of Encore Foods With Elegance.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.
PRIVATE LABEL EXTRAVAGANZA

Learn what goes into our Roberto private label men's wear, and how much wardrobe use you can get out of it. Included in the afternoon will be an informal successful dressing discussion with host Saul Korman, as well as special groupings of Roberto dress shirts and ties, complementing our regular 2 For 1 suit and trouser selection. Catering courtesy of Il Fornello and The Palace restaurants.

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(פון זיין בוך „אַ וואָרט פאַר אַ וואָרט")

פון סעם ליפּצין

די גרעסטע באַלוינונג פאַרן פאַלקס־שרייבער איז, ווען זיין וואָרט גייט פון מויל צו מויל, ביז דאָס ווערט פאָלקס־אייגנטום. . .

ביליקע צייטונגען מאַכן פון אַ וואָרט אַ קוואָרט, און די קוואָרט איז פול מיט וואַסער. . .

דער שרייבער, וואָס פאַרגעסט ניט צו שאַפן פאַרן פאָלק, ווערט אויך פון פאָלק ניט פאַרגעסן. . .

אין אַ גוט בוך, ווען דער שטויב באַדעקט דעם טאָוול, פילט יעדער אות ווי אַן אָבל. . .

אַ בוך — ווי אַ זייגער: אויב ער ווייזט ניט די צייט, גייט ער פאָלש. . .

מעסט ניט גוטע פּאָעזיע לויט די גראַמען, און קונסט־בילדער לויט די ראַמען. . .

אַ גוט בוך, ווי אַ גוט בילד, קאָן מען ניט מעסטן לויט אַ פּרייז, ווייל ס'איז ניט אָפּצושאַצן. . .

שרייבער, ווי מאָלער, דאַרפן דריי זאַכן: שאַרפע געצייג, שאַרפע אויגן און — שאַרפזין. . .

אַ שרייבער קאָן באַנוצן אין זיין שרייבן אַלע קאָלירן טינט, נאָר ווען מלייענט דאָס אָפּגעדרוקטע, דאַרף מען פילן, אַז דאָס איז געשריבן געוואָרן מיט בלוט. . .

נוצן פערלדיקע רייד אין אַ רעדע איז נאָך ניט גענוג; מ'דאַרף זיי קענען אָנסילען אויף אַ פאָדים, אַז ס'זאָל ווערן אַ גאַנצער געדאַנק. . .

די זשאַבע און דער מסור קוואַקען שטענדיק פון דער בלאָטע אַרויס. . .

שפּיגלען זיך צופיל איז טאַקע ניט שיין, נאָר — איידער דו ווייזט זיך פאַר מענטשן, קוק־אָן זיך אַליין. . .

פאַראַן מענטשן מיט גרויסע אויגן, וואָס פאַרזעען צייטיקע פרוכטן ביי זיך אויפן טיש, און רייסן פריצייטיקע פון שכנ'ס גאָרטן.

יעדער קלוגער מענטש האָט גענוג נאַרישע שטריכן, נאָר — ער האָט שכל זיי צו באַהאַלטן. . .

אַ קליין זעמדעלע, וואָס, דאַכט זיך, קען צו גאָרניט טויגן, קריגט „אָנזען", ווען עס פאַלט אין די אויגן. . .

ברויט האַלט אויף דאָס לעבן, און פאַר ברויט שטעלט מען איין דאָס לעבן. . .

אַ בלום, אַפילו פון איין קאָליר, איז קאָלירריך. . .

יידישע אַנעקדאָטן פון רוסלאַנד

אַן אַלטער בלינדער יידישער בעטלער האָט דאָס גאַנצע לעבן געבעטלט אויף ראָג רישעליעווסקע און דעריבאַסאָווסקע גאַסן און פלעגט שוין דערקענען „זיינע קליענטן" לויט זייער גאַנג. „טוק־טוק" — עס גייט אַ יונגערמאַן, וועלכער פלעגט אין משך פון יאָרן, פאַרבייגייענדיק, אים אַריינוואַרפן פופציק קאָפּיקעס. „טוק־טוק" — גייט ער פאַרביי און וואַרפט אַריין אַ צוואָנציקער.

— וואָרט אויף, יונגערמאַן — רופט אים דער בעטלער — וואָס איז געשען, פריער פלעגט איר מיר געבן אַ פופציקער?!

— איר פאַרשטייט, איך האָב חתונה געהאַט, און איצט קען איך שוין ניט אויסגעבן אַזוי פיל אויף נדבות!

— וואָס זאָגט איר צו אים, אַ שיינער בחור! ער האָט, זעט איר, חתונה געהאַט, איז וואָס? איך דאַרף אויסהאַלטן זיין משפּחה?!

* * *

אין אַן אַמאָליקן קליינעם שטעטל. רחל קלאַפּט צו איר שכנ'טע שרה.

— שרה־לעבן! — טיילט זי איר מיט, אויפגערעגט — אייער זונדל, חיימקע, פאַרנעמט זיך מיט האָמאָסעקסואַליזם!

— אוי־וויי, מיין זון, מיין חיימקע. . . — ברעכט די הענט שרה — און וואָס איז עס אַזוינס?

— נו, ווי זאָל איך אייך דערקלערן? ווען אַ יינגל מיט אַ מיידל, איז דאָס נאָרמאַל. אָבער ווען אַ יינגל מיט אַ יינגל. . .

— אוי, גאָט מיינער! אָבער כאָטש מיט אַ יידישן יינגל? . . .

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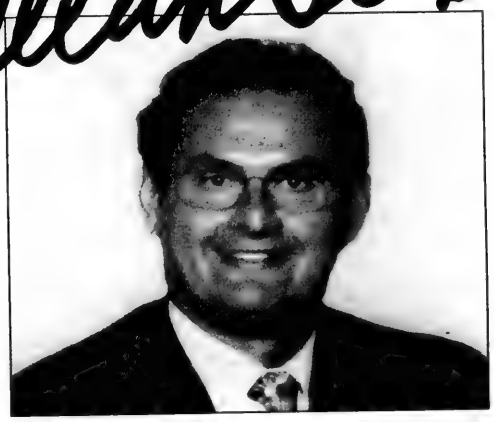

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ECRUSY reunion ends with late night donut run

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Even if Susan Black hadn't had her cousin's wedding the next day, she probably would have made an effort to travel from her home in Penticton, B.C., for the ECRUSY reunion held here recently.

The 40th anniversary reunion of the Eastern Canadian Region of United Synagogue Youth, held at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, attracted over 300 alumni to reminisce, renew acquaintances, listen to '50s, '60s and '70s music and sing a spirited rendition of *Hail ECRUSY*.

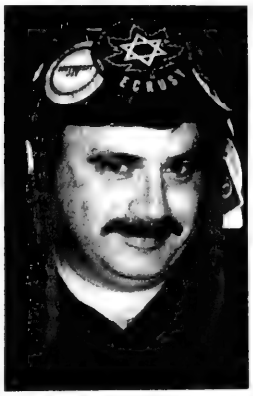
Some 100 ex-USYers stayed for a midnight havdalah service, then 30 or so diehards, not wanting the evening to end, went out for donuts.

For Black, who grew up in Oshawa, USY provided "a nice safe place to hang out" during her high school years in the late 1970s, when she and her brother were the only Jews at their school. Their USY chapter had only six members. "Our parents really wanted us to have a Jewish social life," she recalled.

For Jewish teens in both small and large Jewish communities, ECRUSY has provided a link with peers in other cities.

"It was an opportunity for teenagers to find some common roots in a social, religious, cultural environment where we had fun. It helped to develop, for many of us, organizational skills and administrative ability, and [helped us learn] how to deal with people," said Jack Grossman, who was present as a teenager at ECRUSY's founding meeting in the boardroom of Beth Tzedec Congregation in 1958.

Roz Garber and Randy Spiegel recreate pose on Spiegel's USY button.



Howard Zweig

Montrealer Richard Vineberg, a past president of the Council of Jewish Federations Canada, got his start in USY in the 1960s, he said.

His continued involvement in the Jewish community is not unique. "It affected us for the rest of our lives," said Rhona Shulman, a contemporary of Vineberg's who serves on two Jewish educational boards in Toronto.

USY existed here before 1958 as part of the LEO (Lake Erie and Ontario) region. The new Canadian region included Toronto, Hamilton, London and St. Catharines, and eventually encompassed Quebec as well as Ontario.

There was much travelling from city to city for regional conventions, as well as to international conventions in the United States.

Carey Miller, who was active in Toronto's Beth Tikvah chapter about 20 years ago, recalled travelling throughout the United States and Canada as a USYer, but also playing host to USYers visiting here – up to 30 at a time. "There were bodies all over the basement," recalled his sister Sharron Lungen.

"USY was a magical time in my life," said Alyssa Maskowitz Zobary – also an alumna of Beth Tikvah – who spearheaded the reunion.

"Each and every one of us took something from USY, whether it was the friends we made, the social conscience we developed or the learning and love of our faith," said Sheldon Serota, a '60s-era USYer who is now brotherhood president at Beth Emeth.

For the reunion, ex-USYers dug up souvenirs including an assortment of convention buttons.

Randy Spiegel, a native of Hespeler, Ont., who belonged to the Kitchener chapter (which also included Galt, Guelph and Waterloo), sported a button with a photo of Roz Garber, whose husband Lou was regional director from 1974 to 1978. "We took pictures and made buttons to raise money for tikkun olam," he recalled.

Howard Zweig, a former chapter president of Beth Am's USY, wore a hatful of buttons, and pulled out a paisley kippah from a 1967 Niagara Falls convention, with the signature of one-time cowboy celebrity Gene Autry woven into the fabric.

"I have great memories," Zweig said. "Those were fun times, and good friendships were formed."

Elaine Pesses, a native of Montreal who was in ECRUSY's Shaare Zedek branch there, called her Toronto USY friends when she moved here at age 21. "I still have my letters that people wrote to me," she said.

Stamp show features Israel

TORONTO — Israeli stamp enthusiasts won't want to miss a museum-quality exhibit of stamps at the Bathurst Jewish Jewish Centre until Oct. 30.

The Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association and the consulate general of Israel are staging a special exhibit of Israeli stamps to mark the nation's 50th anniversary.

The show, entitled The Running Stag: Images of Israel in Postage Art, will showcase 275 stamps on loan from the Museum of the Jewish Family, in Durham, N.C.

It was displayed last week at Exhibition Place.

The exhibit takes its title from the logo of the Israeli Postal Authority. A symbol of one of the 12 tribes of Israel, the stag represents Naphtali, son of Jacob, a trusted messenger, and fleet of foot.

The stamps chosen for the exhibit illustrate fundamental themes of Israeli life, foregoing politics and controversy, and focus on archeology, the environment, social history, sports, cultural life and important conferences.

Included are stamps printed before statehood. These are designated simply "Doar Ivri," or Hebrew Post, and were printed when it was still illegal for Jewish settlers to print stamps.

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From coast to coast

London rescinds 'European Heritage Week'

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In a hastily convened meeting, London City Council annulled a proclamation issued to a white supremacist group that would have designated Oct 12 to Oct. 18 as European Heritage Week.

Thirteen members of city council voted unanimously to rescind a decision by a city clerk to issue the proclamation. They acted after Canadian Jewish Congress warned them that the proclamation would play into the hands of a white supremacist group led by convicted hatemonger Donald Andrews.

Although "the wording of the proclamation was quite benign, it was the possible use to which it might be put, to lend credence to an organization that apparently has white supremacist ties" that led council to rescind the proclamation, London Mayor Dianne Haskett explained.

Such a proclamation could be construed as "an endorsement of the organization and its activities and [would] lend support and often credence to what it stands for," she added.

The original decision to issue the proclamation was made by city clerk Jeff Malpass, who told the *London Free Press* he had never heard of the group submitting the proclamation request, the European Heritage Committee of Toronto. Malpass said the proclamation's words did not contravene city guidelines and he suggested failure to approve it could have put the municipality in jeopardy of being accused of discrimination.

(Last year, Haskett was fined $10,000 for failing to declare a Gay Pride weekend.)

London city council took the unusual step of meeting late on the Friday night before Thanksgiving to order the proclamation rescinded. If they had not met at that time, the proclamation would have taken affect on the following Monday, and run during the Simchat Torah holiday, Haskett said.

Working with Deputy Mayor Anne-Marie DeCicco, Haskett arranged for 13 councillors – enough for a quorum – to return to City Hall for the impromptu meeting. Earlier in the day, Congress had supplied the mayor with an extensive dossier on Andrews and his previous efforts to convince municipalities to issue the proclamation. Included was a 1995 letter from former Toronto mayor Barbara Hall to then Metro chair Allen Tonks on Andrews' efforts, as well as a 1994 report by the Security Intelligence Review Committee (SIRC).

That report noted that Andrews has been a prominent figure in extremist circles in Toronto, and that he spent two years in jail in the mid-1970s for plotting to bomb a visiting Israeli soccer team. On his release from prison, he established the Nationalist party of Canada, which "appealed to the basest instincts of those who joined it: anti-immigrant, anti-gay, fearful of the disappearance of the white race around the world, anti-affirmative action, anti-black and anti-Jewish."

Keith Landy, chair of Congress' Ontario region, said "this is not the first time that Congress has learned of the insidious work of Donald Andrews and his group."

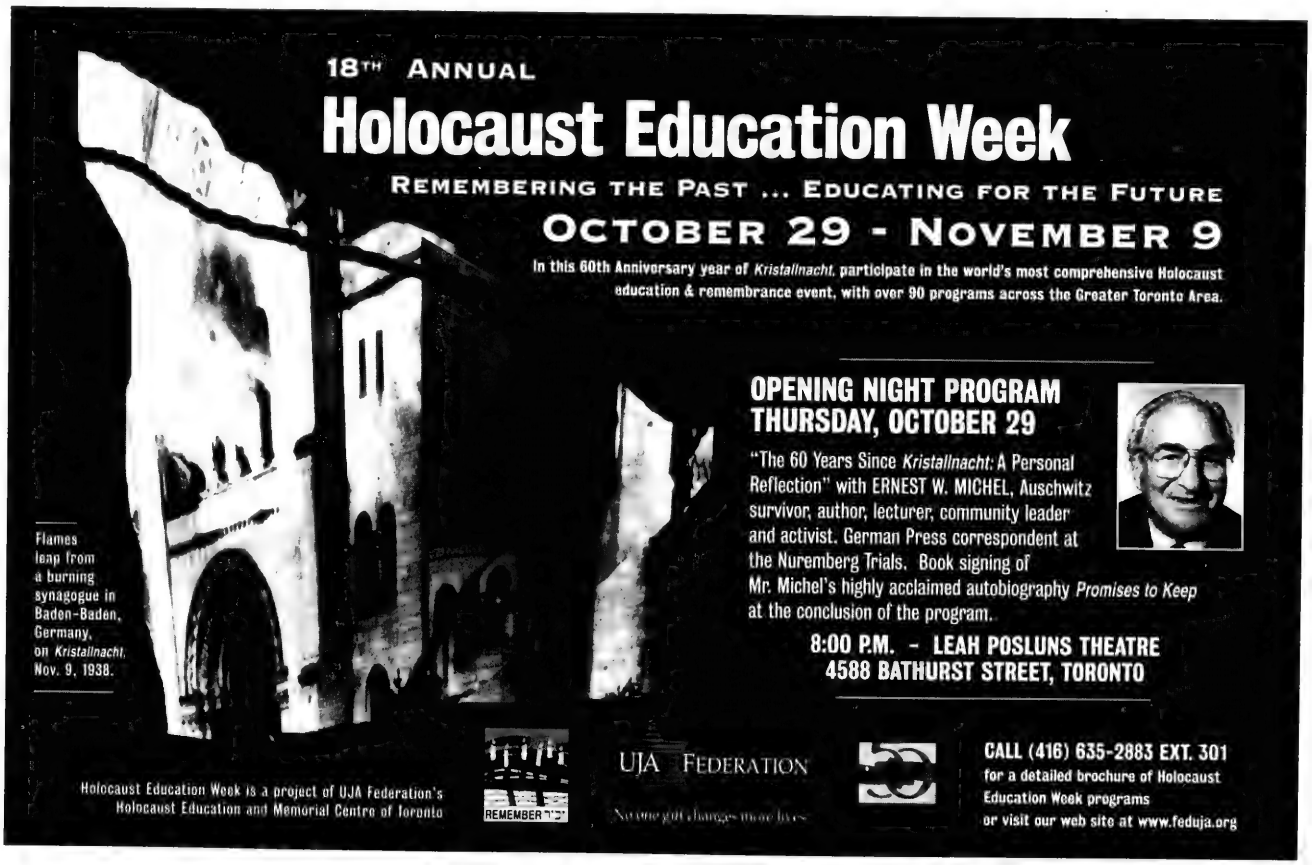
Only last month, Congress blocked Andrews' effort to convince the town of Markham to designate a European Heritage Week. A few years ago, the cities of Halifax and Victoria rescinded similar proclamations after they learned of the identities of those advancing it, he said.

Meanwhile, in London, a debate is raging over whether the city should issue similar proclamations in the future. Haskett believes London should get out of the business of issuing the proclamations.

"We have a lot of other positive issues to discuss and this can be time consuming," she said.

AWARD OF MERIT

Author Sydell Waxman and Sylvia McConnell of Napoleon Publishing were recently honored with the Heritage Toronto Award of Merit for Waxman's children's book, *Changing the Pattern; The Story of Emily Stowe*. Seen here (from left) are: Marion Joppe, City of Toronto Councillor Ila Bossons, Waxman, McConnell and City of Toronto Councillor Michael Prue.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From coast to coast

Fabric artist puts personal touch into Torah covers

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Local fabric artist Elena Keen has gained widespread recognition and admiration for what started out as a small "repair job" for her rabbi.

In 1994, while saying Kaddish for her late mother, Keen noticed that the hem of one of the Torah covers at Congregation Machzikei Hadas was coming undone and asked Rabbi Reuven Bulka if he would like her to mend it.

He replied that all of the covers were in poor condition. So, when they were replaced with white covers for the High Holy Days, Keen picked up the old ones to repair them.

Keen, who comes from a long line of tailors and seamstresses, had an idea that she would like to replace one of the covers with a new one of her own design in memory of her mother.

She was born in Romania, where she, her mother and sister were hidden and her father was interned in a labor camp during World War II. After the war, the family emigrated to South America.

Her mother insisted upon passing along her tailoring skills to her daughters. Keen remembers that "we girls were required to do a certain amount of sewing every day. We learned to do exact work, haute couture. We spent innumerable hours doing embroidery, knitting and other needlework."

But Keen's father was an accountant and wanted his daughter to follow in his footsteps. "He encouraged me to study something practical, to prepare for the future," she recalls. She studied economics and business management, and also obtained the equivalent of a BA in English and translation.

These skills came in handy when Keen arrived in Canada in 1964. She has worked part time for many years at Carleton University in the systems and computer engineering department and as a freelance translator.

Sewing has always been a hobby, but a chance encounter led her to quilting and the birth of her new "career."

While playing bridge in a neighborhood bridge club when she first came to Ottawa, Keen was struck by the beauty of a quilt being displayed by one of the members who made one annually as a raffle prize.

Shortly afterwards, while strolling through the Byward Market, Keen says, "I noticed a quilt stall advertising classes for quilting and I registered for the course on the spur of the moment. I never looked back. I became thoroughly addicted. I joined the local guild and the national association and volunteered everywhere. I was on the board of the Canadian Quilters Association twice and am still actively involved."

The Torah cover that Keen designed in memory of her mother is done in golds, russets and blues. It incorporates the image of candlesticks, the ones that her mother had used throughout her lifetime.

Torah mantles designed and made by Elena Keen rest in the Aron Kodesh at Congregation Machzikei Hadas. [Elena Keen photo]

Keen's family, though ardent Zionists, were not religiously observant. However, her mother always lit candles on Friday night and this image remains with her.

The response of the congregants when the special Torah cover was unveiled was overwhelmingly enthusiastic. Almost immediately, other members of the synagogue began to approach her to commission covers in honor, or in memory, of their loved ones. She has worked many long hours to fulfil each request.

Each design incorporates something personal, and each cover entails approximately 300 hours of work and contains several hundred dollars worth of materials, including specially hand-dyed fabric.

In addition to the hand-quilting, embroidery and other forms of needlework – including bobbin lace – add to the cover's beauty.

Keen does a preliminary design after consultation with the client, then shows it to the client and to a rabbi to ensure that it meets halachic requirements and that any Hebrew writing is correct. Only then does she begin to sew.

The practical aspects of the design also have to be worked out. Keen has figured out how to make the covers so that they can be easily removed for cleaning.

"I construct it as a wall hanging which wraps around and fastens with velcro. I give each work a name and attach a label with the name, who donated it and for what occasion, and I also attach a care label."

Having completed all eight covers for the Torahs at Machzikei Hadas, Keen is working on several for another local synagogue and is continuing to receive commissions to do more.

"I consider the time that I spend on this time for meditation, a form of prayer. I put an awful lot of myself into it. The day that I no longer feel this way, I will stop doing it," she says.

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Dr. Rubin is the author of numerous books and articles on the peace process, Palestinian movement, inter-Arab affairs, U.S. Middle East policy and U.S.-Israel relations. He is the Executive Editor of the BESA Center's Middle East Review of International Affairs *(MERIA).*

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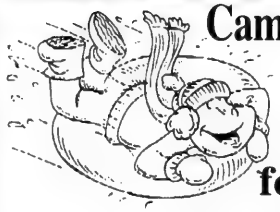

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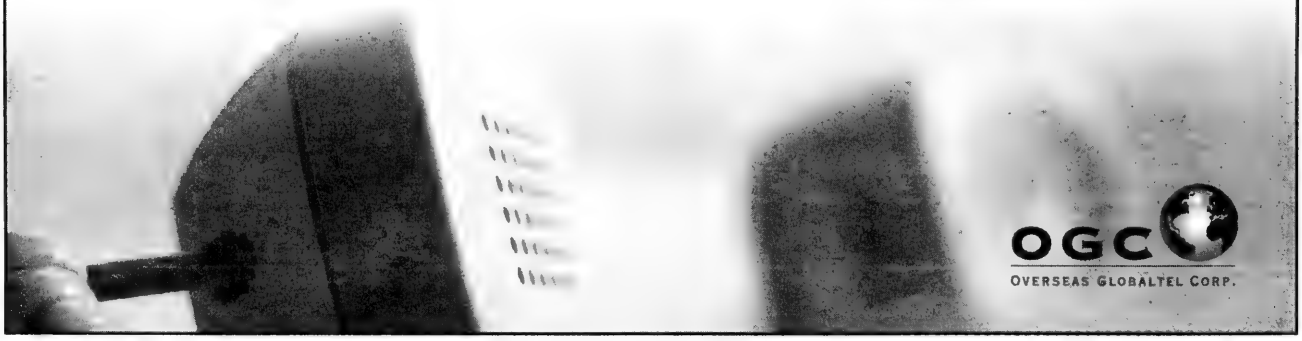

From coast to coast

Quebec court rejects kosher food importer's appeal

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

Judge rules that impact of legislation and regulation would be negligible

MONTREAL — An appeal by an importer of kosher food who was charged with violating federal laws concerning nutritional information on packaging has been thrown out by a Quebec Superior Court judge.

Three charges against Les Importations Cacheres Hahamovitch Inc. under the Food and Drug Act (FDA) will stand after Judge Pierre Pinard dismissed arguments that the legislation is unconstitutional because it violates religious freedom and exceeds the federal government's jurisdiction in the area of health, which is principally a provincial responsibility. It was claimed that it is impractical for the manufacturer or importer to affix different labels for the Canadian market because it is too small to justify the extra cost.

The company's lawyer, Paul Nadler, said this is the end of the line for the case, which has dragged through the courts for six years. The fines for the charges total $850, but Nadler emphasized that money was never the issue. The goal was to show that Canada's regulations on the labelling of imported foods are "oppressive" to the Jewish community because they have the effect of barring non-complying kosher products from the country and limiting the choice of consumers for whom what they eat is an essential part of their religion.

The charges related to two U.S.-made kosher for Passover brands of crackers and cookies that bore claims on the packages of "no cholesterol, low in saturated fats," and "low sodium," but did not conform to the Canadian standards that permit such claims to be made.

Pinard wrote in his decision: "In the circumstances, it does not appear to me realistic to draw the conclusion that the legislation and its regulation would have an impact more than negligible on the practice of the Jewish religion in Montreal or elsewhere in Canada.

"No member of the Jewish community is obliged to eat this kind of biscuits and indeed, there are very few who are eating them. On the other hand, nearly the whole range of kosher foods is available in Montreal or in Canada, including even the kind of products and foods that represent only a tiny part of the market here."

Moreover, Pinard said the appellant had not shown that the additional cost of changing the packaging to conform to Canadian law "would represent a substantial burden for the practising Jewish community, quite the contrary." Pinard said the company had not entered as evidence any study specifying what the extra cost would be.

"I am therefore of the opinion that the inconveniences following from the legislation and its regulation does not reach the threshold where one can speak of a real violation of the Charter (of Rights and Freedoms) in the meaning of the jurisprudence..." and so the request for a constitutional exemption cannot be considered, he said.

In arriving at his judgment, Pinard noted that it was not contested that the two products in question have "no special religious significance" or that they must be used in "Jewish rites."

"In summary, no one is obliged to eat these biscuits. It's a question of personal taste. In fact, the evidence reveals that this type of food only interests a tiny part of the Jewish clientele" – 150 to 200 cases a year of the crackers and 75 to 100 cases a year of the cookies were imported.

Pinard also affirmed that the federal Parliament is within its bounds to enact legislation to protect public health including what goes on food packaging.

In February 1992, federal inspectors found in Hahamovitch's warehouse in St. Laurent 288 packages of Sun Valley oat bran cookies that carried on their label claims of "no cholesterol" and "low in saturated fats" without listing on the nutritional panels the amount of polyunsaturates, monosaturates and saturates in grams per portion or the amount of cholesterol in milligrams per portion as required by the FDA.

They also discovered 168 packages of Lieber's crackers carrying claims of "low sodium" and the information that they contained 55 mg of sodium per half-ounce, while Canadian law is that the maximum is 40 mg per 100 g.

Although federal regulations requiring bilingualism are waived during the Passover period, there is no explicit exemption from compliance with nutritional norms when such claims are made.

"It makes sense for an importer of cyanide to be obliged to put on his product that it is poisonous and dangerous on the label, but we're talking about food. I don't think these kinds of regulations are essential, and they only add to the confusion for the consumer," Nadler told *The CJN*.

He contends that the legislation was developed in consultation with domestic manufacturers who can easily comply and have an interest in not encouraging competing imports. Furthermore, he said the experts in nutrition are continually changing their opinions on what is best for consumers' health and the regulations themselves are out of date to the mind of some.

"The judge was perfectly within his jurisdiction to say that the law is irrational when viewed in the context of scientific fact, but that would have taken tremendous courage."

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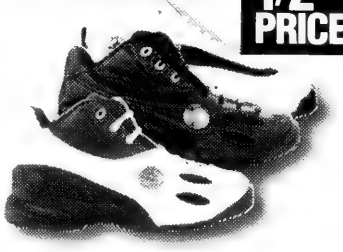
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From coast to coast

Montreal Jewish schools facing tough realities

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — One of the principles at FEDERATION CJA has been that every Jewish child, regardless of ability to pay, is entitled to a Jewish education.

Yet it is hardly a secret that the community is also facing some pretty tough realities, although three-quarters of Montreal's Jewish children receive some form of Jewish education, with over 50 percent attending Jewish elementary schools and nearly 30 percent going to Jewish high schools.

It is true that the day school system – with 17 sites at 24 locations – has seen yearly increases in enrolment in kindergarten through Grade 11.

But the community is also being faced with a continuing erosion of provincial government support for the secular portion of students' studies – a trend expected to continue despite continuous Jewish community lobbying – in an era where balancing the provincial books is the new mantra. Last year, that support dropped to $18 million, from about $20 million the previous year.

In addition, the demand for "scholarships," a euphemism for community aid for tuitions, is going up and is likely to keep heading in that direction, according to Shlomo Shimon, longtime director of the Jewish Education Council (JEC).

One reason, he said, is a rise in the number of Jewish immigrants to the city. About 40 percent of Jewish students now get some level of financial aid, and the federation set aside $1.75 million towards "tuition assistance" for the1997-98 school year, an increase of $200,000 over the previous year.

Another reason is that parents, because of the government cutbacks, are facing higher tuition fees, on average increases of about $750.

Yet another is the government's recent crackdown on practices related to school foundation donations. Parents used to be able to make such donations, use them for partial payment of tuition fees, and then get tax receipts, in effect reducing their tuition fees.

But now, because of the stricter enforcement of the law that disallows any "consideration" given in exchange for charitable (foundation) contributions, that is no longer the case, and Shimon suggested the overall net effect will be to increase tuition costs to families by $1,000 per year.

The concern is that even though Jewish school fees here are about half of those in Toronto, there could be an effect on future Jewish school registration.

That will probably not be known until the 1999-2000 school year, said Maxyne Finkelstein, FEDERATION CJA's executive director.

It "absolutely will," however, impact on the demand for scholarships, she predicted. The hardest-pressed families will most likely be from the middle and lower-middle classes.

Shimon and Finkelstein, interviewed in the midst of the annual Combined Jewish Appeal campaign, alluded to the continuing need for community support of the federation in light of such challenges.

JEC, for example, has hired an education consultant to develop ways in which the number of Jewish students in the system, which tend to dwindle from the earliest to the last grades, can in fact be retained.

"Jewish schools have to remain competitive," Finkelstein said, both she and Shimon pointing to the fact that the age of technology has made it essential for Jewish schools to keep up with the latest advances.

"There is a positive mood in the schools, with a better thought-out and prepared curriculum," Shimon said.

New Beis Medrash program in Hamilton

HAMILTON — The Yeshiva of Hamilton has announced a new comprehensive Beis Medrash program which starts this fall.

The program is designed to allow the serious yeshiva student full or part-time study in the Beis Medrash, with the option of taking classes at nearby McMaster University and receiving a Bachelor of Talmudic Law through the yeshiva's own accredited degree program.

The Beis Medrash will operate in conjunction with a full-time Kollel, consisting of a group of senior *avreichim* (rabbinic fellows) coming from Ner Israel Yeshiva in Baltimore.

Students in the yeshiva are invited to join and participate in the Kollel's own in-depth learning and *chavuras* (small classes/discussions).

The Beis Medrash is currently learning Baba Metziah — third perek – in its morning seder and Masechtes Beitzah in the afternoon. The Kollel's night seder will provide supplementary learning opportunities for students in the mesivta and Beis Medrash, in conjunction with its programs available to the greater Hamilton community.

For more information, contact the Yeshiva of Hamilton at 905-528-5451, or rosh kollel Rabbi Tzvi Sendler at 905-527-1102.

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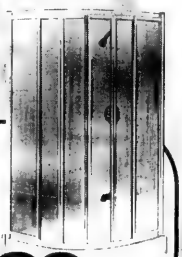

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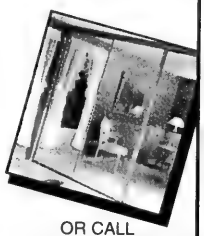

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Design Nexus is located at 7670 Yonge Street at John Street in Thornhill; there's ample parking. Open Tues. & Thurs. 10a.m.-8p.m., Wed., Fri. & Sat. 10a.m.-6p.m. and Sun. noon-5p.m. Mon. by appointment. Call (905) 763-0606

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Muller, who came to Canada from Israel in 1961 after a successful career in education decided to change her profession and study interior design. In 1996, she opened MM Interiors, her first boutique. She later went on to open a 3000 sq. ft. showroom and design studio in Markham. In 1989, she opened a one-stop design centre in Canada, a 16,000 sq. ft. showroom – Design Concepts. This showroom provided a valuable resource for the general public and trade featuring the latest trends in design for the home or business. It was a great concept, where customers could save time and find everything they needed under one roof, and receive professional advice.

After two years, with a looming recession, Muller closed Design Concepts and reopened her business in her Thornhill home. The house became a designer showcase, providing her customers the possibility to view a complete decor in a home environment.

She is proud that many of her clients are now second generation. "I've designed their parent's home and now they've come to design their new homes."

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Miriam will help her clients make their product selection for new or renovated homes and complete the design to the last detail. Her success, she says, lies in the fact that every job, large or small, is important to her. "I assist people in creating an interior design, that perfectly suits their taste, style and budget."

Muller's retail business, "Designer Treasures", located on Esna Park Drive in Markham, complements the services of MM Interiors providing finishing touches, such as silk trees and plants, custom silk flower arrangements and unique accessories and pictures.

Another of Muller's professional accomplishments is her development of a network group of 26 companies called "The Guild" which provides a gamut of professional services for homes.

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On Campus

Hillel tries to involve students in 'doing Jewish'

By STEVEN SPODEK

Now that the school year has commenced in earnest, campus professionals, students, and lay leaders are constantly looking for new and innovative ways of increasing the number of Jewish students "doing Jewish." This can run the gamut of Israel oriented activities, textual study, holiday celebrations or Friday night dinners, to a variety of social events such as parties, concerts, sports tournaments and trips.

Our organizational goals of engaging and empowering Jewish students require us to act with sincerity and an open mind. Many Jewish students are at a time in their lives when they are deciding what doing Jewish means to them, and this group is often not sure how doing Jewish fits in with their other interests. We attempt to engage students by creating opportunities for their Jewish involvement.

Young adults are at a point in their lives when they are making serious life choices and the art of listening is key; in other words, listening to what students want. (Campus is one of the last opportunities for the organized Jewish community to make a positive impact on its young adults.)

Jewish campus life is a microcosm of Jewish life "in the big city," with all its flavors, shades and colors. Hillel is not an enclave set apart; if we were to act as such, we would be doing our clientele a great disservice. Students who participate in Jewish life are not isolating themselves. The opposite is in fact the truth, as Jewish students are helping to create the social, political and cultural agendas on campus and in the community.

One of our many roles at Hillel is to be the infrastructure for Jewish life on campus, and work to help other organizations succeed. This includes our federation partners and its constituent agencies. Each partnership enhances the campus community. A strong Jewish community off campus equals a strong Jewish community on campus and vice versa.

Web page

We continue to develop methods of making our services easier to access and more user friendly. Examples of this include Web pages and e-mail. The computer provides an easy and non-intrusive entry point into the Jewish world. Montreal Hillel's Web page continues to register greater numbers of hits. Although this method is not scientific, it leads us to believe that many more students are searching for some kind of Jewishness in their lives. Technology is creating virtual Jewish neighborhoods.

Hillel International's Jewish Campus Service Corps has made a positive impact in serving students on their own turf. Students increasingly serve in their own communities off campus; in residence halls, cafeterias and student centres. The demands of students require that we contact them in a way that they are most comfortable with. This is not to say that a friendly one-on-one chat has been abandoned as a method of interaction. Technology has not made it easier for students to share ideas, feelings and suggestions. Relationship building requires us to be sensitive to their needs.

Choosing to participate in Jewish life must be a compelling option, and it is our challenge to provide meaningful experiences. Campus-based organizations need to be viewed as important and serious partners in the world of Jewish culture and identity building, along with camps, synagogues, schools and Jewish community centre's. The potential for educational experiences in an informal setting is limitless.

Students can and do turn the volume up and down on the different products and services that we offer them. By providing them with quality choices, we can capture a share of the student market. Students are not a uniform group. Each student is different and precious, and we need to concentrate on them one at a time.

Steven Spodek is the executive director of Montreal Hillel.

Jews for Judaism Presents

CULTIVATING CULT-EVADING

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Jews for Judaism — with RABBI MICHAEL SKOBAC — $18 for the series

Tuesday evenings Oct.27, Nov.3 & 10 • 7:30 p.m.

At the Jews for Judaism Centre
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For information & registration call (905) 761-0040

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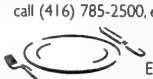
Enjoy kosher meals in the Baycrest Cafeteria or the WA Cafe. Visit the Wagman Centre Convenience Store for "take out" soup/sandwiches and groceries. Call (416) 785-2500, ext. 2238. (Under COR)

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Oct. 26, is deadline for Nov. 5 issue, and Monday, Nov. 2, is deadline for Nov. 12. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Oct. 22

DATING ON THE INTERNET

Jewish Dating on the Internet, 8 p.m., Temple Sinai. Singles 35-55. $3.

Saturday, Oct. 24

SINGLES SHABBAT

Community-wide singles (25-35 and 36-55) Shabbat 10 a.m. service, luncheon and speaker **Rabbi J. Kelman**. Ticket deadline Friday, Oct. 23, 633-3838 or Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue office.

Sunday, Oct. 25

JEWISH LIFE IN GERMANY

Ignatz Bubis, president, Central Association of Jews in Germany, speaks on Jewish Life in Germany: Past, Present and Future, 10:30 a.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation. Sponsored by Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Centre for German and European Studies of York University, and Beth Tzedec Men's Club. 633-6224, ext. 122.

MARKET AND CARNIVAL

Morris Winchevsky School fundraiser, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Fun for the entire family, book sale, produce market, café, prizes, mini carnival (1-3 p.m.) with clowns, games, children's activities. 789-5502.

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Givatayim chapter, Toronto ORT, annual scholarship luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Fireside Lounge, Baycrest Terrace, 55 Ameer Ave. $45 (tax receipt) Reserve 787-0339 or 922-1077 or 223-9234.

FREE CONCERT

At Earl Bales Community Centre, 1:30 p.m. featuring Two Words Klezmer Band. 395-7873.

MEMORIAL LECTURE

Phil Givens Memorial Lecture presented by Yiddish Culture Council. **Rabbi Erwin Schild** speaks on Remembering Phil Givens; **Mark Miller**, presently completing PhD in Yiddish at Columbia University, N.Y., on Morris Rosenfeld, Poet of the Ghetto, and **Eli Moidel** reads from Rosenfeld's poetry. 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

MOSHE DYAN

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood feature **Jerry Ziedenberg** on 100 Years of Zionism, Part 7, Moshe Dyan (including rare films). 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim. Guests $2.

THE LEADERS AMONG US

Rachael Turkienicz lecture series on The Leaders Among Us focuses on Moses and Miriam, 8 p.m. Kehillat Shaarei Torah. 229-2600.

PNAI MEETING

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) meeting, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Members are guests of the brotherhood. 783-7876.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Metropolitan Toronto Post, general meeting and election of officers 9:30 a.m., Wagman Centre, 5 Ameer Ave. 663-8387.

Monday, Oct. 26

MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

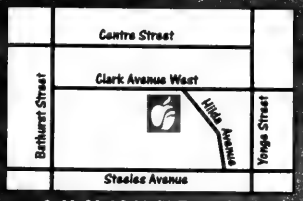
Canada-Israel Committee presents **Dr. Barry Rubin**, senior resident scholar, BESA Centre for Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University, speaking on Prospects for the Future in a Changing Middle East, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood series on Women's Health Issues deals with How Do You Tell Your Mother You Want a Midwife? with midwife **Jennifer Murdoch** and maternal/infant nurse **Wendy Goodman**, 8 p.m.

Continued on page 37

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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359 lb.

Christmas Rose or Red Globe Grapes
Product of U.S.A.
No. 1 Grade. 3.24 kg
149 lb.

Peri's Original Wieners
450 g
349 ea.

Skippy Peanut Butter
Assorted Varieties
1 kg jar
299

Rhubarb Strawberry or Cherry Pie
From The Bakery
600 g
399

Onion Bread
Fresh! From the Bakery
425 g loaf
189

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 UNTIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1998.

What's New

Continued from page 36

BOOK REVIEW
Shaar Shalom Sisterhood book review of *The Color of Water* by **James Mcbride** led by **Dr. Dena Bain Taylor,** 8 p.m., at the synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd. $10.

JEWISH PERSONALITIES
Beth Tikvah Synagogue series, Jewish Personalities of the 20th Century, continues with Albert Einstein, 8 p.m. Non-members $5.

BIBLICAL CONUNDRUMS
Lecture series with **Carl Ehrlich** continues with Abraham: A Legend in His Time? (Genesis 12-25). 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation.

Tuesday, Oct. 27

ABOUT ABRAHAM
Abraham – Saint or Sinner is the topic of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Lunch and Learn, 10:15 a.m. $5. RSVP **Tema Wasserman** 905-770-0355 or synagogue office 633-3838.

KOSHER COOKING
Kashruth Council of Toronto Kosher Cooking School course, Pasta Pasta Meat, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. Reserve. 635-9550.

LUNCH AND LEARN
Baycrest Centre Lunch and Learn monthly meeting 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kosher dairy lunch. $3 members, $6 non-members. Tickets at service desk. **Mara** 785-2500, ext. 2275.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

HADASSAH BAZAAR
Hadassah-WIZO 74th annual bazaar, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Automotive Building, Exhibition Place. Bargains galore in clothing, boutiques, fashion auction, wedding gowns, giftware, jewelry, books, toys and more! Admission $4, seniors and children $2 at door.

WITCHCRAFT, SORCERY
Rabbi Michael Skobac discusses Witchcraft, Superstition and Sorcery, 8 p.m. at Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

Thursday, Oct. 29

JEWISH IDENTITY
Sephardic Education Centre welcomes **Rabbi Benito Garzon** from Madrid, Spain, speaking on Jewish Identity Today, 7:30 p.m., Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. $5. 905-669-7652, ext. 225.

USA AND ISRAEL
Beth Tzedec Congregation lecture series, Israel and the Conflict of Nations with **Prof. Aurel Braun** concludes with The United States and Israel, 7:30 p.m.

JEWISH COMPOSERS
At Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., **Aldo Maggiorotti** discusses Jewish Composers on Film, 2 p.m. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1151.

And What Else Is New

DARKNESS TO LIGHT
More Than…The Eye Can See, a journey from darkness to light with **Marcia Schwartz,** Saturday, Oct. 31, 8:30 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. Melaveh malka post-Shabbat dinner. $15. RSVP 905-731-7000.

DISCOVERY DIALOGUES
Dialogues of Discovery at Temple Har Zion when **Rabbi Michael Stroh** conducts a provocative discussion with **Imam Sayyid Muhammad Rizvi** of the Jaffari Islamic Centre on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 8 p.m., and shares the stage with **Rev. Bill Phipps**, Moderator of the United Church of Canada during the regular Friday night service Oct. 30, 8:30 p.m. **Barbara Barnartt** 905-889-2252, ext. 5.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM
Cultivating Cult-Evading, a three-part series, **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, Tuesday evenings, Oct. 27, Dec. 3 and 10 at Jews for Judaism Centre, 800 Steeles Ave. W. $18 for series. Register. 905-761-0040.

CARLEBACH IN CONCERT
Congregation Darchei Noam presents **Neshama Carlebach**, (daughter of **Shlomo Carlebach**) in concert Sunday, Nov. 1, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $36, includes dessert reception. Silent auction begins 6:30 p.m. Tickets at Israel's 256-1010 or Matana Judaica 905-731-6543.

VETERANS PARADE
Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Metropolitan Toronto Post, Remembrance Parade and Service, Sunday, Nov. 1. Assemble 9:30 a.m. outside Earl Bales Community Centre. Dress code, uniform or business suit, medals, ribbons, headcovering. Parade route to Beth Radom Synagogue, 18 Reiner Rd. Political, diplomatic, military VIPs will attend. Services 10:20 a.m. Families, congregants welcome. 663-8387 or Parade marshal, **Ernie Stein** 423-2794.

RESCUE AND REBIRTH
Fanya Gottesfeld Heller, author, Holocaust survivor, speaks on Rescue and Rebirth: Remembering the Holocaust, at the Christian-Jewish Dialogue program for Holocaust Education Week, Sunday, Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m., Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Ave.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215: Parenting When Your Child Has An Eating Disorder, begins Oct. 29; Living With Teens, begins Oct. 28; Adult Children Losing a Parent, begins Oct. 27; Do Your Children Have Trouble Making Friends? begins Oct. 26.

CASINO NIAGARA
Adath Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood fun-junket to Casino Niagara, Monday, Nov. 2. Luxury bus leaves leaves Adath Sholom, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. at 9 a.m. $15, $10 rebate on arrival. Reserve. 635-0131.

BEGINNER HEBREW
The Downtown Jewish Learning Council offers beginner Hebrew classes Tuesdays, Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24 and Dec. 1, 8, 9:30 p.m. at Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Instructor **Nurit Gruber**. Register. **Cheryl Wetstein** 924-6211.

MOM'S OWN MOMENT
Eclectic programming for Moms, an eight-week series of diverse topics such as Taking the Best Pics and Videos of Your Kids, Play With Your Food, Learn to Decorate and Dress Up Food, Making the Right Educational Decisions for Your Child. Fridays, Oct. 23-Dec. 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Sponsored by Jewish Women International of Canada. Register. 630-9313.

MINSKER SHUL
Davening services at Minsker Shul start Oct. 26, 5 p.m. 961-8064.

AUDIO-VISUAL HEBREW
The Metro Toronto Reference Library has a free audio-visual Hebrew course available at the Language Department. Library is at Yonge and Bloor. 393-7131.

BB SINGLES LODGE
B'nai Brith Friendship Singles Lodge (40-60) New Year's weekend at Maple Lake Lodge, Parry Sound, Dec. 31-Jan. 3. $250 including meals. Bus $25. $75 deposit by Nov. 2. Registration form/information 633-6224, ext. 351

KIDS' YIDDISH CLASSES
Free Yiddish classes for children, Sundays, 9:30 a.m. to noon, at Associated Hebrew School, 6100 Leslie St. Sponsored by Toronto District and York Region School Boards, and Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation. **Naomi** 635-2883, ext. 150.

ST. JOHN'S COURSES
CPR courses, four hours. $35 each course includes lunch. Receive certificate. Register. 905-731-9441.
Infant and child CPR (0-8 years) for parents, caregivers, Nov. 1 or Nov. 8.
Heartsaver CPR, Nov. 15.
Babysitting course coming soon.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting Thursday, Oct. 22, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Speaker **Al Gorlick**, chair of Alliance Seniors. Topic The Forum on Health Care is Over, Let the Work Begin. Everyone welcome.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dance, Oct. 25; Casino Rama, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, 25; Shaw Festival, *Lady Windermere's Fan* Oct. 29 and *The Shop at Sly Corner* Nov. 10, $65 includes lunch at Foxhead Hotel; Atlantic City Trump Hotel Nov. 22-25. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Oct. 29 is a members meeting. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip Nov. 22-Dec. 9 **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.
Therapeutic Touch practitioner, nurse **Florence Baum** gives Therapeutic Touch treatments to reduce stress, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Joan** ext. 126.
Osteoporosis Support Group meeting. **Jan Main**, home economist presents and demonstrates Non-Dairy Sources of Calcium, 1:15-2:30 p.m. Resource person **Joan Turner**.
Tips on Safe Winter Driving with **Terry Kellen**, coordinator of 55 Alive (Senior Road and Driving Safety), Thursday, Oct. 29, 1:15-2:15 p.m.
Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Oct. 27 is the Etrog anniversary party. **Anna.**
Movie, *Driving Miss Daisy*, Sunday, Oct. 25, 2:30 p.m.
An afternoon of songs with **Michael Khinkis** Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.
Books and Bagels with **Hal Niedzviecki**, co-editor of *Broken Pencil* magazine and editor of *Concrete Forest*, Sunday, Oct. 25, 11 a.m. Non-members $8.
Seniors Club marks Holocaust Education Week with the award-winning documentary film *Silent Witness* by **Harriet Wichin,** Thursday, Oct. 29, 2 p.m. **Judy.**

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 24

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Jewish Home for the Aged
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November 3, 7:30 PM
A look at memory and aging with memory experts Dr. Gordon Winocur and Dr. Angela Troyer
This lecture sponsored by The Baycrest Women's Auxiliary

Left at Picasso and Right at Warhol
November 10, 7:30 PM
Tour Baycrest's extensive art collection and learn how environmental stimulation compensates for memory loss from Dr. Guy Proulx and Vivienne Marcus

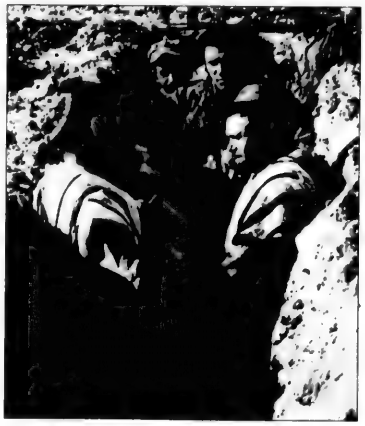
An Ounce of Prevention
November 17, 7:30 PM
Exploring preventative measures to keep young and old at their physical and mental best with Dr. Michael Gordon and Dr. Carol Greenwood

The Stages of Aging
November 24, 7:30 PM
How does our brain change over time? Find out from two experts, Dr. Donald Stuss and Dr. Cheryl Grady

The Ada Starkman Community Education Series is generously sponsored by Beverley and Aaron Black

Lectures are free of charge.

For more information, call Rebecca Szerman, (416) 785-2500, ext. 2573



SCENES OF WAR
Below clockwise: Israeli prisoners held by Syria; Sukkot prayers in a Sinai bunker; women feeding soldiers on the way to the front. ***[Yom Kippur Plus 100 Days,*** **Harold Hart]**

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Netanyahu leaning towards new Jordanian Option

By DANNY RUBINSTEIN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Analysis

Opposition ads attack Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for his lack of trustworthiness, his deceptive tactics and his political acrobatics aimed at preserving his power for the next elections. But the prime minister has a precise political plan that he has recently decided upon in cooperation with his close advisors.

According to various sources, most of them Palestinian, this plan could be defined as a new version of the Jordanian Option touted in the early years of Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

On the face of it, it contains nothing new. The key part of the Jordanian Option was the famous Allon Plan, according to which Israel was to give back to Jordan most of Judea and Samaria, leaving the Jordan Valley, considered a security belt, in the hands of Israel.

A few months ago, Netanyahu expressed his enthusiasm for something he called the Allon Plan Plus.

According to this plan, the Palestinians would receive only about half of the territory of the West Bank, rather than the majority, as described in the original plan.

The new plan, apparently drawn up by the prime minister and his people, stipulates that when the Palestinians receive the West Bank territories, they will be able to declare an independent state.

But this would not be an actual state: The Palestinians and Jordan would immediately establish a confederation in accordance with decisions ratified in the past by the PLO.

Furthermore, Israel, Jordan and Palestine would establish a regional security framework with the main objective of guarding against Islamic fundamentalists.

It seems that the plan gathered momentum in the days before the Wye Plantation summit. Ariel Sharon's appointment as foreign minister can be understood against this background. The appointment was made after it was agreed with Sharon that this would be the political plan, which he is known to support.

Benjamin Netanyahu

Netanyahu's and Sharon's visit last week to Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan, and Sharon's recent visit to the ailing King Husssein at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota can also be seen in this light.

It's no coincidence that Netanyahu and his spokespeople are keeping up their public criticism of Egypt for encouraging Arafat to harden his stance, while not saying a word to Jordan about its lack of effort to stop Hamas activity in the kingdom.

Israel's interest in the plan is clear. In this way the state of Israel will somehow be able to accept the establishment of a Palestinian state (Sharon has already admitted that its establishment is inevitable).

Thus, it will be possible to continue expanding existing settlements and building new ones, or to build new industrial areas, commercial centres, educational institutions, tourist and recreation centres, and more.

The Jordanians are not particularly enthusiastic about the plan. Since severing relations with the West Bank at the peak of the Intifadah in the summer of 1988, they have no desire to be burdened again with the strife in East Jerusalem, Hebron, and other Palestinian territories.

However, it is very important to the Jordanians that an Israeli-Palestinian agreement is reached. The alternative is an outbreak of violence and turmoil in the West Bank and Gaza that could quickly cross over to the Palestinian community in Jordan. Such a development would put Hashemite rule in danger.

The Palestinian Authority is also unhappy with the plan, even if it provides a convenient way for them to declare a state and win general recognition. The Palestinian Authority is also very dependent on Jordan.

In recent weeks, it was rumored in the West Bank that the Palestinian Authority faced several economic crises, and could not pay its workers their salaries. Abu Mazen and other Palestinian VIPs went to Jordan and succeeded in obtaining financial help.

The plan does offer a number of advantages for Jordan and the Palestinians, but its biggest advantages are for Israel and the settlers. That's why it has almost no chance for success.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Harris deflects criticism of planned Israeli highway

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Bureau

JERUSALEM — Ontario Premier Mike Harris chose his words carefully when it came to answering questions concerning the building of Israel's new controversial Trans-Israel Highway.

The project is partly funded by Canadian financing and is being built by Ontario-based Canadian Highways International Corporation.

Harris and Attorney General Charles Harnick had already been subjected to an orderly, but well-orchestrated demonstration outside Jerusalem's Laromme Hotel, where he and his delegation of top Canadian businesspeople, had come to talk to journalists about Ontario's contribution to Israel's transportation development. Among those invited to accompany the premier to Israel was Moshe Ronen, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

"The purpose of the visit is to build on a positive relationship that exists between the Israel and Ontario governments," Harris told *The CJN*. "My predecessors were also very supportive of that relationship, so therefore this is primarily an economic trip. To me, the peace process offers substantial business opportunities in the Middle East."

The premier, following up on what he sees as the success of the Canadian contribution to the $1-billion (US) Trans-Israel Highway, wanted to ensure that Ontario would be considered for the designing and building of Israel's mass transit system, which might include an underground complex in Tel Aviv.

Former Canadian Henry Gold, a leading campaigner against the building of the highway told *The CJN*. "We know we need roads – good roads – but this project is an environmental disaster. We should be shifting our priorities from road to rail. This is the largest public works project in Israel's history. If this road is built, it will be the centerpiece of a failed transportation policy. We want Premier Harris to repudiate Canada's role in this project, and look again to see if we need our biblical landscape to be turned into an asphalt highway."

Responding to these criticisms Harris said,"Change is change. There are some who advocate not doing anything. In free democracies people are free to express their views. We do care about development, ecology, environment and history, but this is an internal domestic problem subject to Israeli jurisdiction and Israeli laws.

"Engineering will take its cue from its Israeli partners. They are not my environmental regulations, so it is not my jurisdiction. Canadian Highways International – the consortium, has experience all around the globe, and is very mindful of its responsibilities to environmental problems."

The new road will be operated as a toll highway with sophisticated electronic systems to collect toll charges. Last month, the paving of the first 90 km of the road was due to be started, but because of unforeseen delays in finalizing the toll franchise agreements, it did not get underway. The dramatic fall in the value of the shekel by almost 20 percent in the past few weeks has also held up final agreements.

Harris, who was in Israel primarily to attend the prime minister's Jubilee business summit, had scheduled a meeting on his last day in Israel with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. However Netanyahu had to cancel the meeting to go to Jordan for last minute discussions with Crown Prince Hassan before flying to the United States for the continuation of the peace talks at Wye Plantation in Maryland.

Harris commented on the peace process, and how it might affect the economic climate. "There is no doubt that there has been more uncertainty over the past year. When I was here in Israel four years ago, there was a sense of tremendous optimism. Peace was then just a dream. Israelis said at the time, 'Maybe not peace in my lifetime, but maybe now it actually will be in my lifetime.' I think that now there is a new optimism. I think that much of it is based on security but some of it is tied up in economics. Our companies, from the private sector point of view, are encouraged that the peace process seems to be back on the rails. It's different now to what it was four years ago.

"Then it was almost a dream. Now it could become a reality."

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During his recent visit to Israel, Ontario Premier Mike Harris (centre) met with former Prime Minister Shimon Peres. To Peres' left is Canadian Jewish Congress President Moshe Ronen while on his right is Jehudi Kinar, Israel's consul-general to Ontario and Western Canada. To Premier Harris' right is Canadian Ambassador David Berger. **[Israel photo]**

CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family. There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah. They cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, 1998.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50. Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 4, 1998.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 10, 1998. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Vol. 1, No. 6 • October 22, 1998

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— M.M., Toronto, ON.

The Pickle Guy Replies

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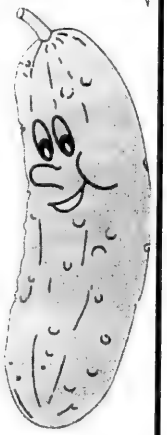

Got a question? Write to me, the Pickle Guy — I answer ALL my mail!

Former U of T student wins Nobel Prize

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — Walter Kohn, a former University of Toronto student and one-time Canadian army volunteer, is one of the recipients of the 1998 Nobel Prize in chemistry.

Kohn, a 75-year-old emeritus professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara, was also a refugee from Nazi persecution.

He will share the $970,000 (US) Nobel Prize with British scientist John Pople of Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

Their research, which makes it possible to model new chemicals in a computer as an alternative to chemical experiments, has applications ranging from the development of new drugs to protecting the environment.

Kohn, who was born in Vienna, fled Austria with his sister, and managed to get to England one month before World War II began. Their parents stayed behind and perished in Auschwitz.

The 17-year-old Kohn was interned as an "enemy alien" on England's Isle of Man and later Canada, but was released in 1942. He later joined the Canadian army as a volunteer.

At the University of Toronto, Kohn earned a BA in 1945 and a masters in math and physics in 1946.

The university awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1967.

After further study at Harvard, and a distinguished career as a scientist working at the intersection of physics and chemistry, Kohn was named the first director, in 1979, of the Institute for Theoretical Physics, located at the university in Santa Barbara.

While teaching at the University of California at San Diego, he was instrumental in founding the Jewish studies department. In Santa Barbara, he is on the school's Hillel advisory board and regularly participates in faculty Torah study sessions.

Kohn maintains close ties with Israeli colleagues, and has been a visiting scholar at the Hebrew University, Weizmann Institute of Science and Tel Aviv University. He has received honorary degrees from Hebrew University and the Weizmann Institute, as well as from Brandeis University.

His wife, Mara, is the daughter of famed photographer Roman Vishniac, who documented Jewish life in eastern Europe before the Holocaust.

Kohn has been a thorn in the side of the University of California for his outspoken opposition to nuclear weapons research at the university's laboratories.

The Week in Israel

Oct. 12

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu named Ariel Sharon to be foreign minister.

• Second Lieutenant Michal Adato, 19, who was stabbed to death Friday by a lone Palestinian assailant was buried.

• Firefighters were still battling a raging forest fire that swept across the Carmel Mountain ridge. Some 5,000 dunams of natural forest and woodland have been destroyed. (*Officials would subsequently announce that more than 12,000 dunams of forest had been destroy in four days of nationwide fires, for all of which, arson was suspected as the cause.*)

Oct. 13

• The closure of the territories was eased today as 25,000 Palestinians were allowed to cross into Israel to work.

Oct. 14

• The leaders of Israel's Arab community, including all Arab members of the Knesset, announced they would travel to Cairo to meet with top Egyptian officials while the summit at Wye Plantation was taking place.

Oct. 15

• Thousands of people from the West Bank protested outside Netanyahu's residence, saying they would bring down his government if he agrees to a further 13 percent withdrawal from the West Bank.

Oct. 16

• Chen Arad, the brother of missing air force navigator Ron Arad, and the Fellowship for Ron Arad's Release held a press conference in which they criticized Israel's failure to find the missing airman. They are planning to deliver a petition with thousands of signatures demanding Arad's release to Iranian President Mohammed Khatami.

• The Palestinian Authority has taken over or secured a position of influence in four of the churches operating in Jerusalem and is currently trying to take over four others, according to a report compiled by security officials.

Files from the JTA and Ha'aretz

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Talks extended in bid to resolve major differences

Continued from page 1

Sharansky was already at the talks as part of Netanyahu's negotiating team.

President Bill Clinton also joined the talks, his third trip in four days to the talks. Whether there will be a deal "is still an open question," Rubin told a news briefing.

As the main U.S. spokesperson publicly briefing reporters on the summit, over which the Americans imposed a tight veil of secrecy, Rubin is the most authoritative source of public information at the talks. "There is time to complete the work if the political will is there to make the tough decisions," Rubin said.

But asked why the political will was not apparent after all the intensive negotiations of the past three days, Rubin replied: "We'll know this when we see it."

In discussions led by Albright, profound differences between the sides have been revealed on several issues.

The third redeployment has become a key sticking point, with the Israelis trying to skip the third withdrawal, and the Palestinians insisting that it is part and parcel of the Oslo agreement.

A senior American source described both Netanyahu and Arafat as determined to quarrel over details and principles, rather than "rising above" the problems to look to the future.

U.S. officials conceded the first two days had essentially been a review of positions, many of which are still far apart.

In addition to the 13 percent withdrawal and security steps by the PA, the two sides also have to clear a backlog of disputes left over from previous stages of the peace process, such as opening an airport at Gaza, and setting up a safe passage for Palestinians between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

One senior U.S. official said a May 4, 1999 deadline for overall peace talks may be weighing on Netanyahu, adding he may fear a violent Palestinian backlash if there is no progress. "I don't think he wants to be the prime minister who presides over the intifadah to end all intifadahs," the official said, referring to Palestinian revolts.

A key Israeli demand is that 36 Palestinian suspects be extradited for trial. Israel claims that 30 are implicated in the deaths of Israeli civilians, and that 10 are serving in the Palestinian police force. According to sources at the summit, the Clinton administration sought to work out a compromise, proposing trials be held by Palestinian courts, but the Palestinian negotiators declined both approaches.

Another source close to the negotiations said it was "no surprise" that gaps remained between Israel and the Palestinians on security issues. For instance, the Palestinians are not eager to share intelligence information with the United States, said the source, adding that the United States has offered "road maps" to improve security and was still hopeful differences between the two sides could be resolved.

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PA plans to declare state: PLO envoy

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

WASHINGTON — The Palestinian Authority (PA) plans to declare an independent state on May 4, 1999, and may yet in the future set up a "small army," the PLO delegate to the United Nations Nasser al-Kidwa said Sunday.

Speaking to a Virginia conference of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, al-Kidwa said he did not think the Palestinians would form a "regular army," and that he saw no need for one, especially considering the expense of a regular army.

Nonetheless, he said, the PA might set up a small army, partly in order to reap the social benefits of having one – like inculcating the value of volunteering in soldiers.

Al-Kidwa was joined at the conference by Joel Singer, who as the Foreign Ministry's legal advisor, played a key role in drafting the Oslo accords, and is now an attorney with the law firm Sidley and Austin in Washington. Singer disputed al-Kidwa's assertions, saying the accords prohibit the Palestinians from unilaterally declaring a state after May 4.

Religious Zionists meet

By AVIRAMA GOLAN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Eliahu Bakshi-Doron, the Sephardic chief rabbi, has said Orthodox leaders should cultivate closer ties with the younger generation of the Reform and Conservative movements who, he said, are searching for a path "back to Judaism."

Bakshi-Doron made the comments at the opening of the recent Lavi conference on the principles of religious Zionism. Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, who also spoke, said he would like to see Israeli youth being taught Jewish tradition.

Jewish Agency Chair Avraham Burg said secular Israelis are asking what relevance religion has for them, "and we as observant Jews must be ready to answer."

Yesha council representatives boycotted the conference, claiming it was too closely identified with the moderate religious Meimad movement.

WHILE LEADERS TALKED IN WASHINGTON...

Members of the Moledet party danced inside a building they took over in east Jerusalem. The dancers said the building was a former synagogue. Scuffles ensued with police who said they would investigate the ownership of the property. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Travel, Arts & Business

Poetry, photography join to create new art form

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — To Rafi Aaron, poetry is a sickness.

The 39-year-old Ottawa-born poet says writing poetry is "something I have to do. I have no choice. It is the way that I have contact with the world, the way that I problem solve; it is the way that touches me the most."

His travelling exhibit, A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood, based on the poetry book of the same name, appears in Edmonton and Vancouver this fall.

He is always surprised, he says, that so many people "have an aversion to poetry. They forget that there are so many kinds of poems – poems range from A to Z like any other art form. Normally, someone can find something they can relate to in a poem."

A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood, the only joint North American-Israeli artistic venture for Israel's 50th anniversary that will be seen in Israel and the Diaspora, explores issues of Jewish identity by linking the poems in Aaron's book to photographs.

Included are works by *Time* magazine photographer David Rubinger, Montreal photographer Serge Clement; Jim Hollander, chief photographer for Reuters in Israel; and Toronto portrait photographer Ruth Kaplan.

The exhibit, which has already been viewed by over one million people on its 11-city tour, including Toronto (three times), Montreal, Ottawa and Winnipeg, is comprised of 24 exhibit boards, the majority of which measure 2 feet x 3 feet. Each board features one photograph and one poem.

"A new piece of art is created from the two art forms," says Aaron. "We join one poem and one piece of art, and together we have created a new piece of art."

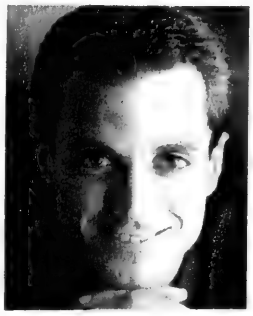
The project was Aaron's first venture into the world of photography, and it took about 18 months to match each poem to a photograph. "I never knew what I was looking for until I found it. I wanted to give people a voice in the photograph. They are telling their story through the pictures."

He has always written about family and Jewish issues, he says, and he dedicated *A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood* to his 100-year-old zayde, Benjamin Feinstein.

One poem, *The First Pogrom*, was written from his grandfather's description of a pogrom: "He remembered the animals/ the barn and ran holding the small hands/ of younger brothers and sisters/ through the corridor of screams the field of pleas/ the stream of blood the last words of Mr. Averbaum dropping/ the children into this dugout/ this was either the best hiding place/ in the village or a shallow family grave."

Aaron, who lived in Israel for nine years, was there in 1990 when Toronto teenager Marnie Kimelman was killed. "That touched me in a different way, because I am Canadian and was born and raised here. I wrote a poem and sent it to Marnie's mother, Linda, who allowed me to include it in the book. One of the nicest things that came out of the whole thing is that I have become close to Linda.

"The poem, *After the Death of Canadian Marnie Kimelman by*



Rafi Aaron

Terrorists on a Tel Aviv Beach, July 1990, is the only poem in the collection that I always read when presenting the book. I promised Linda that I would take the memory of her daughter with me wherever I travelled with the book."

Viewers do not have to be Jewish to appreciate the exhibit, says Aaron. "A lot of people at the CNE's Israel at 50 pavilion were non-Jews who were touched or moved, and had similar immigrant stories. A lot of people can relate to the poems. They have universal appeal. At the CNE, I was not prepared to see people break down and cry, particularly when dealing with European themes. The poems [express] their experiences."

A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood appears in Edmonton until Oct. 23 at the Jewish Federation of Edmonton; in Vancouver from Nov. 2 to 13 at the Vancouver Jewish Book Fair; and in Calgary from Nov. 12 to Dec. 7 at the Calgary Jewish Book Fair. In January, the exhibit will be on display at the Artists Residence in Herzliya, Israel.

Among the sponsors of the exhibit are United Jewish Appeal, B'nai Brith, the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation, an endowment fund from the Jewish community of Vancouver, and two Jewish foundations in Montreal.

Film focuses on Terezin's music

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Theresienstadt (Terezin) was a cultural oasis even as ghostly trains rumbled toward Auschwitz, continually emptying the Nazi concentration camp of its unsuspecting Jewish inmates.

Sixty kilometres north of Prague, Terezin was a hard, unrelenting and congested place. But conditions were considerably better than at other concentration camps. In 1944, the Germans produced a propaganda film which idealized life in this "paradise ghetto."

Filled as it was with top-notch musical talent, Terezin, administered by Jews themselves, was an incubator of music running the gamut from classical to cantorial.

Terezin's musicians and composers, the majority of whom eventually perished, satisfied all tastes, as *The Music of Terezin*, a British documentary, shows.

The informative 70-minute film is scheduled to be screened on Vision TV on Oct. 26 at 9 p.m.

At first, the German authorities forbade the playing of music. But once they were convinced that they could use it as an instrument of controlling Terezin's 60,000 inhabitants, they generally allowed the arts to flourish.

In this strange milieu, accomplished musicians such as Viktor Ullmann (a pupil of Schoenberg),

Continued on page 47

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Travel, Arts & Business

Artist illustrates 'the absurdity of life'

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — He's been painting professionally since the mid-80s, but at age 40, Howi Ross still describes himself as an up-and-coming artist.

The wiry Don Mills native can probably get away with it because he doesn't look a day over 30.

Youthful or not, the up-and-coming tag may not stick for long, since 1998 has been what he calls his "best year so far."

He's already mounted one solo exhibit, and has seen art displayed in the midtown corporate boardroom of Standard Broadcasting (corporate parent of radio stations CFRB and Mix 99.9), and he's been invited to participate in next summer's Ashkenaz Festival.

To top it off, an upcoming free exhibit of eight figurative animal portraits runs Oct. 26 to Nov. 13 in Northrop Frye Hall at the University of Toronto's Victoria College.

He was inspired by the novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez – "a classic. I've read it twice."

The exhibit is about what Ross sees as "the absurdity of life."

Painted in rich color with oil paints on mahogany doorskin wood, because "my experience from people responding to my work is that it's the color that connects," the works portray animals in various surreal scenes.

Ross has given them intentionally absurdist titles like *The Sheep Who Knew Too Much* or *The Elephant Who Could Recite Poetry*, riffing off a line in the book referring to "a trained monkey who could read minds."

Ross with The Sheep Who Knew Too Much.

The paintings in the exhibit continue Ross' career-long focus "of trying to make something beautiful and reflect the mystery of life."

An amateur magician, Ross pursued the theme of mystery and magic in his last major exhibit in March 1998, which contained a series of figurative portraits of a magician performing various tricks. Two of the pieces sold to Standard Broadcasting, after an art consultant saw his exhibit and set up a meeting with Standard's president and magic hobbyist Allan Slaight.

Fulfilling an interest in biblical archaeology, Ross has already finished a series of studies for his next major project, a set of works inspired by the Dead Sea Scrolls.

"I'm kind of a closet archaeologist. That was going to be my field until I was 18. That was going to be my life's work. I'm still very passionate about it," he says.

Ross grew up in an artistic household filled with books on the art of Michaelangelo and Rodin. His father Oscar is an amateur sculptor, and his mother Honey "does a little bit of everything," like jewellery and "stunning" coil baskets, which she sells at craft shows.

Sensual and aesthetic experience is the point of Ross' art: Do not expect deep meaning or political statements.

"My ultimate aim is to make something beautiful, so the traditional rules apply to me: color, form, composition. Content is in some ways the least important thing," he says. "I'm not trying to say too much except to make a finished piece that's beautiful and complete as a unit.

"Of course, anyone who creates something always reflects their times," he adds. "But I'm always doing things other people aren't doing, and I never seem to care."

Ross admits he's an outsider when it comes to the art community. "I tend to be a bit of a loner. I don't have a lot of friends in the business. I don't schmooze. I don't go to parties."

But he's not worried that he's taken his time making an impression. Unlike many who want to make a name quickly, he figures most artists don't hit their stride until their 40s and 50s.

Ross' work, though not necessarily realist, is based on figures, and avoids abstraction. He purposely tries to keep his painting accessible to a general audience.

"Even if I wanted to do abstract painting, my instinct is to paint an image," Ross says.

Indeed, his "pet peeve" is that "so much art these days seems to be geared to five people," he says.

Ross, who has a BA in art history from Carleton University, and spent three years at the Ontario College of Art (forgoing his final year for time in Italy), says many artists "have got it backwards" when it comes to abstraction.

"People are studying so much art theory at art school, they're producing art to illustrate the theories," he says. "I find it lacks heart."

Many are abandoning art altogether to study only theory. But Ross says he loves the esthetics of painting too much, "mixing the colors, shlopping it on," to ever give it up.

"It's like music. The radio is filled with electronic stuff. But if you love classical guitar, you should still play classical music. Some people out there still appreciate it."

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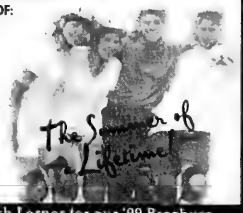

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MIRIAM WADDINGTON READING IN TORONTO

Distinguished Canadian poet **Miriam Waddington** gives a free public reading Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. in the chapel of Emmanuel College, 75 Queen's Park Cres., Toronto.

Waddington's most recent books of poetry are *The Last Landscape* (1992) and *Collected Poems* (1986). She is also known as a short story writer, essayist and scholar, and is identified particularly with her definitive edition of the poetry of **A.M. Klein**. A former instructor at York University in Toronto, she moved to Victoria, B.C., about 10 years ago.

One of the originators of modernist poetry in Canada, Waddington, according to the *Oxford Companion to Canadian Literature*, writes poems that "present a green world as an antidote to broken lives [and] offer the threshold to other selves that we are invited to recover."

Her reading at Emmanuel College will be her first public literary appearance in Toronto in many years.

* * *

Another Literary Date: Hal Niedzviecki is the founder and editor of *Broken Pencil* magazine, the guide to independent culture in Canada, and his first collection of stories is *Smell It* (Coach House).

Niedzviecki is the featured writer Oct. 24, 11 a.m. at the Books & Bagels literary event at the Bloor JCC. Non-members $8; includes coffee, bagels and cream cheese.

* * *

New Film on Lost Tribes: Associated Producers' new feature documentary *Quest For The Lost Tribes*, which focuses on the present whereabouts of the ancient tribes of Israel, is being previewed at a gala evening fundraiser to benefit the Shaare Zedek Medical Center's new Woman and Infant Centre in Israel, and the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre in Toronto.

Like a real-life Indiana Jones, two-time Emmy winning filmmaker **Simcha Jacobovici** has set out to solve the 3,000-year-old mystery of the lost tribes by following up on legends and tantalizing clues dropped throughout history. The film is scheduled for broadcast as a television special on CBC in Canada and A&E in the United States next spring.

The preview takes place Nov. 22 at the John Bassett Theatre, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, with a reception from 6:30 p.m., screening at 7, and an A&E gala patrons' party (dietary laws observed) at 9:30. Tickets are $36 (regular), $180 (friends) and $500 (patrons). 781-3584.

Arts Briefs:

• The phenomenal songstress **Neshama Carlebach**, daughter of the late **Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach**, gives a concert Nov. 1 at the Leah Posluns Theatre. This fundraiser for Darchei Noam Congregation begins 6:30 p.m. with a silent auction; the concert starts at 8 p.m. $36 includes dessert. 638-4783.

• A series of nine diptych paintings of Georgian Bay landscapes and structures by artist **Martin Hirschberg** is on view at the Hirschberg Design Group, Inc., 334 Queen St. E., thru Oct. 31. 868-6650.

• Any heavy metal fans out there? Those attending the Aerosmith concert Oct. 24 at Copps Coliseum in Hamilton may be interested to learn that singer-guitarist **Jeremy Gladstone** of **Zygote**, the band appearing on a side stage at the same venue, is the 23-year-old nephew of this columnist. And what's more, a recording deal may be in the works.

* * *

In the Spotlight: Winnipeg-based writer-historian **Allan Levine** made a noteworthy debut into fiction last year with *The Blood Libel*, a mystery novel in which he introduced the Jewish detective Sam Klein to investigate a crime committed in the teeming streets of Winnipeg's north end in 1911.

Now the prolific Levine, who teaches at a private school in Winnipeg, is back on the literary circuit with his fourth non-fiction title. *Fugitives of the Forest* tells the story of the thousands of Jewish men, women and children who escaped the Nazi ghettos and concentration camps by fleeing to surrounding forests.

During his three years of research, Levine conducted many interviews with survivors in Canada, the United States and Israel, and did extensive archival research.

Fugitives of the Forest: The Heroic Story of Jewish Resistance During the Second World War is published by Stoddart. The 432-page-book apears to be a very thorough and intriguing treatment of its subject. It costs $35.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Israeli singing sensation to appear at Lee's Palace

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

TORONTO — One of Israel's newest singing sensations can consider herself lucky that she escaped injury-free from a car crash that seriously injured pop star David Broza.

Ronit Shachar was in the van that crashed into a pole after a late-night concert at Avdat, Israel, marking the Tu b'Av Night of Love festivities.

Broza, 43, suffered serious injuries, including partial paralysis in both his hands. Shachar, who is appearing at Lee's Palace next week, was lucky.

"I wasn't injured at all," Shachar, 29, said in a phone interview from her house in Tel Aviv. "All I got was a shock. David's getting better but I don't know if he'll ever be perfect."

Shachar's debut album *Farewell Innocence* sold 35,000 copies in Israel, and she is currently working on a follow-up. She describes her music, a combination of soft rock and folk, as a "mixture of love songs and inner-thinking. I grew up on Woodstock – Bob Dylan, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, Joni Mitchell and lots more."

Shachar had the opportunity to meet one of her idols, Neil Young, when she opened up for him and Pearl Jam during his Israeli tour last year. Unfortunately, Young was somewhat elusive.

"I only got to say 'hi' and 'bye'," she says. "He didn't get to go back stage at all, he just got out of the van, ran to the stage and back to the van."

Shachar was discovered by Shlomo Artzi, one of Israel's top acts. She played guitar in his band and then appeared on his album *Moon* before recording her own album.

Shachar said she's always been interested in music. "I was 16 when I realized this is what I really wanted to do and I started writing my own songs after the army when I was about 20."

Shachar's songwriting has won her an ACUM (Israel's Grammy) for Best Young Songwriter, something the young singer considers a "great honor."

Shachar's original songs are all in Hebrew, but she is considering performing a few English cover tunes at her performance at Lee's Palace (Bloor Street at Bathurst) Oct. 25, 8p.m. Tickets are $16 from TicketMaster 870-8000.

Ronit Shachar

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Film examines Terezin's musical legacy

Continued from page 44

Karel Ancerl, Pavel Haas and Gideon Klein put pen to paper and created haunting works, some of which have found their way into the general repertoire.

Ullmann was, perhaps, the most gifted of the lot. He wrote the satirical opera, *The Emperor of Atlantis*, which the SS ultimately banned as subversive, and *Symphony in D*, whose melodic tones still resonate.

Ullmann's compositions are performed with heart-felt competence by an opera company and a string quartet.

In line with German expectations, the music had a lulling effect on its population.

The medley of concerts, operas, cabarets and theatres anesthetized many people, helping them to temporarily forget the bitter reality of their incarceration.

This is borne out by interviews with several survivors, including Edith Kraus, a pianist; Ivan Klima, a writer; and Zdenka Erlich, an actress.

Terezin played host to as many as three concerts a day, and since the audiences were discriminating, the musicians consistently tried to meet their lofty standards.

For some music lovers, whom the Germans had denied the privilege of attending concerts in their hometowns, Terezin was ironically a breath of fresh air.

Terezin was definitely a blight on humanity, yet it left one redeeming legacy: the power of music to overcome hardship.

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Tay-Sachs screening clinic planned for Nov. 8

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — By all appearances Elizabeth Sabine Fine-Gagné looked like a healthy baby at birth.

Born June 20, 1991, Elizabeth, the second child of Marla Fine and Bob Gagné, did not experience the same milestones as other infants her age, says her mother.

By the time Elizabeth was 9 months old, Fine suspected something was seriously wrong with her daughter, but she says that because her husband is a gentile, she and some of the physicians the couple consulted did not initially suspect Elizabeth might have Tay-Sachs disease.

In the past, the incidence of this fatal neuro-degenerative genetic disorder had been more common among Ashkenazi Jewish couples than any other ethnic groups, Fine says.

About 10 days after Elizabeth's first birthday, the diagnosis of Tay-Sachs was confirmed at the Hospital for Sick Children (HSC).

"It was like a bomb dropped on us," Fine says. "It was unimaginably awful. I couldn't imagine that this beautiful girl was not going to be with us."

Fine spoke to *The CJN* recently in order to alert couples of childbearing age to the importance of Tay-Sachs testing and to encourage them to attend an upcoming community screening clinic on Sunday, Nov. 8.

The clinic, to be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, is being organized by Jewish Women International (JWI) in conjunction with the HSC. There is no charge for the testing and babysitting will be provided.

Lucille Bensky, who co-chairs the screening with Mitzi Dickstein, stresses that younger generations of Jews "need to be made aware of this tragic disease." A simple blood test can identify carriers of Tay-Sachs, Bensky says.

The Nov. 8 screening is the first major community-wide screening since 1971, Bensky says. She urges Jewish males and females between 18 and 40 to be tested.

Dr. Joe Clarke of the pediatric and genetics departments at HSC says that if both partners carry the Tay-Sachs gene, with each pregnancy, a couple will have a one in four chance of bearing a child affected with Tay-Sachs.

Clarke says Ashkenazi Jews are 10 times more likely to be carriers of the Tay-Sachs gene than people from other ethnic groups.

And statistics show that one in every 25 to 30 Jews of central and eastern European ancestry are carriers, which means that one out of every 600 to 900 Jewish couples are at risk for having a child with the disease, Clarke notes.

By contrast, the incidence of Tay-Sachs among non-Jews is one in every 50,000 births.

But, says Clarke, "as a result of screening carrier detection, Tay-Sachs disease in Jewish babies has become rare in Ashkenazi Jews."

In the last 15 years, there have been approximately 13 cases of Tay-Sachs in the Greater Toronto Area, says Clarke.

Tay-Sachs is not a uniquely Jewish disease: intermarriage may decrease the chances of bearing a Tay-Sachs child, but it does not eliminate the possibility, says Clarke, citing the case of Gagné and Fine.

While Fine, an Ashkenazi Jew, carries the Tay-Sachs gene, her husband, who is of French-Canadian ancestry, is also a carrier, she says, noting that the gene her husband carries is from an English side of his family.

Fine says she and her husband, chose to care for Elizabeth at home and were aided by visiting homecare professionals. They also got emotional support from monthly meetings at a parent support group – National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases (NTSAD) of Ontario.

Two months after Elizabeth was diagnosed, Fine became pregnant with her second son, Wyatt, now five. Genetic testing showed he didn't have Tay-Sachs, but he is a carrier, she says.

"I worried the whole pregnancy that [the tests] were wrong. Once you're hit like this you lose your sense of security in the world."

Elizabeth died Sept 29, 1995, between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

"Quite aside from how awful it was to lose her, there was a hole," Fine says. "She was the most important thing I did in my day... You lose this important role in your life."

To compensate for the void in their lives, Fine and Gagné increased their involvement in NTSAD and became more active in helping other parents, Fine says. "The group provides us with a place to continue Elizabeth's legacy."

For information about the Tay-Sachs screening, contact JWI at 630-9313.

Despite advances, cancer still claims kids: doctor

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Although researchers understand much more about childhood cancer than they did almost 40 years ago, the fight is far from over, says a pediatric cancer specialist at the Hospital for Sick Children.

"In 1960, less than two percent of children went into remission. In all of North America, only five kids were cured. Now, up to 80 percent of children – and in some types of leukemia, 95 percent – go into remission," Dr. David Malkin said at a recent meeting of the Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF).

"We still, however, lose too many children. With 300 cases diagnosed every year, we are in a mindset that we need to do something. Although it occurs in only one out of 20,000 or 30,000 children, it is still the No. 1 disease that kills them."

More children are able to go into remission, he said, because researchers are learning a lot about genes. "If a gene is altered, it can end up to be a malignant tumor. If we know the genetics of the tumor, we can discover what drugs to use. Experiments lead to new treatments and to new cures."

Malkin said that Dr. Moshe Oren, an Israeli scientist who received funding from ICRF, discovered in his research the chemical nature of the protein P53, a tumor suppressor.

Another scientist, Dr. Varda Rotter, also funded by ICRF, further explored the roll of P53 in malignancies, Malkin said.

Suzanne Kay, executive director of ICRF said that "research, such as that into P53, gives us results, but it takes years of continuous research."

Kay said she is often asked why ICRF raises funds for Israeli scientists rather than keeping the money in Canada.

"Research is a combined effort. Everyone has to work together and build on their successes," she said. "Research [among scientists] is shared, and we want to ensure that top research continues in Israel."

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Yonge/Sheppard 2 bdrm. + sol Immac. cond., super value! 2 car pkg. - locker. Now $274,900 – Brenda Abrahamson*

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$365K lge.spacious bright modern 4 bdrm., 3 bath. Gourmet kit., overlooks fam. rm., addition, fin. bsmt. Tony Bassels**

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Georgian beauty – totally reno'd. 4 car garage. Walk to Synagogue. 7000 sq. ft. of living area. Call Perry Betel**

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Large 5+1 bdrm. backsplit on large lot. Family room, hdwd. flrs., Built-ins, finished bsmt. $535,000. Call Les Aaron*

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Immaculate 3 bdrm., 3 baths, fin. bsmt., sep. entrance **$249,000.**

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75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

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LAKE SIMCOE - BIG BAY PT. $895,000
Award winning New England sea side arch., spac. array of openness warmed by wide pine/oak flrs., glass, multi w/o &ornated by big stone f.p. & Muskoka rm. A masterpiece! Sunsets

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LAKE SIMCOE BELLE EWART $274,900
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LAKE SIMCOE - EIGHT MILE PT. $585,000
A beauty on 150'x550' lot, extremely well done!! Big decks & dock.

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West Palm Bch, Century Village,grnd. flr. condo, corn. unit., 1 bdr., 1 1/2 bth., furn., estate sale. Avail. immed. $17,500 US. Call Florida, 561-734-4241 or Toronto, 416-221-9064.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Century Village, Deerfield - 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 baths, March &/or April. 905-881-5749.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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Boca, Century Village, beautifully furn., 1 bdr, 1 1/2 bth, 2 flr. lake view, elev. 905-889-3779

Century Village, Deerfield, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth, newly furn. 4 mos. min 905-764-0549

Century Village, West Palm Beach, 2 bdrm. condo, quiet area. Available Jan. - Apr. $900 Cndn/month. 416-491-5134

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Ft. Lauderdale - Bonaventure 2 br., 2 bth., sleeps 6, del., all amen., AC, TV, micro, golf, tennis, pool, reas. 733-1019

Ft. Lauderdale, 2 bdrm. condo, reasonable. 905-731-0076.

Ft. Lauderdale, Plantation, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth., close to shopping, min 3 mos.905-886-3575

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Hallandale, Diplomat Parkway, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath condo, balc., canal view, $1,400/mo U.S.+ util. Avail. Dec. 1- April 15. Season pref. 416-932-1345

Hallandale, January - April. $1500/mo. Call 905-737-6200.

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on ocean, 1 bdr conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. from January. 488-9819.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. 905-731-0609.

Polo Club, Boca Raton. Lux. 4 bdrm., courtyard home with heated swimming pool, cabana, walking distance to club house & facil. Avail. Dec. & Jan. $10,000 Cndn/mo 964-7775.

Pompano Beach, Oceanfront, spotless 2 bdr., 2 bth., close to shopping & golf, all amen., for the season. Serious only. $2400/mo. U.S. 416-443-8909

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West Palm Beach, Century Village, 1 bdrm condo, 1 1/2 bth., balc., liv./din. area, kit. $3,500 US/season. 972-964-1144.

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Miami, Hallandale - 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bths., ocean view, $1700/mo. U.S. 416-638-7257

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Housemate, companion for senior citizen in Miami Beach wanted for winter months. Call 416-789-3007 after 7pm

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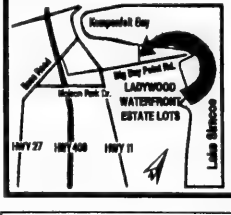

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Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

High quality house cleaning Call Dora, 736-1179.

Homemaker to care for elderly couple/single, light housework etc. Or avail to do daily home cleaning 2-3 days/wk. 9 yrs exp. & refs. 416-762-2474.

I will clean your home. 7 years experience. Madalen, 752-9862

Lady avail. to live-in Mon-Fri, for elderly. Refs. 416-265-3599.

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded. Sylvia, 416-740-3034

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Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907**
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255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Housekeeping & kosher cooking, live-out, Bathurst/Eglinton, teenage children, refs. req'd Please fax to 416-782-0981

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Legal, l-out nanny, f/t, drivers lic., care of 1 & 3 yr old, cleaning/cooking, summers up north Fax refs & resume to 482-2860.

Live-out nanny req'd for 2 kids; 8 & 11, + hswrk, needs driv lic, references, Yonge & Davisville area. 416-486-3093.

P/T Nanny/Hskpr, Mon.-Thurs., 3:30-8pm,Bath./Egl. Must speak Hebrew. Call Shelley 402-8379

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Gentle Care Nursing Agency. Catering to the sick, elderly, & children. High quality service. 24 hrs/day. Prof. trained RN's, RPN's, HCA's companions, attendants. Call us: 905-839-9065

PSW avail. for any shift. Exp. & refs. Call 416-386-1884.

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Attr. male, 54 years, young looking, 5'7", average build, London, U.K., seeks initial correspondence view serious relationship with attr. lady 44 - 50 yrs. No ties, must have natural, happy disposition, intelligence,& common sense. Gold diggers, libbers or high flier seekers need not apply. Snaps exchanged. I'll answer all replies. Reply to CJN Box 7105 or fax 011-44-181-952-0083.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

CLASSIFIED ADS/
SERVICE
DIRECTORY ADS
· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

Sincere male, 50, honest & caring would like to meet younger female for a serious relationship. CJN Box # 7106

Very pretty woman, likes music, theatre, tennis, mod/trad., seeks handsome Can. born educated, well groomed (jean/tux), fit, fun, employed, non/smkr, good dancer for many simchas, 50's, 5'9" +. CJN Box # 7110.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Elegant, beautiful woman looking for man to travel with, 50-65. Must be generous, financially secure, fit in mind/body. CJN Box 7103

JMW, 50's, happy & easy going, financially successful prof., physically active, enjoys classical music, theatre, seeking JF under 50 who is slim, compassionate, warm & caring for a relationship. CJN Box # 7107

Modern Orthodox. Take my niece please! You make Kiddush, I'll light Shabbos candles. Attractive, witty, prof., enjoys travel, willing to relocate seeks a male, 45-55. CJN Box # 7111.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box #

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YOUR PEACE OF MIND! Honest, retired male to care for your home etc. when you're on vacation. Great refs 391-5025

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Wedding Gown, $950. Paloma Blancha, size 8. 416-630-1933

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IZENBERG GOLDBERG
Monuments
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SWADRON, Jack - on Sept. 24, 1998, late of 34 Fairleigh Crescent.

SAMUELS, Harry Joseph - on Sept. 25, 1998, late of 100 Antibes Drive, #1003.

GRIMSON, Anne - on Sept. 26, 1998, late of 21 Mayfair Ave., #712.

LEOPOLD, Dustin - on Sept. 27, 1998, late of 26 Southgate Avenue.

SPRING, Solomon - on Sept. 27, 1998, late of 78 Glen Rush Blvd.

CHAPLICK, Kay - on Sept. 28, 1998, late of 10 Tangreen Court, #2006.

LEIGH, Arnold - on Sept. 29, 1998, late of 183 Angus Drive.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute

The Meeting Place

To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 *Ext.# 65***
OR call **1-888-400-3283 *Ext.# 65***

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, down to earth, professional, enjoy movies, theater, music, reading, travelling, walks, bowling, keeping fit seeking a single Jewish male, 31-43, with similar interests & values AD#1596

NIFTY 50'S
Single female, 50's, 5'1", slim, warm, sincere, charming, down to earth, good sense of humour, no dependents, variety of interests. Seeking a well groomed, non-smoker, easy going, emotionally mature, caring male from the Toronto vicinity. AD#1591

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, attractive, intelligent, kind, caring, many varied interests. Seeking a male, 68+, educated, honest, caring, sincere. AD#1599

OUTGOING
divorced female, 36, fit, attractive, sincere, witty, outgoing. Seeking a male, 35-40, with no dependents, beautiful on the inside and outside with similar qualities. AD#1579

EMOTIONALLY OPEN
Single female, attractive, affectionate, creative, curious, enjoy folk dancing, hiking, cross country skiing, music. Seeking a caring, warm, fun loving male, that is open to new experiences, emotionally open and expressive. AD#1583

BEST FRIEND, LOVER, PARTNER
Single Jewish lady, 47, 5', auburn hair, blue eyes, sparkling smile, bright, pretty, playful, romantic, non-smoker, loves kids, pets. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, open, honest, handsome, for long term relationship. AD#1571

BEAUTY INSIDE AND OUT
Divorced Jewish female, 36, attractive, fit, witty, outgoing. Seeking a Jewish male, 34-40, with no dependents and similar qualities. AD#1587

KNOW HOW TO TREAT A LADY?
Single Jewish female, slim, green eyes, dark hair, attractive. Seeking a Jewish male, 49+, 5'9"+, someone who will pamper and spoil me AD#1672

SPICE UP MY LIFE
Single female, pretty, trim, affectionate, cheerful. Seeking a male, 50+, wise, witty, content with his accomplishments in life. AD#1563

WARM MY NIGHTS
Single Jewish lady, slim, bright green eyes, romantic, varied interests. Seeking a Jewish male, 49+, 5'9"+, intelligent, kind, caring. AD#1570

VIVA LAS VEGAS
Single Jewish female, very stylish, dark hair, green eyes, enjoy dining & dancing, comedy clubs, movies, music, trips to Las Vegas. Seeking a single male, handsome, 31-43, with similar interests and outlook. AD#1572

FAMILY VALUES
Single female, enjoy entertaining, theater, travelling. Seeking a male, honest, thoughtful, respectful, with similar interests. AD# 1575

FRIENDSHIP AND MORE
Single professional Jewish female, non-traditional, 29, well travelled, has cultural interests. Seeking a stimulating, intelligent Jewish male, with good sense of humour, bold, 25-35. AD#1589

SOULMATE NEEDED
Single female, 41, long red hair, vibrant, attractive, a dreamer, teacher & a writer. Seeking a handsome, intellectual male, a soulmate to rome the universe with. AD#1542

ENGLISH ROSE
Single female, 45, red hair, blue eyes, outgoing personality, non-smoker, enjoy opera, ballet, music, theater, travelling, especially europe, fine dining. Seeking a tall, bright, established male, kind, clean shaven, under 60. AD#1549

ENERGETIC
Single female, professional, 40, slim, attractive, athletic, enjoy golfing, travelling dining out, fine wines. Seeking a male with a sense of humour, enjoys the finer things in life, similar interests. AD#1552

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single female, European background, orthodox, attractive, intelligent, educated, 5'7". Seeking a single male, 34-43, honest, kind, caring, good sense of humour and family values. AD# 1554

SUNSHINE SMILE
Single female, slim, petite, 5'2", brown hair & eyes, radiant smile, music teacher, professional, self-employed, enjoy dining, dancing, cycling, swimming. Seeking a considerate fit, young at heart male with similar values and interests. AD#1555

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
Single, professional female, 5'6", slim, positive outlook on life, enjoy dining & dancing, yoga, exercising, sports, outdoor activities. Seeking a well educated, tall, professional male, for long term relationship, possibly marriage. AD#1548

SOMETIMES SILLY
Single Jewish female, attractive, teacher, sometimes silly, sometimes serious, enjoy bike riding, good conversation, non-smoker, kind, sincere. Seeking a Jewish male with similar interests and values. AD#1628

ROMANTIC WALKS
Single Jewish female, attractive, enjoy theatre, dining out, travelling and romantic walks. Seeking a Jewish male, 54-65, with a great sense of humour. AD#1531

Men seeking Women

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going AD#1590

CLASS OF '98
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit. AD#1584

NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional. Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, sabre & Jewish values. AD#1595

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel. Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and children in the future. AD#1597

SEEKING A COMPANION
Single male, 31, 5'10", medium build, brown eyes, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, outdoor activities, quiet evening at home. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1615

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives. Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests. AD#1616

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking. Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family. AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead. AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing. Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times. AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times. Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour. AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace. Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group. AD#1547

LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing. Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests. AD#1527

NO HEAD GAMES
single male, 40, originally from Montreal, handsome, sincere, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hardworking. Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour. AD#1543

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38. Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship. AD#1523

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male, late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling. Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded. AD#1534

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-laceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tete-a tetes, lots of T.L.C. to give. Seeking a slim, elegant, non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre". AD#1504

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Professional gentleman, Jewish, 52, traditional values, handsome, healthy, successful, enjoy good food, dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking marriage minded lady, looks are not important, for a long term relationship. AD#1513

ROMANTIC & LOYAL
Gentleman, early 50's, tall, athletic, Canadian, non-smoker, easy to look at & talk to, enjoy life's pleasures. Seeking an attractive, fit, single Jewish female, 39-45, for lasting love, no pretenders pls. AD#1514

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling. Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile. AD#1485

GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER
Single attractive male, 58, 5'11", slim, brown hair & blue eyes, great sense of humour, caring, enjoy going away for the winter to Florida, Australia, or California. Seeking a female, attractive, well kept, good personality, great sense of humour. AD#1519

330 OBITUARIES

MEYER, Ann - of 59 Neptune Dr., Toronto passed away on Saturday, September 26, 1998. Mourned by her loving husband Art and children Frank, Paul & Jenny and their spouses, Barbara, Judy & Jim and nine grandchildren

EHRNBHERG, Rivka- on Sept. 26, 1998, late of 775 Steeles Ave. West, #1005.

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FINKELSTEIN, Eric - on Sept. 28, 1998.
PREZES, Rose - on Sept. 28, 1998, late of 265 Ridley Blvd.
AVRASINA, Bluma - on Sept. 29, 1998, late of 6 Black Hawkway.
FEIGELSTOCK, Rosa - on Oct. 1, 1998.
ZIGELSTEIN, Harry - on Oct. 1, 1998, late of 168 Pannahill Road.
TAYLOR, Trudy Esther Gertrude - on Oct. 4, 1998.
LOVER, Milton Maurice - on Oct. 4, 1998, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.
GRAFSTEIN, Ziporah - on Oct. 4, 1998, late of 145 Neptune Dr.
SMULOVITS, Jozsef - on Oct. 6, 1998, late of 180 Caribou Road.
SARKOZI, Ilana - on Oct. 7, 1998.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MORY DIKER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 25th, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Zagliember Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FRANCES SIMON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 25th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Avraham Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX GREENSPAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 25th, 10:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth Radom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ISAAC SHLAGBAUM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 25, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
National Order of Hatzofin Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM PLUDWINSKI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Nov. 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BARRY SHOCKETT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 25th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
New Fraternal Jewish Assoc.
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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What's new on the Internet?
THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS
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Israel & the Jewish World

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Pope John Paul II during a visit to the Vatican two years ago. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Pope prompted revolution in relations with Israel

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

On Oct. 16, Pope John Paul II marked the 20th anniversary of his election as pope.

The two decades of his papacy have revolutionized relations between Roman Catholics and Jews.

With milestones such as the first papal visit to a synagogue and the establishment of full diplomatic relations between Israel and the Holy See, Pope John Paul has instituted an official Catholic opening to Jews and their causes, unprecedented in 2,000 years of Church history.

His approach, however, has not been without serious ups and downs, particularly regarding the Vatican's handling of some issues stemming from the Catholic Church's action – or inaction – during the Holocaust.

"Whenever we get to the core issues around the Shoah, things get much more complicated," said Rabbi Abraham Cooper, the associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

The beatification earlier this month of Croatia's wartime Archbishop Alojzije Stepinac, accused by critics of collaborating with the Nazis, is one example. Beatification, the last step before sainthood, appeared hardly appropriate for Stepinac, who has been reviled by some as a collaborator with the Nazi puppet regime that ruled Croatia during the war.

Beatifying Stepanic, on whose watch the murder of innocent Serbs, Jews and Gypsies took place, is an outrage," Rabbi Cooper said.

A separate ceremony two weeks ago that conferred sainthood on Edith Stein – a Carmelite nun killed at Auschwitz who was born a Jew and converted to Catholicism – also strained some Jewish sensibilities.

Another controversy was related to a Vatican document on the Shoah released in March. While the document expressed repentance for individual Catholic failings during the Shoah, it absolved the Church itself from any responsibility and it strongly defended wartime Pope Pius XII against the decades-old criticism of his silence in the face of the Holocaust.

"Clearly John Paul has every intention of putting Pius XII on the fast track to sainthood," a move that "will further strain the rapprochement with the Jewish world," said Rabbi Cooper.

The Jewish world was also outraged when Pope John Paul paid honor to former Austrian president Kurt Waldheim, despite evidence of Waldheim's having lied about his Nazi past.

Further straining Jewish-Catholic relations was a bitter conflict in the late 1980s and early 1990s over the establishment of a Carmelite convent in a building adjacent to the site of the Auschwitz death camp.

And although the Vatican established full diplomatic relations with Israel in late 1993, the status of Jerusalem, which the Vatican wants to see under international mandate, also creates problems.

Nonetheless, the strides in improving Jewish-Catholic relations under Pope John Paul's papacy have been enormous.

Official sanction of full-scale Catholic-Jewish dialogue only dates back to 1965, when the Second Vatican Council issued *Nostra Aetate* (*In Our Times*), a declaration that repudiated the concept of Jewish guilt for Jesus' death and called for mutual respect and dialogue between Catholics and Jews.

From the beginning of his papacy, Pope John Paul has made the improvement of relations with the Jewish world and the condemnation of anti-Semitism cornerstones of his policy.

Pope John Paul has spoken out strongly against anti-Semitism on numerous occasions, and he has taken a number of other significant, highly publicized, actions to demonstrate his regard for the Jewish world.

In 1979, he paid homage at Auschwitz to the victims of Nazism, on his first trip back to Poland after his election to the papacy.

In 1987, he visited the main synagogue in Rome, where he embraced Rome's chief rabbi and referred to Jews as Christianity's "older brothers."

Throughout his papacy, he has held numerous meetings with Jewish communities in various countries and has met with numerous Jewish delegations at the Vatican.

He has also sponsored events such as a concert at the Vatican in 1994 to commemorate the Holocaust, a menorah-lighting ceremony at the Vatican to mark Chanukah 1997 and a symposium at the Vatican in 1997 to discuss the Christian roots of anti-Semitism.

Despite the progress, however, it remains clear that the implementation of the new, official Church teachings on Jewish issues remains a key challenge.

The new teachings are not always heeded, transmitted or acknowledged – and are sometimes even rejected.

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Taekwon-Do heavyweight new world champion

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Corey Mincovitch decides to smack somebody upside the head, chances are they're going down.

At least that was the case at the recent World International Taekwon-Do Championships in Birmingham, England. A 5-foot-11, 241-lb bruiser, Mincovitch defeated Yahia Alam of Egypt to win the gold medal, and was awarded a gold-plated, 10-lb world title belt that would make "Stone Cold" Steve Austin proud. All in all, Mincovitch dispatched five competitors — all by knockouts — including the world's top-three rated heavyweights. His championship performance earned him a berth on Canada's team at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

Although winning his final match earned him the title belt, it was his first fight against Victor Garibay of Mexico, the reigning world champion, that was the most memorable. It resembled more of a street fight than a scientific, technical exhibition of Taekwon-Do mastery, Mincovitch acknowledged.

It also had the Birmingham crowd cheering wildly as the fighters traded blows in the three-round, nine-minute set-to. "It was an out and out brawl," Mincovitch said. "All the fans were on their feet."

The Mexican landed 10 to 15 blows while "I must have landed 20," he said.

The battle left him with a four-stitch cut over his right eye and plenty of bruises. Temporarily stitched up (without freezing), Mincovitch's next fight was against Hassan Aslni of Iran. A fervent Zionist with a tattoo of a Star of David (along with tattoos of Samson and Moses, "the strongest Jews") on his body, Mincovitch was in a take-no-prisoners mode for that fight (the Iranians aren't friends of Israel, are they?, he states).

Corey Mincovitch

The Toronto-born fighter brought some of the Middle East's bad blood to the mat in Birmingham and took it out on the Iranian. Employing his signature move, "The Eliminator," in which he leaps two feet in the air and delivers a crunching kick to the head, Mincovitch broke the hapless Iranian's jaw quite badly.

He went on to victories over Cuban fighter Nelson Saenz in the quarter-finals and Marcus Thoren of Sweden — the event's next biggest fighter at 215 lbs — in the semis.

It took Mincovitch four days, and hours in the whirlpool to heal after the competition, but it was well worth it, he believes. Not only did he defeat the world's best Taekwon-Do fighters, but he impressed Canadian coach Steve Kim so much that he was recruited for the Canadian Olympic team. Kim doesn't want Mincovitch to fight again until Sydney to avoid the possibility of injury, the fighter said.

Instead, the fifth degree black belt and Taekwon-Do master will keep in fighting trim with grueling four day a week workouts that see him in the [illegible] as a day to work on his 21-inch arms and 5[illegible]-inch chest. "I've come down. I've shrunk," he said of his bulkier days.

Keeping up his strength is practically a full time job for the computer engineer. His diet consists of seven meals a day of a high protein low carbohydrate fare. It begins with steak and eggs (five whites) for breakfast followed by a 10 a.m. protein shake and salad. At noon he consumes two or three cans of tuna, more egg whites and salad. At 2 p.m., after one of his workouts, he might have a chicken breast, more tuna, perhaps some pasta and salad.

At dinner, it's time for his big meal of the day, an 8-oz. steak again, more tuna. Before bedtime, Mincovitch downs another protein shake. Throughout the day, he supplements his meals with several juice drinks (carrots, apples, ginger, celery) made with his own juicer.

Between he and his wife, their food bill amounts to about $200 per week, the vast majority of which goes to stoke Mincovitch's insatiable appetite. Now, if they could only melt down that title belt...

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The Inside Back

Justice delays threaten system

Lilly, a middle-aged woman from New York, made aliyah in 1996, and found that some of the household items she sent by ship did not arrive. In the ensuing lawsuit against the American shipping company, its office in Israel claimed that it was a completely separate entity, and that papers would have to be served in the United States: This procedure would have added months to the trial, and in our opinion was simply a trick.

Therefore, we petitioned the court to declare that the service of papers to the Tel Aviv office was valid. At a hearing on June 28 of this year, the judge heard testimony from both sides, and each attorney made oral arguments based on the evidence and the relevant case law.

As of Oct. 7, we have not received the judge's decision. In other words, it has taken over three-and-a-half months (and counting) to receive a preliminary hearing on whether the lawsuit has begun.

As I wrote in this space some months ago, the delay of justice can pose more of a threat to the rule of law than when the public attacks judges, as we have seen recently. I believe that this issue is so important to understanding the Israeli courts, that it is worth devoting more space to, this time focusing on some of the proposed solutions.

A commission headed by Supreme Court Justice Theodore Orr concluded its work some months ago and recommended a structural reform in the court system. Currently, there are basically three levels of courts: The Magistrates' Court deals with various crimes and civil disputes. The District Court is the court of first instance for more serious crimes and civil disputes involving more complicated issues or more money, as well as serving as the appeals level above the Magistrates' Court. The Supreme Court hears appeals on District Court decisions, and serves as the High Court of Justice for all sorts of administrative and constitutional issues.

The Orr Commission recommended transferring most of the authority down to the Magistrates' Court, thereby freeing up the District Court for appeals and certain specific issues, and relieving most of the burden from the Supreme Court.

On some levels, this recommendation makes sense. There is no reason for the Supreme Court to hear appeals on small matters, and in fact, the burden there is so great that one lawyer told me he appeared on an appeal, and was essentially told by the judges that they had no desire to hear oral arguments, while at the same time it was clear that not all the judges had read the file. Such situations would not occur if the Orr recommendations were implemented.

At the same time, the Orr report has come under fierce attacks within the legal community. First of all, relieving the burden from the Supreme Court will do nothing to help the average citizen, as the lower court will simply be that much more clogged. Since most simple disputes will begin there, litigants will face a worse problem than before.

Furthermore, critics say, judges in the Magistrates' Court are younger and less experienced, and will not be equipped to deal with the complicated issues transferred from the higher courts. According to retired District Court president, Judge Chana Evenor, lower court judges are simply not capable of deciding complicated criminal matters or questions involving patents and other highly specialized matters.

Evenor argues that the problem in the justice system is not structural, but that there just aren't enough judges to handle the case load, and she suggests that a proper solution simply requires budgeting to hire enough judges to do the work. In this way, trials will be much quicker, and judges will also have more patience and will be able to devote the attention required to each matter.

Many of the people dealing with this issue look to other countries, including Canada, for experience and solutions. While a small and concentrated country such as Israel has different needs from a large confederation such as Canada, it may be that some of the successes and failures in the different provinces will be studied to enable Israeli legal minds to fix the system before it breaks down completely.

Jonathan Shiff practices law in Israel.

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1 small head cabbage, cored	1/4 cup plain yogurt
2 apples, cored	1 tblsp mustard
1 carrot, pared and grated	salt and white pepper
1/2 small onion, grated	pinch of sugar
1/4 cup mayonnaise	oil and vinegar to taste

Cut cabbage in four and slice thinly. Place in large bowl. Peel apples and cut into julienne. Add to the bowl. Add remaining ingredients, except oil and vinegar and mix very well. Add oil and vinegar to taste. Mix and marinate 30 minutes before serving.

About Life

Dear Ella,

Sandra and I have been buddies since high school. It is only since she's had kids that our relationship has become strained. She has decided to raise her three children without discipline, or at least that's the way it seems to me. They are never scolded, or even told the word no.

Sandra believes in bringing up her children with positive reinforcement. The problem is, she obviously hasn't read the book on how to do this, as her children, now 3, 5 and 7 years old, are unruly, destructive and have no respect for people, animals or personal property, not to mention the horrible example they show my kids.

The few times I've invited them to my home, they have destroyed things like CDs, video games and dishes. Sandra's comment each time is, "Kids will be kids." I feel like grabbing those little brats and giving them what they so desperately need. Discipline.

Would it be out of line for me to exercise a bit of control in my own home with these little monsters?

Control Killer Kids

Dear Control Killer Kids,

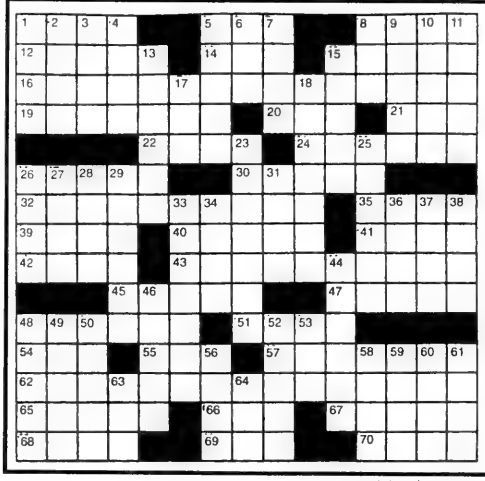
There are many ways to rear children these days, and there are many experts preaching various options. Every parent follows their own theory and most are not wrong, only different.

I don't feel you have the right to interfere with the upbringing of children unless you suspect abuse. What you do have the right to do, is talk to your friend. Tell her how stressful it is when she brings her kids over and why. Explain to her that you are nervous when they run about uncontrollably, as they have broken things in the past. Ask her if there is any way she could restrain her kids without compromising her beliefs.

Possibly you and Sandra could meet on your own from time to time or meet with the children in a park, where the damage can be kept to a minimum.

You must teach your children that there are many different kinds of people and behaviors and they have to respect and be tolerant of others, even though you don't always agree with their ways. You, as their parent, are best equipped to educate them in this very essential lesson.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*



The Canadian Jewish news

Crossword Puzzle

Lights, Camera, Action!

By Matt Gaffney & David Bianco (QSyndicate @ aol.com)

Across

1. Workplace, often
5. Shvitz location
8. "Goodbye!"
12. Spinoza's stock-in-trade
14. __-tac-toe
15. 32-across movie of 1983
16. 32-across movie of 1995
19. More rigid
20. Lay out at Netanya
21. Saturn or Mercury
22. Painter Chagall
24. "La Bamba" singer
26. Like some beer
30. Nimble
32. Frequent Best Director nominee
35. Catches a crook
39. Author Ferber
40. 1,000, in Quebec
41. Yiddish three
42. Laden with meaning
43. With 62-across, 32-across movie of 1982
45. Boxer Mike
47. Robin flats
48. Band members
51. Koufax's ERA, for example
54. "What __, chopped liver?"
55. Fisherman's tool
57. First forefather
62. See 43-across
65. "__ Hall" (32-across movie of 1977)
66. Aaron Krickstein blast
67. Ten-centers
68. The ten __ tribes
69. Lightning __
70. "__ Drink the Water" (32-across movie of 1969)

Down

1. Lowers the lights
2. Make publishable
3. __ Lily (Utah's state flower)
4. Madeleine of "Blazing Saddles"
5. Clinton Bane Kenneth
6. Great Expectations hero
7. 41-across plus finef
8. Nightline Name
9. 32-across movie of 1990
10. Great power
11. Golden-__(retirees)
13. Ren's partner
15. Of an area
17. Knesset Member vote
18. Gullies
23. Larry King's show and cousins
25. "__ a Tenor"
26. Had debts
27. Focal point
28. Make muscles more defined
29. Goes with the flow
31. Money, to Isaac Bashevis Singer
33. Accrues
34. Prom night wheels
36. Provides with Uzis
37. Borscht ingredient
38. Letter starter
44. Free of footsteps, as a trail
46. Busybody
48. Eichmann, to Arendt
49. __ acids
50. "PED XING" and others
52. Levied
53. Network of 8-down
56. Nicholas I, for example
58. At the center of
59. Blood: prefix
60. The Middle East's Gulf of __
61. Popular computer game
63. 65-across, for one
64. "The Name of the Rose" author

The answers to last week's puzzle by Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut are on page 47.

JEWISH RESCUE

When you give to UJA, where will your money go?

Ask Tamar Pichkhadze.

THIS IS THE STORY OF NEW BEGINNINGS FOR ONE YOUNG WOMAN FROM THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.

Starting over is often a dramatic dream but a difficult reality. Thanks to *Chalom* (Hebrew for 'dream') – a UJA Federation funded program in Israel – thousands of young people from the former Soviet Union are, in fact, beginning new lives. Young, inexperienced, and on their own for the first time, these are 17-20 year-old *olim* rescued from the insecurity of the former Soviet Union. Many come from impoverished families. Many have no understanding of their Jewish heritage. All have left the familiarity of family and home behind. The one thing they share is hope.

"I wanted to be on my own and make a new life for myself in Israel," says hotel management student Tamar Pichkhadze. She's one of 1,000 Jews a week from the former Soviet Union starting new lives in Israel, thanks to the Jewish Agency, supported by the worldwide UJA Federation movement. Being separated from her parents is so painful, it's difficult for Tamar to talk about it without crying. But her desire to be in Israel overpowers her loneliness. "Making *aliyah* by

yourself requires strength, patience, maturity and independence," she says. "I'm not the same Tamar. I am more mature. My life has changed. Now I want to help my new homeland."

The community **Campaign for Fifty** will allocate $1.5 million in new funds to rescue Jews like Tamar facing the fallout from the Russian economic collapse. These additional dollars will also provide funds to maintain 270 Hebrew language courses in the FSU and Jewish Agency camps attended by 20,000 youngsters.

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This Week

National

Planning underway to disburse Swiss funds. *Page 5*

Transnistria survivors remember Romanian Jews. *Page 7*

On Campus

Kol Hastudentim devoloping its own national dream. *Page 25*

Time Of Your Life

Zany revue filled with nostalgia and fun. *Page 27*

Arts

Artists explore Holocaust from a cultural perspective. *Page 40*

Child prodigy, Ori Friedman, gets satisfaction from playing piano. *Page 44*

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Cheshvan 10, 5759
Havdalah: 5:59

www.cjnews.com

Pact signals shift by Likud

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu points to the Palestinians' willingness to publicly nullify the anti-Israel clauses of their charter as one of the major successes of the land-for-security agreement signed last Friday at the White House.

But a no less significant outcome of the accord is Netanyahu's nullification of the Likud Party's long-held doctrine of maintaining the boundaries of greater Israel.

It is true that Netanyahu ceded a sliver of Eretz Yisrael when he turned over some 80 percent of Hebron to the Palestinian Authority in early 1997. But the plan to redeploy from the West Bank town had been worked out by the previous Labor government.

Analysis

It is also true that his government's long-standing commitment to pursue the Oslo peace process ostensibly entailed a willingness to cede further tracts of the biblical homeland.

But the Netanyahu government's formal pledge to pursue the Oslo process has been, for the past 19 months of stalemated negotiations, largely a matter of words.

Many observers in Israel and abroad believed the premier would not compromise the greater Israel philosophy that has underpinned the platform of the Israeli right for decades.

But now, in a moment televised around the world, Netanyahu affixed his signature to an accord that plainly spells land for peace.

And Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, a foremost leader of the right for the past quarter of a century, looked on and applauded. The Likud party, back home, issued a statement of congratulations and enthusiastic support for the prime minister.

The White House signing may well turn out to be cataclysmic for the future of Israel – both for its politics and its society.

After this latest agreement, the clear-cut distinction between left and right, hawk and dove, in Israeli politics has been blurred.

By the same token, the planned gathering of Palestinian representatives in the Gaza Strip in mid-December, with President Bill Clinton present, will be equally historic for the Palestinian people. At that gathering, the anti-Israel portions of the Palestinian Covenant will be discarded.

The agreement "plugged the holes in the Swiss cheese called Oslo," Netanyahu told a news conference Sunday at Israel's Ben-Gurion airport after he returned from the United States.

Continued on page 38

Working through the night yielded results at Wye Plantation. Seen here in an evening session last Thursday are, from left U.S. President Bill Clinton, Nabil Abu Rudineh, translator Gamal Halel, Nabil Shaath, Danny Naveh, Palestinian Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The next day an agreement was signed. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Clinton urged Charter revision

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

WASHINGTON — Early last week during the summit, U.S. President Bill Clinton told Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat he finally understood why Israel wanted the Palestine National Council (PNC) to reconvene to ratify deletions to the Palestinian Charter, according to sources inside the summit.

At a three-way meeting involving Clinton, Arafat, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Abu Mazen and Israeli Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky, Clinton told Arafat: "It was not until now that I understood Israel's insistence on the charter. I not only understand it now, but I agree with them on it," said the source, claiming to be quoting the president.

The Israeli position as articulated by Sharansky was that reconvening of the PNC was not merely a legalistic question of whether, as a result of tangled language in Arabic, the vote on April 24, 1996, indeed deleted offensive parts of the charter calling for Israel's destruction.

Rather, the issue required clarification to assure the Israeli public that the Palestinians have accepted Israel's permanence, because it comes against the backdrop of the use of hateful language in the Palestinian media and education systems.

Sharansky has said in the past that "the PNC is the only lever we have to compel the Palestinian public to accept Israel's existence, due to the hostile climate that exists today."

Until last week, the U.S. initiative called only for the 18-member PLO Executive Committee to ratify a letter that Arafat wrote last January to Clinton enumerating all the deletions to the original Charter.

In remarks two weeks ago to the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, former Israel Foreign Ministry legal advisor Joel Singer explained how Arafat retracted an earlier pledge to prime minister Shimon Peres to declare that the entire Charter is voided, but instead passed the resolution, which was less than the original promise.

INSIDE

Politics among the Palestinians can be deadly.
Please see page 9.

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Opposition to Wye pact stronger than thought — please see page 36

The News in Brief

Canada

Calls for IRB Probe

TORONTO — The chair of the immigration section of the Canadian Bar Association has written to Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard to join calls for an independent probe of the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB).

Robin Seligman says an independent and public inquiry into allegations of anti-Semitism, racism and homophobia at the IRB is "appropriate in order to protect the integrity of the board."

Seligman joins national Jewish groups in calling for an inquiry, following reports that the IRB's chair took some 10 months to investigate a mock Nazi salute by the deputy chair, and only after a complaint was lodged by a board member, a Holocaust survivor.

Trustee Acclaimed

TORONTO — A school trustee who once made a controversial remark about Jews has been acclaimed the NDP's candidate in the provincial riding of York West. In 1993, Stephanie Payne was at the centre of a storm for publicly stating that it is "usually" Jews who produce plays that defame blacks. Her remark came as blacks were protesting the imminent opening of *Show Boat*. Payne, then a trustee of the North York Board of Education, later apologized for the comment but said she did not feel it was anti-Semitic.

Lands Purchased

CALGARY — The Calgary Jewish Community Council has signed an agreement to purchase private lands for about $1.7 million. The seven acres will allow community institutions to expand their operations and allow space for a future community campus.

Dickson Remembered

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) said it was saddened to learn of the recent death of former Supreme Court Chief Justice Brian Dickson. CJC honorary legal counsel Ed Morgan said Dickson's rulings on freedom of religion and equality rights "demonstrated particular sensitivity to minority religious communities in Canadian society."

Israel

Bar Israelis: Rubinstein

JERUSALEM — The recently opened gambling casino in Jericho could face a major shortage of customers if Israel's attorney general has his way. Elyakim Rubinstein announced last week that Israelis, the casino's main source of customers, should be barred from gambling there. In his decision, he cited a regulation that authorizes local courts to try Israeli citizens for offences committed in the Palestinian self-rule areas. Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said he was surprised by Rubinstein's position, but that police would enforce it if called upon.

Knesset Honors Americans

JERUSALEM — The Knesset is set to award four Americans its Conscience and Courage award in recognition of their work in securing restitution for Holocaust survivors. The award is to be presented by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at a special Nov. 17 Knesset ceremony to Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs Stuart Eizenstat, World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman, Senator Alfonse D'Amato and New York City Comptroller Alan Hevesi.

World

Deportation Upheld

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Board of Immigration Appeals has upheld a 1997 order to deport a 77-year-old retired foundry supervisor for covering up his past as a guard at Nazi concentration camps during World War II. The order directed that Ferdinand Hammer of Sterling Heights, Mich., be deported to his native Croatia. In 1996, Hammer was stripped of his U.S. citizenship for concealing his Nazi past.

No Tax On Reparations

TRENTON, N.J. — New Jersey residents who receive Holocaust reparations from Swiss banks will not have to pay state income tax on the funds. Gov. Christine Todd Whitman signed legislation last week that exempts the 4,485 Holocaust survivors and their heirs living in the state.

Fund For Slave Laborers

FRANKFURT — In a reversal of the previous government's policy, Germany's new centre-left coalition has pledged to help establish a fund to compensate Nazi-era slave laborers. Chancellor-elect Gerhard Schroeder said last week there are no concrete plans yet for the fund, but "we've already started thinking about" working with several German firms to deal with compensation.

Orthodox Man Released

NEW YORK — A Virginia jail recently released an Orthodox Jewish man because kosher meals cost an additional $70 a day. Neil Lederman, who was serving time for writing a bad cheque, was released after three weeks and placed on home detention. Outraged prosecutors asked police to investigate whether Lederman's meal requests were valid.

Auschwitz Doctor Denies Taking Part in Atrocities

FRANKFURT — A former Nazi doctor who admitted to working at Auschwitz has denied that he took part in atrocities. Prosecutors in Munich began investigating Hans Muench after he was quoted in a recent interview in the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* as saying that he was not bothered by working at Auschwitz and that gassing Jews spared them from further suffering.

"I could conduct experiments on people that otherwise are only possible with rabbits. That was an important contribution to science," Muench said. He also said that after two or three days, it was easy to adjust to life at the death camp.

Prosecutors in Frankfurt have also reopened multiple investigations into the wartime actions of Muench, who is alleged to have infected prisoners with malaria. Previous investigations were dropped due to lack of evidence. But the Prosecutor's Office says new evidence has surfaced from files that were found in the archives of the Stasi, the former East German security service.

Muench, who lives in a village in Bavaria, claimed in the magazine interview that he "saved many people" by killing a few.

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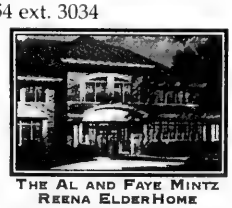

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Canada 'haven' for terror groups: U.S. expert

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada is a haven for Middle East terror groups, says a U.S. expert.

Groups like Hezbollah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad not only operate in Canada, but do so with relative "impunity," says Yehudit Barsky, who monitors the North American activities of Arab groups associated with terrorism.

In the United States and Canada, these organizations concern themselves mainly with fundraising, recruitment and providing "moral support" for their headquarters back home, says Barsky, senior Mideast research analyst for the New York-based Anti-Defamation League.

Since Canada is a free and peaceful place, organizations linked to Mideast terror organizations can go about raising cash, speaking to local Muslims and communicating freely with their counterparts in the United States – all in obscurity, Barsky told *The CJN* in an interview prior to addressing community leaders at B'nai Brith Canada headquarters.

"No one [in Canada] really knows who these groups are," she said. Canada, she said, is where the United States was five years ago when it comes to battling the problem.

Barsky said that not even the 1993 World Trade Centre bombing jolted Washington awake, even though six people were killed and several radical Arabs, including an Egyptian cleric with a huge following, were convicted in the attack.

She said it took the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, in which over 200 were killed, to get the United States to begin monitoring international terrorism seriously – ironic, she noted, given that domestic terrorists are suspected of carrying out the attack.

Washington has begun clamping down on border controls and curtailing the fundraising of domestic Islamic organizations, she noted.

On both sides of the border, she said, representatives of Mideast groups, or organizations with ties to them, operate under the guise of social welfare and charity groups, mosques and clubs – all with innocuous sounding names. "There are quite a few of these fronts."

Canada is regarded by Mideast terror organizations as a country relatively easy to enter, where communications, whether by fax, telephone or modem, are not monitored, she said.

> *Terrorists can enter relatively easily*

"They can go about their business quietly."

That business is to establish an infrastructure: raising money, usually cash which can be easily transferred overseas, and recruiting young people. Canada is also the closest foreign country to large American cities.

It is not in these groups' interest to attack domestic targets. But even if they do, their members do not fear North American jails, which are plush compared to those in the Mideast, Barsky noted.

If officials suspect their activities, "they defend their right, or move on."

Barsky's views mirror recent statements by the head of Canada's spy agency.

Testifying before a Senate committee, Ward Elcock said Canada is home to more international groups than any other country except perhaps the United States.

"We know that the infrastructure has been established here to support a terrorist act in Canada," said Elcock, director of the Canadian Intelligence Security Service (CSIS).

Over the past decade, many terrorist groups have begun using Canada as a haven, a source of financial and material support and even as a base of operations, he said.

He cited Canadian ties to the World Trade Centre bombing and suicide bombings in Israel.

He said CSIS is investigating about 50 organizations, including groups linked to Hezbollah and Hamas.

CSIS said last year that Hezbollah has established an infrastructure in Canada that can assist terrorists seeking safe haven in North America.

An admitted member of the Saudi Hezbollah who was detained by Ottawa on suspicion that he helped carry out a 1996 bombing that killed 19 Americans in Saudi Arabia, was said to have provided CSIS with evidence that Hezbollah has set up a base of operations in Canada.

The same was found in 1994, when a suspected member of Hezbollah was deported from Canada.

And in 1991, Ottawa admitted that it allowed a man wanted by French police as a member of Islamic Jihad into Canada as a refugee. The man later fled the country.

Barsky said that one of two Palestinian men arrested for planning the bombing of a Brooklyn subway last year sneaked in and out of Canada with ease.

She said one way to fight all this is for countries "not to give in to the notion that changes to laws will make you less democratic."

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From the editor's desk

Sacred and profane

Most of us shook our heads in disbelief last week when we read Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's outlandish "baseball bat" remark made in the House of Commons.

He was responding to a taunt/question from the Opposition during Question Period regarding the use of pepper spray by the RCMP against student protesters at the APEC summit last fall.

I reproduce the relevant portion of the prime minister's answer, translated from the French, as it appeared in the media:

"Apparently, this [the use of pepper spray] was a new one [method of crowd control] that I didn't even know about. The MP claims that this can cause damage to the person. If she is still suffering, I am sorry about that.

"*Instead of taking a baseball bat or something else, now they are trying to use more civilized methods.* And that's why they [the RCMP] had towels on hand at the same time to help."

Based upon the tone and the substance of the remarks and upon the accompanying prime ministerial demeanor, flustered and shrugging his shoulders, it seems clear the response was intended without guile or mischief. The prime minister was not trying to be coy or cunning. He truly did not understand the offence in his answer.

But the lack of malice in the response was irrelevant.

It was utterly insensitive, inexcusable and thus, unacceptable. That the prime minister could even think of, let alone express, the possibility of the use of a baseball bat to control an unfriendly, non-violent crowd was breathtaking and ultimately, very sad.

That "incident" last week was merely another example in a recent pattern of inappropriate behaviors by the prime minister. But he is not the only political leader whose behavior leaves the electorate shaking their heads.

For example, we remember Preston Manning's abhorrent election ad campaign which offensively differentiated Québécois from the rest of the country.

We recall the infamous "hula hoop" remark directed by Premier Mike Harris at Ontario's nurses.

We can also point to the constant evasions, dissembling and demagogic ruses of Premier Lucien Bouchard in Quebec.

In many jurisdictions, it seems, Question Period itself is increasingly a forum for ugly theatre, an overloaded, tired vehicle for showmanship, grandstanding and false indignation. Legislators rise from their seats, not to elicit information in the public interest, but to entrap, to embarrass and to ridicule in the partisan interest. Honorable members hector and heckle one another in a manner ill suited for a schoolyard, let alone the legislative assembly or parliament.

What opinion, other than a bellowing game, can the public hold of Question Period? The members themselves treat it as a game, a modern gladiatorial arena where the Opposition tries to "hurt" the government, where one member tries to humiliate another.

Thus, the public has every right to view Question Period dismissively, cynically, as befitting any game that purports to be something far more serious.

Of course, inappropriate behavior by political leaders is not only a Canadian affliction. It can be documented wherever human beings exercise power.

In the United States, effective federal government has all but been suspended as a result of the Starr chamber proceedings there, a coalescence of the president's pathetic libidinous urges, Congressional vendetta plotting and partisanship gone berserk.

In Israel, the situation is even more extreme. Politics has a far harsher edge. Debate in the Knesset is characterized by its lack of civility, constant name-calling and incendiary hot-headedness. It is not a place to bring schoolchildren.

Irrespective of jurisdiction, it is assumed politicians will be expedient and not necessarily always truthful. They tend to be the butt of jokes and generally speaking, do not enjoy a high degree of public trust.

It is an irony and a contradiction that touches the heart of our western way of life.

We tend to revere democracy but revile politicians. One is "holy;" the other profoundly "profane." And yet, in this instance, without the profane, there could be no holy.

Truth to say, it may have always been this way, wherever and whenever a candidate perched on a stump to publicly pitch for votes, wherever and whenever one person was elected to wield power over everyone else, and wherever and whenever an individual refused to yield that power.

This interdependence between the "holy" of democracy and the "profane" of politics creates within us all feelings of civic dissonance that increase or diminish depending upon the inappropriate behavior of the day. But the more accepting we are of that dissonance, the more accepting we will be too of the inappropriate behavior from our political leaders.

And we must never allow that.

The American scholar, Louis Wirth, once noted that democracy is moral before it is political. By that he meant that politics must never be dissociated from morality or ethics or justice or fairness. Though politicians are only human, prone to error and bad judgment, their inappropriate behavior must always be condemned. For the sake of democracy, we must raise our expectations of the standard of behavior of our politicians.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

RETURN OUR PRISONERS

Worried and angry demonstrators in Tel Aviv Oct. 31, 1973 urge the International Red Cross to ensure the return of Israeli prisoners being held by Syria and Egypt.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Planning underway to disburse Swiss funds

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Gunther Plaut is urging patience.

"I feel terrible," he admits, "about having to tell someone who's been waiting for 50 years to be patient, but that's the way it is."

Since *The CJN* reported in its Oct. 15 issue, that Rabbi Plaut has been appointed to head the Canadian committee that will disburse compensation from the humanitarian fund set up by Swiss banks, the rabbi says he's received dozens of inquiries.

"People want to know how to apply, where to get applications, who will get the money. All those questions will be answered. We'll deal with all of them in the fairest manner."

In the meantime, Rabbi Plaut is working to set up a committee of 10 people, comprised mostly of Holocaust survivors, to oversee the task of disbursing the money.

As well, a telephone hotline, like the one assisting survivors in the United States, will likely be set up in Canada.

Last year, Swiss banks established a $185 million (US) humanitarian fund to help needy Holocaust survivors. Roughly $2.5 million was allotted to Canada.

The fund is unrelated to the $1.25 billion settlement reached in August between Swiss banks and claimants to dormant war-era accounts.

Rabbi Plaut was appointed to head the committee in this country by Canadian Jewish Congress, which in turn, was asked by the New York-based Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany to set up a mechanism in Canada.

He says his committee will be "completely independent. It will not be subject to any organizational strictures."

But it will have a daunting task: defining who is needy.

Polls and studies consistently show that in Canada, one out of six Jews lives below the poverty line, and that one-third of all Jewish poor are over 65.

"The needs of people may be more than monetary," he says. "They may also be social or medical."

There are an estimated 18,000 Holocaust survivors in Canada, "but we don't know who is needy. We cannot please 18,000 people if they all apply. But people who feel they are needy will be encouraged to apply."

The committee will be working with local Jewish federations to find out who is deserving of compensation, he added.

"We won't be able to satisfy 18,000 people. But we will try our best."

Toronto day school gets major grant

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto's newest day school, the Downtown Jewish Day School, is one of only eight schools in North America to receive an inaugural challenge grant from the Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education.

The grant, which will total $200,000 (US) over the next three years, is intended to help the school achieve excellence by enhancing curriculum, staff and materials. Downtown Jewish Day School must match the amount through its own fundraising efforts.

Dr. Cynthia Lazar, school president, told *The CJN* that "we are grateful [for the grant] because it allows us to achieve a high level of excellence in secular and Jewish studies. We would like to be able to offer this quality education to children who might not be able to experience it."

Downtown Jewish Day School opened in September with 10 children in senior kindergarten to Grade 2. The hope is to add a grade a year. Temporary quarters are at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

The grant also enables the school to have top-notch staff. "We called on the expertise of Joan Schonfeld, longtime principal of the Downtown Jewish Community School, and Dori Levine, former principal of Shearim Hebrew Day School," Lazar said.

Peter Gefen, of the New York Heschel School, is a consultant.

Lazar explained that the matching funds, which must be collected in three annual instalments of $100,000, $60,000 and $40,000, will be raised from private donors.

Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education is a group of Jewish business and philanthropic leaders, including Edgar and Charles Bronfman. Its goal, according to a press release, is to "raise the level of excellence in both Jewish and general studies, while making intellectually exciting education accessible to larger numbers of children."

Another goal is to establish "a network of top new Jewish day schools across North America, [which] will result in the overall enrichment of Jewish life."

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GERDA FRIEBERG
Gerda Frieberg has devoted [illegible] to Holocaust Education. [illegible] recipient of the Ben Gurion [illegible] Award has given countless [illegible] wartime experiences. Born in Upper Silesia, she was incarcerated [illegible] camp in Czechoslovakia from 1942 until 1945.

GENIA GROSSMAN
In 1944 Genia Grossman's blonde hair and blue eyes prompted a Jewish Organization to enlist her help in smuggling Jews out of Hungary. When she attempted to escape she was captured and imprisoned by the Gestapo. Genia is married and the mother of 2 children.

FANNY PILLERSDORF
Fanny Pillersdorf was lead on a Death March [illegible] Mauthausen [illegible] 1945 [illegible] educational [illegible] programs [illegible] future generations [illegible] the importance [illegible] of the Holocaust.

FAYE SCHULMAN
Author of "A Partisans Memoir: Woman of the Holocaust", Faye Schulman has been decorated by several governments for her heroism and bravery. Now a mother and grandmother Faye lectures extensively about her experiences during World War II as a partisan fighter.

ROSE ZINER
Born in Budapest, Hungary, Rose Ziner's strength, determination and tenacity carried her through World War II. Since 1956, Rose has been [illegible] in a variety of charitable organizations including the Jewish National Fund, Yad Vashem and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee.

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Holocaust centre seeking new funds

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre has embarked on a $3-million public fundraising campaign to expand its quarters, and allow it to complete a flurry of ambitious projects.

It's the first time the centre, formerly known as the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, has appealed directly to the public for money. The centre is a UJA beneficiary agency, but receives only about $40,000 a year for its programming budget from the central communal pot.

Currently, the whole operation is squeezed into a small space on the Lipa Green building's fourth floor, displacing the Oscar Schmidt Museum next to the centre's theatre and commemorative hall. Packed bookcases, overflowing boxes, dozens of videos and reams of other material bespeak the need for more space.

Plans call for the centre to take over 900 square feet in the Jewish Public Library across the hall. This new Holocaust Resource Centre will allow officials to properly collect, catalogue and display books, CD-ROMs, films, videos and survivors' testimonies.

The current space will be converted into a multi-purpose room for lectures and meetings. Staff offices will be retained there.

At least $1.5 million will be needed by March to make the new resource complex a reality, says Michael Herman, chair of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre.

And given most survivors' advancing years, now is the time to act, both to preserve their memories in a fitting way, and to ensure that funds are in place, Herman adds.

A special section in the resource centre will house local Holocaust survivors' testimonies, both oral and written.

A proper resource centre, with computers and other technological aids, will permit more students and teachers to better research and study the Holocaust, Herman points out.

"We recognize both the need and potential for education," he told *The CJN*. "And we're in a position now to tackle new things."

Indeed, the centre has continued with its well-known community programs, like the annual Yom Hashoah service, Holocaust Education Week each autumn, an annual one-day seminar for teachers, speeches by survivors, class visits to the museum and others.

New funds would allow completion of the following projects:

- preserving and cataloguing 400 videotaped survivor testimonies;
- the Continuing Voices program, in which survivors are teamed with young people, who then in turn act as teachers;
- building and updating a Web site, partly to counter Holocaust-denying and hate-related sites;
- filling demand for more teachers' seminars, and lecturing to both student teachers, as well as established teachers.
- distributing educational kits to both students and teachers.

Carole Ann Reed, the centre's recently appointed director of education, also has big plans, among them:

- further dialogue and work with members of Toronto's Rwandan community. About 100 of them are survivors of the 1994 murder of an estimated one million Tutsi and moderate Hutu. They have turned to the Jewish community for advice on how they can memorialize their dead, both in Toronto and Rwanda;
- working toward a curriculum for teaching the Holocaust to public grades 9, 10 and 11. In the meantime, Reed and volunteers from the centre have assembled a 34-page guide on Holocaust-related literature and films and are continually putting together more teaching material;
- proposing that the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) establish a certificate in Holocaust Education, as part of its teacher education program. Reed submitted the idea to OISE last week;
- and working with other agencies to institute support services for survivors, including home visits.

It all represents a quantum leap for the centre, Herman says, and time is short. "We felt that if we wait any longer, we will lose this momentum."

Students get set to honor Anne Frank's memory

TORONTO — In memory of 1½ million children who were victims of the Holocaust, students from Metro Toronto's Brown School and Deerpark Public School will plant a special bed of 800 Anne Frank Tulip Bulbs in a ceremony, Nov. 2 at 1 p.m.

This is the 10th year that special Anne Frank Bulbs have been planted in the Amsterdam Park, Avenue Road and St. Clair.

Assisting the children will be the consul general of the Netherlands, Hendrik Kroon; the consul general of Israel, Jehudi Kinar; members of the provincial legislature; city officials; members of the Jewish and Dutch/Canadian community of Toronto; and members of the Royal Canadian Legion.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of events important to both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities: the founding of the State of Israel; the adoption by the United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Amsterdam with the adoption of the resolution "To reject anti-Semitism as being incompatible with the Christian faith."

This year, as well, is the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the night of shattered glass, that marked the beginning of the Holocaust.

In preparing the students, special attention has been given to the heroic efforts of the Allied armies in the liberation of Europe, and in particular, the Canadian armies who liberated Holland. They were one month too late for Anne Frank, who died in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, but a few attending the planting will remember those soldiers and will never forget their sacrifice.

The event is co-sponsored by the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto, UJA Federation and the Dutch/Canadian Association of Greater Toronto.

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and Jewish Family & Child Service
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at Jewish Book Fair
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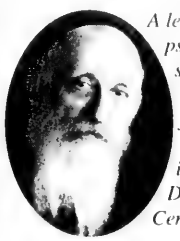

A leading Rabbi and renowned psychiatrist, Rabbi Twerski addresses spouse abuse, an issue that has been a closely kept secret in many Jewish families, and offers important advice and direction. Rabbi Twerski is the Founder and Medical Director of Gateway Rehabilitation Centre in western Pennsylvania.

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Greater Toronto Area

Transnistria survivors remember Romanian Jews

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Transnistria survivors and their families gathered recently at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue to commemorate the decimation of Romanian Jewry during World War II.

The program, which marked the 57th anniversary of the deportation of 300,000 Romanian Jews to Transnistria, was organized by the Transnistria Survivors' Association of Toronto. Israeli consul Irit Waidergorn was among the more than 80 people who attended.

"We are here to remember our loved ones," association secretary-treasurer Arnold Buxbaum, told the group assembled in the chapel.

More than two-thirds of Transnistria Jews perished during the death marches or as a result of the harsh conditions in the camps in Transnistria, the area of Ukraine bounded by the Dnestr and Bug rivers, Etty Zigler, vice-president of the Transnistria Survivors' Association said.

A memorial service led by Herman Rubinger included commemorative candlelighting by the children and grandchildren of the Transnistria survivors.

The keynote speaker, Howard Driman, chair of Holocaust Education Week, spoke about the week's events and the work of the Holocaust Centre.

Transnistria Survivors' Association co-founder Freda Rosenblat, spoke about her own deportation in 1941, and her subsequent survival as an orphan at the age of 10.

Originally from Bessarabia, now a part of the Republic of Moldova, Rosenblat, her brother and parents were among the thousands of Jews forced to march to Transnistria. There was often little food or water for days, she recalled. "People were dropping dead from exhaustion."

Rosenblat noted that Romanian gendarmes, who were allies of the Nazis, led the death marches to Transnistria. "Those alive marched again and again. The gendarmes said they were going to make our lives so miserable that we would be happy to die. They didn't want to waste bullets on us."

Rosenblat and her family stayed in Bershad, a camp in Transnistria, where she said 200 people a day perished from cold, hunger and disease. Among them were her parents who died within three weeks of each other.

Zigler announced that the Holocaust Museum in Washington has put up a wall for the Transnistria camps in the Hall of Remembrance. The hall will be officially inaugurated in the spring.

She also spoke of recent developments in Moldova and Transnistria, and read from a report compiled by Raphael Vago, a Transnistria survivor and professor at the University of Tel Aviv.

Vago said he met a small group of survivors in Moldova who were dedicated to preserving the memory of the Jewish victims of Transnistria. A few thousand Jews reside in Transnistria, and they too are determined to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive among local inhabitants, he said.

The post-war generation has erected a memorial in Dupasari, the burial site of 18,000 Transnistria Jews, many of whom are identified by name. Unidentified skeletons recently discovered along the banks of the Dnestr River were recently reburied in a special ceremony at the Dupasari memorial, he noted.

Zigler was heartened by the news of those communities' efforts because the association had wanted to build a memorial in Transnistria, she said. "Now that we have heard that a memorial is already in place, we will get in touch with these people to be of some help."

Other participants in the program included association president Osias Nadel, Dvora Gluck, Gine Rubinger, and Naomi and Joanna Gryfe.

Joanna Gryfe assists in the commemorative candlelighting ceremony for Transnistria victims. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

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After the summit

After nine days of exhausting negotiation in a secluded, sylvan setting along the Wye River in Maryland, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Chairman Yasser Arafat signed a memorandum of agreement that reinvigorates the fragile peace process.

Though there are a number of new elements in the agreement, it mostly enshrines what was already agreed to at an earlier stage in the peace process. Israel received more promises and more signed commitments from the Palestinian Authority (PA) aimed at enhancing Israel's security. The PA received more promises and more signed commitments from Israel aimed at enhancing Palestinian territory. But the signing of the memorandum by Netanyahu and Arafat, in the presence of U.S. President Bill Clinton and Jordan's King Hussein, and before an international television audience, was indeed an important step on the long road to peaceful coexistence between the two peoples.

But even as Netanyahu and Arafat look to the next round of talks, they must guard themselves and the peace process against extremists and terrorists on both sides. We therefore feel compelled to address our co-religionists. We urge every rabbi with a pulpit, every rabbi with a following and every rosh yeshiva in the Diaspora and in Israel to denounce unequivocally, in the harshest terms, the use of violence by anyone intent on bringing down either the agreement or the government of Israel.

A great Canadian

Brian Dickson was a great Canadian. The former chief justice of the Supreme Court served his country and its diverse people during his entire adult life. With courage, commitment, determination and sacrifice, he strove constantly forward, always seeking to advance the one overarching cause to which he dedicated his life: the well-being of his fellow human being.

He was a soldier, a jurist, a judge, a humanitarian and simply, an outstanding human being. He was also a pioneer of sorts, steering Canadian jurisprudence through the then-uncharted waters of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. His landmark judgments in those early days taught us all that the Charter was not an unruly ocean to be feared. Rather, it was a body of sweet water to be sailed enthusiastically, thoughtfully and compassionately, a spring of life that would forever help sustain and continually nourish the evolving, uniquely Canadian democracy.

Justice Dickson spoke for the majority of the Supreme Court almost a decade ago in December 1990, when it overturned the Alberta Court of Appeal's dismissal of the case against James Keegstra.

"The suppression of hate propaganda undeniably muzzles participation of a few individuals in the democratic process, and hence detracts somewhat from free expression values, but the degree of this limitation is not substantial. I am aware that the use of strong language in political and social debate – indeed, perhaps even language intended to promote hatred – is an unavoidable part of the democratic process. Moreover, I recognize that hate propaganda is expression of a type which would generally be categorized as 'political,' thus putatively placing it at the very heart of the principle extolling freedom of expression as vital to the democratic process. Nonetheless, expression can work to undermine our commitment to democracy where employed to propagate ideas anathemic to democratic values. Hate propaganda works in just such a way, arguing as it does for a society in which the democratic process is subverted and individuals are denied respect and dignity simply because of racial or religious characteristics. This brand of expressive activity is thus wholly inimical to the democratic aspirations of the free expression guarantee."

Justice Brian Dickson died Oct. 17, 1998. He was 82.

His example, his legacy and his memory will be for blessing.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"Look to the heavens and count the stars, if you can count them. As numerous, will be your descendants." ***Lech Lecha***

Dry Bones
WAIT!... ...I SEE SOMETHING!
... IT'S WHITE SMOKE AT THE WYE PLANTATION!
WOW!
...IT SIGNALS AN HISTORIC AGREEMENT OR...
OR?
...OR THEY'RE LIGHTING UP ANOTHER ROUND OF CIGARS.

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Dreyfus kin died at Auschwitz

Re: The letter by Linda R. Goldman (*CJN*, Oct. 8) regarding the fate of a member of the Dreyfus family.

Madeleine Levy was the granddaughter of Alfred Dreyfus and his wife Louise Hadamand. Her mother was Jeanne, and her father, Pierre Paul Levy. As a young girl she had been a girl scout, and as a young woman, a social worker. When France was invaded, she joined the Resistance and also worked with the Red Cross. A collaborationist tract in Toulouse spoke of her as the "Jewess who dared not speak her name," and ended its diatribe with, "Sweep her out!"

Although the Levys had been warned of a crackdown and had fled from Toulouse, Madeleine had returned to the city to work and to pack provisions for her family. While at the family's apartment, she was arrested and sent to Drancy. In 1943, she was put on Convoy No. 62, along with 83 children whom she helped care for "with forced gaiety." On her arrival at Auschwitz, Madeleine was assigned to a work group, laboring at an excavation near Birkenau, but she soon fell ill with typhus. When she died in January 1944, she weighed less than 70 pounds.

Henry Wellisch
Toronto

Churches should campaign against Protocols

After reading "An anti-Semitic lie that wouldn't die" (*CJN*, Sept. 17), a compelling thought propelled me to respond.

Why not ask the churches to start a united campaign against the existence of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion?*

Let us not repeat the reluctance of the Jews in Germany as well as the Jews worldwide to act before Hitler became powerful.

Ontario is spending millions of dollars on anti-racism programs that are not making much of an impact. In this enlightened era, if the churches invited Righteous Gentiles and honored them for saving Jews, they would attract membership.

We have every right to expect the Christian community to join us in protests against the *Protocols* being published.

How can we remain silent about the teaching of anti-Semitism?

It is time Christianity opened its heart to our continued fear of anti-Semitism.

Mollie Posen
Toronto

Palestinian TV blamed for war cartoons

Re: "Palestinian kids' show calls for a holy war" (*CJN*, Sept. 24).

It is impossible not to be discouraged and angry when Palestinian television, through cartoon characters, continues to encourage children to wage a holy war against Israel. These cartoons are not only a cruel caricature of the peace process, but also a clear violation of the Oslo accords. And the problem is not only with cartoons. Palestinian television in general does precious little to foster mutual understanding and tolerance with Israelis. Yasser Arafat, when recently challenged about this, promised to correct the situation, and only time will tell if he actually does something about it.

Simon Rosenblum and Dr. Frank Guttman
National Co-Presidents
Canadian Friends of Peace Now

Nothing new in letter opposing Peace Now

Re: "Criticizes Peace Now position on Arafat," letter to the editor (*CJN*, Sept. 17).

Michael M. Salamon's letter criticizing Peace Now may have been misleading. He criticizes a previous Canadian Friends of Peace Now letter which presented Israeli-based evidence that it was a radical Palestinian fringe group – not Arafat's Fatah movement – that posted on a Web site a new constitution calling for Israel's destruction.

Salamon presents absolutely no evidence to the contrary and then says that, regardless of who did what, Arafat should have condemned whoever did it. But the Peace Now letter also said that; and in the pages of *The CJN*, Canadian Friends of Peace Now has not been at all shy about criticizing Arafat. So, other than Salamon not liking Peace Now, I can't see what the fuss is all about.

H. Yalonetsky
Toronto

Opposes segregation of male and female at Kotel

O, the irony! As Rabbi Avi Shafran railed against offering the non-Orthodox a section of the Kotel for their own mixed gender prayer "The Balkanization of the Western Wall," (*CJN*, Sept. 10), the same issue noted: Orthodox men have reacted with violence, throwing chairs at women who were praying at the Wailing Wall for the (presumably) inexcusable offence of gathering and thereby imitating a minyan (Women of the Wall borrow Lubavitch tactic, *CJN*, Sept. 10).

I am shocked at the Rabbi's sanctimony. On the one hand, he rails against allowing a "balkanized" Kotel, while on the other he defends the Orthodox segregation of male and female. While many Jewish groups see the need for Jewish inclusion and tolerance, other groups prefer to retain existing internal divisions and the traditional imposition of one group's will over the remainder.

Sheldon Tyber
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Politics among the Palestinians

By DANNY RUBINSTEIN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

A policeman inspects the scene of the grenade attack in Beersheva. [RNS/Reuters photo]

On the day of Yasser Arafat's departure for Wye Plantation, Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin sent him a personal letter.

"My brother, President Abu Amar," wrote Yassin. "Rumors have been spreading recently that Hamas wants to assassinate members of the [Palestinian] national leadership, and you in particular.

"I wish to inform you that this rumor campaign is being orchestrated by agents of the Israeli enemy who seek to destroy Palestinian unity by instigating and sowing strife."

Relations between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority, including the personal relationship of Arafat and Sheikh Yassin, have seriously deteriorated in the past year.

When Sheikh Yassin was in prison, and when he was freed a year ago, Arafat treated the Hamas leader with great respect. Following his release, the Sheikh toured Arab capitals, and was given a king's welcome, arousing Arafat's jealousy. During his visits to the Arab capitals, the Sheikh made disparaging comments about the Palestinian leadership.

Arafat has not called or met with the Sheikh since he returned to Gaza. Relations fell apart more than six months ago, following the incident in which Hamas activist Muhi a-Din Sharif was killed in Ramallah. The Palestinian Authority announcement that Sharif was killed by fellow Hamas members angered Islamic fundamentalist leaders. Two Hamas leaders, Dr. Abdel Aziz Rantisi and Dr. Ibrahim Maqadmeh, were arrested by Arafat's people and have been in jail ever since. They are not alone.

Dozens more (some say more than 100) Hamas activists have been put in Palestinian prisons without trials. They were recently joined by a group of young men – some belonging to the cell that tried to smuggle more than 30 kilograms of incendiary material out of Gaza – who were planning terrorist attacks against Israel when they were arrested by the Palestinian security service, and by the Hebron chemist and his friends who set up an explosives laboratory in the city.

Another 20 Hamas activists, suspected of assisting terrorist Salam Sarsour who carried out the recent grenade attack at the central bus station in Beersheva, were just arrested in Hebron.

Sarsour also murdered Shlomo Raanan in Tel Rumeida, and lobbed grenades at IDF soldiers on Hebron's Shuhada Street on Yom Kippur.

The Hamas ranks are seething with anger at Arafat and his men for pursuing the Islamic fundamentalists. Nevertheless, the most striking thing about Hamas statements, including Sheikh Yassin's letter to Arafat, is the care with which they refrain from showing disrespect to the Palestinian Authority and its leader.

Hamas' recent terrorist activities should be examined with this in mind.

The timing of the grenade attack in Beersheva, like that of most Hamas terror attacks in the 10 years of its existence, is not tied to political developments in the peace process.

In other words, Sarsour did not throw the grenades in Beersheva specifically to sabotage the negotiations at Wye Plantation. Past Hamas attacks have been equally difficult to connect directly with political discussions. Moreover, Hamas attacks are often in complete opposition to Palestinian political interests.

This week, the Palestinians were about to receive another 13 percent of the West Bank. Why didn't the Beersheva terrorist wait a few weeks until this additional territory was under Palestinian control?

Hamas' capacity for attacks would then be multiplied, since the second redeployment would add to the territory currently under Palestinian rule, the territory that Hamas uses as "cities of refuge for terrorists." Why shouldn't Hamas restrain itself for a few weeks?

Palestinian Authority security chief Jibril Rajoub said scornfully recently that the Beersheva attack was basically a gift to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who was impatiently awaiting a Hamas attack in order to justify his own recalcitrant position.

Other Palestinian leaders emphasized the fact that the terrorist had ties to the Israeli Shin Bet – making him a sort of Palestinian Avishai Raviv – and claimed that his deeds could have been an Israeli orchestrated provocation.

Palestinian leaders, as well as most Israeli defence experts who deal with the issue, have concluded that the military wing of Hamas hardly ever takes political factors into account. Hamas opposes political negotiations and the peace process, but its people act according to considerations independent of the timetable of the peace process.

It appears that internal Palestinian politics are the central element driving Hamas activities. Hamas has a very well-defined platform. It is an ideological movement, with ambitions to replace the PLO as the leader of the Palestinian people. Hamas leaders know that their chances of taking control tomorrow are very slim; therefore, they need to concentrate today on educational and training projects, and otherwise gaining public admiration and support. The terror attacks are part of this program.

Their methods have changed over the years. In the period between the 1991 Madrid conference and the massacre carried out by Baruch Goldstein at Hebron's Tomb of the Patriarchs, Hamas made it known that its people were concentrating on aiming their attacks against IDF soldiers, and refraining from attacking civilians. Those were the days of kidnappings of soldiers and frontier policemen and attacks on Shin Bet agents. After the Goldstein massacre, Hamas announced that it would now attack civilians.

The mass terror attacks carried out by Hamas drew criticism from the Palestinian public, and somewhat weakened the movement's standing. Several times in the past year, Hamas spokespeople have announced that the organization was about to stage revenge attacks against Israel (following the Khaled Meshal episode in Jordan, the death of Muhi a-Din Sharif in Ramallah and the killing of the Awadallah brothers near Hebron), but the threats were not carried out – apparently because Hamas is incapable of acting on them.

In the past two years, Palestinian and Israeli security services have succeeded in infiltrating Hamas' military wing and foiling plans for attacks. Perhaps it is no coincidence that lately there have been no major suicide attacks.

Instead, there have been more limited operations such as the planting of small bombs (on Tel Aviv's Allenby Street and at Mount Scopus in Jerusalem), shootings of settlers (in Yitzhar and Hebron), and the actions carried out by Sarsour.

However, predictions of Hamas' future should not be based on this. The more gloomy, hostile and fearful the atmosphere becomes among the Palestinian public, the more enthusiasm and anticipation there is for violent Hamas actions. In such an atmosphere, Hamas will certainly continue to act.

An Israeli woman, one of the 66 injured in the grenade attack, is assisted by rescue personnel. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Opinions

Apples on the family tree

For the past several years, my cousins and I have been working on our family tree. Unfortunately, we did not think about this when my parents, the ones most familiar with family antecedents, were living, but we have been fortunate in having one family member left who could give us names and some details for at least one branch of the tree.

Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

It is always risky to research your roots – you may find out things you didn't need to know. It may be romantic to have an ancestor who was a madam or a horse-thief, but who wants a close relative who was a "lady of the night" or a felon?

One branch of the family was already resident in Pennsylvania before the American Revolution. From Germany they crossed the ocean and took up farming in the tolerant state of William Penn, a Quaker who welcomed all to his "sylvania."

On the other side, family tradition held that the family was of Hessian stock, the Hessians being the mercenaries hired by George III to fight his colonial war. Captured by George Washington and his raggle-taggle troops, the Hessians were in no hurry to return to their brutal existence in Germany; so they blended into the existing German-American farming communities.

Supposedly one ancestor, Col. Lindenmuth, fought with Washington, possibly capturing his future in-laws. Anyway, it makes a great story, and we are slowly working our way back to see if we can substantiate any of it.

Meanwhile, on my husband's side, the Gerber family, another cousin has begun the more laborious task of tracing the European roots.

What brings me to this family history? It is the season of Torah readings which begin the story of the family of humankind. God, first of all, tries to convince His newly created couple to obey Him. Failing that, He tries for the next generation, and the next, until, fed up with the lot, He sweeps all but one family away and starts over. Finally He focuses on one family – the family of Abram and Sarai, soon to become Abraham and Sarah.

Every year when we read this cycle, beginning with Adam and Eve and ending with the children of Jacob transformed into the nation of Israel, we have a chance to see the incredible power of family in all its splendor and searching, as well as its anger, hatred, bitterness and deceit.

Read literally, these master stories tell us that the first families were just like ours only more so. They too struggled with sibling rivalry, a struggle made more deadly by the lack of understanding of death and the sin of murder. They suffered the effects of jealousy, parental favoritism and arrogance.

Some readings try to remove the obvious failings of the patriarchs.

Abraham's attempt to use Sarah as protection is excused; Jacob's tricking of Esau is permitted in order to correct Isaac's blindness towards Esau's unfitness. But this reading removes the human-ness of our ancestors.

Their behavior is described, both good and bad. These are not supermen and women, but exceptional mortals chosen to perform a task they can only dimly understand – the task of bringing to the human race the idea of a moral society and a spiritual realm that seeks justice on earth. That's a pretty tall order, and it should be no surprise that these families make a lot of mistakes on the way. We read these family stories with relish every year because they give us hope that we can learn from their mistakes, as much from their good deeds and piety as from their failures and their successes.

And that is just how we conduct our family lives, sometimes making a wise comment on life, offering good advice to our children and providing them with an ethical role model. Other times we teach them our prejudices and exhibit our worst traits. The Jewish people is fortunate to have such a family tree. It gives us hope that our own contributions to family and community will make a difference for our descendants.

Random thoughts from High Holy Days

I love the High Holy Days. For me, it is a time for serious reflection and introspection. For at least three days a year, I can put aside the Constitution and the criminal law and concentrate, instead, on matters of religious commitment and spiritual fulfilment.

Bruce Elman in Edmonton

When I listen to the Cantor chant the U'netane Tokef, my mind is freed from problems of the Notwithstanding Clause. When I pound on my chest while reciting the Al Chayt, I can forget about the inadequacies of the criminal justice system. It is a time of repentance and a time to rededicate myself to the performance of mitzvot.

However, just prior to Rosh Hashanah, I read an article entitled *Does Conservative Judaism Have a Future?* It was in the September 1998 issue of the neo-conservative magazine, *Commentary*, written by Reform Rabbi Clifford E. Librach of Sharon, Mass. I began to reflect upon the present state of the Conservative movement, my own Conservative congregation and my place within this particular stream of Jewish thought and practice. Indeed, as my friends noted with some impatience, I became obsessed by these issues.

In the article, Rabbi Librach notes that "until very recently, most American Jews affiliated with synagogues have... found their home in this [Conservative] movement... which locates itself between the 'extremes' of Reform to its left and Orthodoxy to its right." Rabbi Librach states, however, that "now the movement is in trouble" because it is losing members to Reform Judaism ("an attractive and demographically bulging way-station for Conservative Jews on the way to religious oblivion") and to Orthodoxy ("a counter-cultural stay against the moral and spiritual anomie of post-modern America"). Pretty strong language and perhaps even true, but not in Edmonton and not at my shul. Let me explain.

Three years ago, after a period of intense acrimony, my synagogue, Congregation Beth Shalom of Edmonton, and its rabbi parted company. Some of the rabbi's supporters also left the congregation in sympathy with the rabbi. Thus far, this is not a particularly novel story. What is interesting, however, is that the congregation has been without a rabbi ever since. Nor are there any prospects on the horizon.

What is more intriguing yet, is that, after the initial loss of members due to the split, the membership of the congregation has, against all logic, showed significant growth. (Incidentally, the growth in membership is not attributable to the return of the dissidents; they continue to support the congregation they founded at the time of the split.) New members have come from other shuls where there are rabbis, or from the ranks of the previously unaffiliated. The moral of this story: it takes a very good rabbi to be better than no rabbi at all.

The truth is that there is almost no activity or event in congregational life for which you actually require a rabbi. Rabbis are not necessary for the minyan or davening, for Torah reading or chanting the megillot, for b'nei mitzvot or weddings or funerals. And they certainly aren't necessary to recite Hamotzi at congregational dinners. Laypersons can learn to do all of this. And we have terrifically talented and committed lay ritual leaders who lead the congregation on these public occasions. And after all, this is all to the good. Rabbis are not even needed for delivering divrei Torah. With just a click of the mouse, a congregation can be treated to words and thoughts of rabbis Schorsch or Riskin or whoever. With a committed and cooperative chavurah you can even learn Torah from the great rabbis this way. This, too, is good.

But there is a dark side to not having a rabbi. Put succinctly, without a rabbi, the congregation has no legal, moral or ethical leadership. Everything is "OK" because there is no one with authority to say otherwise. (And in the Conservative movement, with its wide variance in practice and belief among member congregations, it probably is "OK" in some rabbi's view.) In a relatively short time, this results in a lowering of the standards of Jewish practice of the congregation, both individually and collectively. Everything is too comfortable and too serene and everyone is too complacent. There is no one who can impress upon young people the importance of coming to shul after bar or bat mitzvah. There is no one to point out that, as important as it might be to honor the departed at Yizkor on Yom Kippur, it is also vital to rejoice with your children on Simchat Torah and Purim. Without a rabbi, there is no one dedicated to promoting kashrut or the observance of the Sabbath.

This year, many of our university and high school students were not in shul for Rosh Hashanah or even Yom Kippur. Nor did people seem particularly astonished by this. For the three most important days in the Jewish year, high school students could not miss classes. The idea is absurd! I recalled growing up in Sydney, N.S. When I was in Grade 10 or 11, a history final exam was scheduled for Shavuot. We were in quandary as to what to do. Our rabbi, Israel Kenner, of blessed memory, had no doubt about what he should do. He told the students and our parents that we would not be going to school on Shavuot, and he advised the principal of school that none of "his children" would write that exam and that the school had better figure out a way to give us a final grade without penalty for missing that exam. The students listened, the parents listened and the school principal listened. And that is why congregations need rabbis.

Communism and the Jews

From time to time, I have the opportunity to read one of the best newspapers in existence, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, often called the *New York Times* of Germany. Like the latter, it has the largest amount of reportage on Jewish matters of any other similar publication, and in depth frequently is far ahead of the New York paper.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The latest article that attracted me was published in August and was intriguingly headlined "Socialist Aryanization." Aryan was the term by which the Nazis defined their racial Germanness, primarily in contradistinction to Jews. Aryanization was the process by which the government acquired Jewish property under the guise of racial policy.

The article in the *Allgemeine* covers a related subject – how the Communist government of the former German Democratic Republic dealt with its small Jewish community. As is well known to anybody who bothers to remember those bygone days, the DDR (as that Communist state was called) was, like its model, violently anti-Israel and at the same time, it pretended to pursue a scrupulously equal treatment of its Jewish population. (Soviet Russia made the same declaration, while being viciously anti-Semitic.)

The German Communists managed to suppress any religious revitalization amongst its Jews, something they failed to achieve with the Christian churches. I remember meeting one or two of the rather pathetic individuals who called themselves "Jewish leaders," whose activity consisted primarily in doing the will of the government. I also remember how, on a visit to the person who described himself as the "chief rabbi of Berlin," I found no Jewish library in his home, except a single folio of a Talmud tractate that he had upside down in front of him. Everything was clearly fake from beginning to end.

Not surprisingly, the state secretary for religious matters was able to declare in 1982 that Judaism in the DDR was henceforth to be treated in the same manner as a museum.

At one point, East Germany's Soviet leader, Erich Honecker, wanted the support of the United States, while at the same time telling his countrymen that the Jews controlled America. When he thought he had some hope of getting financial aid, he made quick adjustments vis-a-vis his own Jewish community: The planned highway through the Jewish cemetery of Berlin-Weissensee was cancelled and he invited members of the World Jewish Congress to meet in the city. The DDR was in every respect a phony – from the drug-enhanced athletes it sent to the Olympics to its Jewish policy.

I am glad to say that today the east Germans have made a serious attempt to repair this aspect of their past, and they have done a better job with it than with their economic integration into the new United Germany. Maybe the almost total absence of a Jewish component in their economic structure is a factor contributing to this failure.

The Kirshner File

The role of Yiddish theatre in Jewish culture

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Yiddish theatre, like Yiddish itself, is on the precipice, teetering on the edge of extinction. Its demise, if you'll pardon an undertatement, would be a great pity.

Just how important a component of Ashkenazi Jewish culture it has been is suggested by Nahma Sandrow in *Vagabond Stars: A World History of Yiddish Theatre* (Syracuse University Press), the most comprehensive book in English on the topic I have ever read.

In her sweeping survey, Sandrow misses exceedingly little. From Avrom Goldfadn, the father of the Yiddish theatre, to Ida Kaminska, one of its finest actors, Sandrow bears down on the fundamentals with the intensity of a laser beam. Yet no one is perfect. She dismisses Dora Wasserman, Montreal's grande dame of the Yiddish theatre, in one desultory paragraph at the end of her 400-page plus opus.

Still, aficionados of Yiddish will generally be pleased with this volume, enhanced by 125 illustrations, somewhat grainy though they may be.

Goldfadn, a failed teacher, businessman, medical student and newspaper editor, is the first in a long line of worthies she examines. Explaining why Yiddish theatre took shape under his guidance in the last quarter of the 19th century, Sandrow contends that Goldfadn was the ideal person to make it work.

A folk singer and poet, he was a trouper, an artist, a dreamer, an intellectual and, yes, a hustler. Certainly, she has no illusions about him. Goldfadn's plays cannot be described as profound literature, yet they are touching, lyrical and comical and accurately reflect the times. In short, Goldfadn created a corpus of plays and songs that today are the staple repertory of every Yiddish company, songfest or recital.

Sandrow's appraisal of Sholom Asch – the first Yiddish dramatist whose plays had an impact outside the Jewish world – is apt. And her assessment of Jacob Gordin, whose dramas transformed the Yiddish theatre, is right on the mark.

Sandrow's succinct profiles are integral to her narrative, but *Vagabond Stars* really shines with its analysis of Yiddish theatre in the farflung countries where it thrived, albeit under occasional duress.

Let's begin with Russia, which had the largest concentration of Jews in the 19th century. As part of its suppression of the Jewish population, the reactionary Russian government banned Yiddish theatre in 1883, only two years after the first big wave of pogroms. It was a cruel blow, but not a fatal one. The Yiddish theatre muddled through the crisis by renaming itself "German theatre." Conditions eased in 1908 and deteriorated once again in 1910. But by 1913, the situation had stabilized.

Under the sway of communism, in the Soviet Union, Yiddish theatre led a checkered existence. For ideological reasons, the Bolsheviks subsidized many Yiddish theatres. By the mid-1930s, the Soviet Union had 20 such theatres. Yet the idyll was fleeting. In the late 1940s, amid a climate of rising anti-Semitism, the illustrious actor/director Solomon Mikhoels was murdered, the last Yiddish newspaper was closed, the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee was disbanded, and the Yiddish theatre lost its state subsidy.

After Joseph Stalin's death, there was a thaw, and the Moscow Dramatic Yiddish Concert Ensemble surfaced. With the onset of the 1960s and 1970s, the status of Yiddish theatre slipped yet again. In the late 1980s, as glasnost took hold, there was a revival. In the post-Soviet period, emigration and economic pressures have made it harder to support Yiddish culture.

No discussion of Yiddish theatre would be complete without references to Vilna and Warsaw. In this respect, Sandrow is in fine form. She discusses the role of the fabled Vilna Troupe, as well as the contributions of a group of up-and-coming writers known as Young Vilna, many of whose leading figures perished during the Holocaust.

Dora Wasserman

Turning to Warsaw, whose interwar atmosphere she adjudges to be more sophisticated and worldly than that of Vilna, Sandrow launches into an analysis of Yiddish theatre in Poland and, more specifically, of the Kaminska family's impact on it.

Her evaluation of the theatrical scene in Poland in the aftermath of World War II is as rigorous. Amidst the ruins, seasoned troupers like Zygmund Turkow, Dina Blumenfeld and Shimen Dzigan drifted back to their old haunts in Warsaw and Lodz, if only temporarily, and the Yiddish State Theatre emerged.

But, as Sandrow reminds us, the renaissance was of brief duration, being overtaken by emigration.

Interestingly enough, the flame of Yiddish theatre flickered during the darkest of moments. The actor Moshe Potashinsky, a Vilna Troupe veteran, recited fragments from *Tevye the Dairyman* in Auschwitz. And in the camps of Transnistria, Romanian Jews, drawing on their rich heritage, were occasionally able to put on plays and evenings of folk songs and poetry.

In the pantheon of Yiddish theatre, the United States looms large. New York City's Lower East Side developed into one of its centres, and Boris Thomashefsky, a cigarette maker from Poland with huge ambitions, became one of its exemplars.

Sandrow also devotes considerable space to another seminal figure, Maurice Schwartz, the man behind the Yiddish Art Theatre on Second Avenue, which lasted from 1918 to 1950.

Praised by *The New York Times*' legendary drama critic, Brooks Atkinson, the Yiddish Art Theatre presented such classics as Goldfadn's *The Two Kuni-Lemls*, Gordin's *Mirele Efros* and Yitshok Leyb Peretz's *The Golden Chain*. In Sandrow's judgment, its single greatest success was *Yoshe Kalb*, dramatized from the novel by none other than Isaac Bashevis Singer.

Not without justification, she claims that New York City has become the mecca of professional Yiddish theatre. In recent years, she points out, favorites like Shalom Aleichem's *Hard to Be a Jew* and S. Anski's *The Dybbuk* have been staged.

Sandrow is blunt about the place of Yiddish theatre in Israel. "[It] did not find a homeland in Israel," she writes with a certain finality.

During the British mandate, Yiddish theatres sprung up in Haifa, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Rishon Le Zion. But ideologically, Yiddish was always controversial in Palestine. Can you believe that the Hebrew University turned down a proposal for a department of Yiddish literature? It happened, in 1931.

With the influx of Romanian, Polish and Russian Jews, Yiddish gained a measure of respectability in Israel. The Hebrew University sanctioned the establishment of a department of Yiddish studies. Then, in short order, the Israeli government lowered the prohibitively high tax rate squeezing Yiddish theatres and belatedly took steps to fund a National Yiddish Theatre.

In passing, Sandrow glosses over the Yiddish theatre scene in Argentina, Britain and Canada.

A lurid element sets Argentina immediately apart from any other country. There, amazingly enough, Jewish white slavers maintained a network of theatres, synagogues and cemeteries. London, in the 1880s, attracted some of the finest Yiddish thespians.

As I have already noted, Montreal is given short shrift, while Toronto is not even mentioned. It would be good and proper if Sandrow remedies these glaring omissions in the next edition of *Vagabond Stars*.

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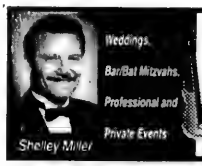

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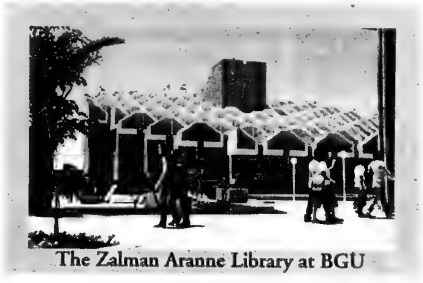

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Rabbinic Reflections

We must learn how to perfect one's midot

By RABBI ELIE KARFUNKEL

Being the rabbi in Oshawa, I am given the opportunity to reach out to the community on many different levels. Although I enjoy all aspects of my responsibilities, the true highlight of my week is being a part of the teaching staff at the Hebrew school.

Each year in the school, I try to emphasize an area where I hope to achieve the most development from the students. This year, the emphasis is on how the class acts during their recess time. After all, what's the point of having them sit in the classroom learning about Jewish traditions if 10 minutes later a classmate gets berated for not throwing a ball through a hoop. The hope is that the attitudes learned on the court will be carried over to every aspect of the students' lives.

The first Rashi in the Torah asks the following question: If the Torah is principally a book of mitzvot, then why doesn't it begin with Shemot (Exodus), where the first mitzvah given to Israel is mentioned? Rashi answers that if the nations of the world should say that the land of Israel does not belong to the Jewish people, we can respond that HaShem is the creator of the world and He has granted the land to us. Bereshit, therefore, is the proof of our right to the land.

Land granted to us

The Slonomer Rebbe points out that this explanation is correct, but it leads to a further question. It is quite understandable that Bereshit is mentioned first to support a claim to the land. However, why doesn't the Torah then continue with the first mitzvah that Israel was commanded to perform? Before this mitzvah is even mentioned, the lives of our forefathers are outlined in the rest of Bereshit. Why is this necessary?

The Slonomer Rebbe answers that the Torah mentions these episodes for a very fundamental reason. Before one can even think about performing the mitzvot, one must learn how to perfect one's midot (character traits). This we can learn from our great patriarchs and matriarchs. Only once we have studied the lives of our role models and internalized their messages, can we truly keep the mitzvot. The lesson of the entire book of Bereshit is that becoming a mentsch is a prerequisite to the fulfilment of the mitzvot.

Many times teachers meet parents who inquire about their children. They ask about their child's behavior in the classroom. Are they neat and orderly, respectful to the teacher and other students, and conscientious in their schoolwork? While all these questions are important, they are still secondary to what must be our ultimate concern. When our children are out of the classroom, when there is little or no adult supervision, how do they act toward their peers? Are they really learning the lesson in Bereshit?

Rabbi Karfunkel is the spiritual leader of Beth Zion Congregation in Oshawa.

The Jewish Highway

Welcoming a baby girl

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Mazel Tov. It's a girl.

Last week, we looked at some of the online resources for a brit milah.

The birth of a girl or a boy are both wonderful simchot, which are marked by different religious observances. A boy will have a brit milah, perhaps preceded by the shalom zachar (welcome to the baby boy), a party held on the first Friday evening after the birth **[http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/childrens/zachor/index.htm]**.

But what about the girls? Traditionally, the baby girl is named on the next day that the Torah is read. The father is called to the Torah, and special prayers and blessings are recited on behalf of the mother and the newborn baby. At that point, the baby's name is formally announced **[http://www.emoil.com/girl.htm]**. An essay at Circumcision.net suggests that there isn't a corresponding ceremony to the brit milah for girls, because "the female gives expression to this spiritual covenant through a lifetime commitment to the Torah laws governing family purity...Moreover, all privileges connected to this covenant accrue to the girl from the moment she is born" **[http://www.circumcision.net/FAQ.htm]**.

However, in recent years, many parents have felt a need to hold more elaborate ceremonies welcoming their Jewish daughters into the world.

Today, a look at some of the ceremonies on the Jewish Highway.

These baby-naming ceremonies may be called brit bat, brit banot Yisrael, simchat bat or seder zeved habat, the Sephardi naming ritual for girls.

For a very good overview of their evolution, take a look at B'nai Brith's Jewish Monthly Online's Thank Heaven for Little Girls: Finally, a Wholehearted Welcome for Half the Jewish People **[http://bnaibrith.org/ijm/articles/thnkhvn/index.html]**. The article suggests that " there are no prohibitions to prevent religiously observant parents from honoring the birth of a girl baby. Thus, this fledgling ceremony has taken its first tentative steps into Jewish households across the religious spectrum... Some read a loving note to their newborn or give her a gift of a kiddush cup or Shabbat candlesticks.

"David and Leslie Mirchin of Cambridge, Mass. taught those assembled at their simchat bat the Hebrew song *El HaMaayan* – to the fountain of water – in honor of their own new fountain of joy, Maayan Levy Mirchin."

Greg and Carolyn Priest-Dorman of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., wanted to create their own ceremony for the birth of Leora Rose **[http://www.cs.vassar.edu/~priestdo/ZevedHaBat.html]**. But instead of creating a brand new ceremony, they decided to adapt the Sephardi seder zeved habat (gift of a daughter), which "expressed the sense of joy and wonder we felt at being parents of a girl-child." They timed their ceremony to coincide with the Birkat HaLevanah, the blessing preceding the appearance of the New Moon, which they "felt achieved the perfect balance of traditional Jewish ritual with the almost universal human equation of women and the cycles of the moon."

Tova Gabrielle Wilensky was born at 12:51 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 1998, on Israel's 50th birthday. A month later, her family celebrated Tova's arrival **[http://www.clarityconnect.com/webpages/wilensky/naming.htm]**. The ceremony concluded with the hopes that all Jewish parents could echo:

"We dedicate our child to Torah, to a never-ending fascination with study and learning. With a book, she will never be alone. We dedicate our child to chupah, to never-ending growth as a human being capable of giving and receiving love. With a loving friend, she will never be alone. We dedicate our child to ma'asim tovim, to a never-ending concern for family and community, justice and charity. If she cares for others, she will never be alone."

Next week, Jewish traditions on what to name the baby.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Guest Voices

An upside down Simchat Torah

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

It took a rabbinic conference to turn my world upside down.

At a Leadership Education and Development conference last year, I got this upside down idea. I was speaking with my friend Yaakov Schwartz, rabbi of the Young Israel of Oceanside, N.Y. , who told me about a Simchat Torah program he had organized there.

On the evening of Simchat Torah, all the synagogues in the area, Reform, Conservative and Orthodox, join together in the streets for the final hakafah. Rabbi Schwartz spoke with enormous enthusiasm about this, and encouraged me to try doing it in Montreal. I was inspired by his vision of all Jews celebrating the Torah together, but wondered if it would work in Montreal.

After I returned home, I mentioned the idea to several colleagues, and Rabbi Lionel Moses and Rabbi Ron Aigen both embraced the idea enthusiastically.

Several planning meetings were held, and eventually, the Simchat Torah event included seven area synagogues: Adath Israel, Chevra Kadisha, Dorshei Emet, Or Hahayim, Shaare Zion, Spanish and Portuguese and Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem. The synagogues would march with a police escort, meeting each other along the way, proceeding to Baily Road, where, at 9 p.m., the outdoor hakafah would take place. Technical details such as time, marching routes, outdoor lighting and refreshments were attended to; we could only pray that the weather would be clear.

The biggest question was attendance. Did we really believe people would come? What if only a small group came? The fear was that if the event was poorly attended, it would be perceived as a failure, as a sign that no one cares about ahavat Yisrael (love of our fellow Jews). We finally decided that symbolism counted more than size; even if only a few people showed up, it would still make a strong statement about Jewish unity, about the fact that am Yisrael echad.

The night arrived, and we were blessed with exceptional weather. When my synagogue left the building to join the other groups, we were met by an enormous crowd. Beyond our wildest expectations, nearly 2,000 people came to dance, sing and celebrate Simchat Torah.

There was a feeling of excitement in the crowd. The possibility that somehow, am Yisrael echad, that Jews of all different types could unite was overwhelming, and many had tears in their eyes. Men and women danced separately out of respect for Halachah; Sephardim and Ashkenazim, Chassidim and Mitnagdim, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Orthodox danced together out of their love for klal Yisrael.

Afterwards, I reflected on this event; was there a fundamental change in the Jewish world? Will there be greater ahavat Yisrael because of this event? To be honest, the cynic inside me tells me that it was a temporary phenomenon, something that will last for only one night. How much of an impact can one night make?

However, even if this event did not change the world, it made a big difference in my life. There is a passage in the Talmud (Pesachim 50a) about Rabbi Yoseph who had a near death experience, and went to heaven. When he was revived, his father asked him what he saw in heaven. He answered, "Olam haphuch raiti" (I saw an upside down world). In heaven, Rabbi Yoseph saw that those who had prestige were often of lowly stature on earth, while those respected on earth often had little stature in heaven. These words "olam haphuch raiti" describe what I saw on Simchat Torah. The rest of the year, there are unbridgeable differences between the different factions of the Jewish people. We identify ourselves as Jews with hyphens: Orthodox-Jew, Reform-Jew, Conservative-Jew. However, on Simchat Torah "olam haphuch raiti," I caught a glimpse of an upside down world quite different from this earthly reality. I saw a heavenly world in which differences between Jews are forgotten and identifying hyphens are lost, a world in which we are all simply Jewish brothers and sisters.

Our Simchat Torah program did not solve the problems of Jewish disunity. However, 2,000 lucky people were able to peek at an upside down world and see what it must be like in heaven.

Rabbi Steinmetz is the spiritual leader of Congregation Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem in Montreal.

Jews around the world

***Jews In Places You Never Thought Of*, edited by Karen Primack (KTAV, $29.50).**

Books
Bernard Baskin

In this astonishing book, 45 exceptional Jews – doctors, social workers, anthropologists, rabbis, historians, lawyers – write about their firsthand experiences with little-known Jewish communities around the world. I never heard of most of them: the Telugu, Bnei Menashe and Shinlung of India; the Portuguese conversos of Belmonte and Braganza; the Afro-Portuguese and Moroccan Jews of Cape Verde off the west coast of Africa; the Balemba of South Africa; the Abayudaya Jews of Uganda; the Inca Indians of Peru; and the converso communities of Brazil and Mexico.

Most of these groups – small, poor and remote – have uncertain Jewish roots. Like the Beta Israel of Ethiopia whose Jewish origins were debated for decades before they were officially declared Jewish, these disparate communities have a difficult time in winning acceptance.

Few of them can trace their maternal line conclusively back to unquestioned Jews in the 1490s. Actually, how many of us could do that? Perhaps we should not be so strict with people who have an oral tradition that says they are of Jewish descent and who are even willing to die for their faith.

A liberal rabbi in Brazil offered a creative solution. "When a descendant of Marranos presented himself and asked to be considered a Jew, the rabbi devised a "reunification" ceremony rather than insisting upon a normal conversion." The individual was able to keep his pride, respect his family traditions and also undergo a ceremony acceptable under Halachah.

The Jews of San Nicandro of Southeastern Italy discovered Judaism through the reading of the Hebrew scriptures. Eventually they were converted and formally integrated into Italian Jewry. In 1949, in a joyous departure, 60 left for Israel.

One of the authors writes, "I am struck by the beauty – dare I say, miracle? – of a people who have been separated from mainstream Jewry for 2,000 years but have clung to a remnant of their faith, and now want to return to the Jewish people. I feel that long-lost brothers and sisters want to return home, but that they cannot do it by themselves. How can I not help them? How can I not embrace them?"

Where did these Jews come from? What is their origin? The greater part of the Jewish people was "lost" in the eighth century BCE, when the 10 northern Israelite tribes were conquered by Assyria, who intermingled them with the diverse populations under their control. Today it is probably their descendants who are found in India, Burma, Afghanistan, Pakistan and China.

Another large group of Jews were "lost" during the expulsion from Spain and Portugal in the 15th and 16th centuries. Many of them continued to practise Judaism in secret. Some of their descendants can be found today in Brazil, Mexico and even in the southwestern United States.

This book is published through the efforts of Kulanu (all of us), an organization created to find and assist lost and displaced Jews. It provides for them a measure of financial assistance, instruction in Judaism and the setting up of places of worship. In some cases they are helped to find a home in Israel.

Those interested in learning more about this unique organization and its program may write to, Kuleno, 11603 Gilsan Street, Silver Springs, MD, 20902-3122. There are always new opportunities to perform a mitzvah – and change lives.

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Reading Hebrew focus of program

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In November, Jews throughout North America will participate in the first continent-wide program aimed at teaching reading the Hebrew language.

Read Hebrew America/Read Hebrew Canada is sponsored by the National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP), based in New York.

During the month, times and locations will be staggered throughout the different locations wherever possible, so that the greatest number of people can take part.

A media release explains that at each location, a "qualified instructor will deliver a Hebrew reading course which will focus on teaching the Hebrew alphabet and basic reading skills to Jews with little or no background in Hebrew."

In Toronto, classes will be held at Beth Jacob on Tuesdays at 8 p.m., starting Nov. 3; at Bnai Torah on Mondays at 8 p.m., starting Nov. 9; at Kehillat Shaarei Torah on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. starting Nov. 8; and at Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, 31101 Bathurst St., Suite 401, on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. starting Nov. 4.

Aish Hatorah, which began the program Oct. 18, holds classes Mondays at 9 p.m.

The program will also take place at Ruth Academy, Shaare Zion Congregation, Congregation Beth Orah, and Congregation Beth Tikvah in the Montreal area; Beth Israel and Shaarey Zedek synagogues in Winnipeg; Beth Zion in Oshawa; Shaarei-Beth El Congregation in Oakville; and Temple Anshe Sholom in Hamilton.

Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald, founder and director of NJOP, said that "without the ability to read Hebrew, many Jews feel alienated from religious services and shy away from involvement in Jewish ritualistic observances and traditions."

Another benefit, he said, is that knowing Hebrew "will enable participants to better enjoy any future visits to Israel."

There is no charge for the program.

For more information, contact the participating organizations, or NJOP, at 1-800-44-HEBREW.

Yiddish classes study shtetl life in Europe

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Life in the shtetls of Eastern Europe is part of the history being taught to 75 children attending Yiddish classes.

The classes, held every Sunday morning at Associated Hebrew Schools, 6100 Leslie Avenue, are for children ranging from kindergarten to Grade 8.

"We're anxious that the children get some Jewish history because in some cases it may be the only Jewish education they are getting," said Naomi Miller-Tureck, coordinator, UJA Federation/Committee for Yiddish.

Those attending the classes are children from both public schools, and day schools sponsored by the Jewish Board of Education. Included are a few immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

The classes are funded by the Toronto District School Board and the York Board of Education, as part of the Heritage language program, and by UJA Federation.

"We're always ready to welcome new students," said Miller-Tureck. The classes started Sept. 13 and continue to the end of May. Any one interested can call the Yiddish hot line at 635-2883, ext. 150.

The teaching staff includes Brenda Ladowski (kindergarten), Ruth Gerlock (grades 1-3),and Debra Dunn (Grade 8).

Students from the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto act as teaching assistants.

Volunteers Needed

Training sessions for new volunteers for ASTEH– Alternative Short term Emergency Housing for Abused Jewish Women and their Children, co-sponsored by Jewish Women International and Jewish Family & Child Service, take place in the near future. For application and interview, 630-9313.

***

Chaplaincy Services of Jewish Family and Child Service is looking for volunteers to provide personal contact, friendship, and a link with the Jewish community, in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons. For information, Toby Maskowitz, coordinator, Chaplaincy Services 638-7800, ext. 287.

***

Reena volunteer opportunities: Pal-unteers to work one-on-one with individuals with a developmental disability; Home Buddies to visit and assist in Reena's group homes; the Battle Family Developmental Centre to help with life skills training and program activities; Dial-a-ride to drive people to programs, doctor appointments, social events; administrative volunteers to assist in the office. Contact Arlene Margolese, manager of Volunteer Services 905-889-6484.

***

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is looking for warm friendly people willing to share one or two hours a week with elderly citizens who have trouble getting about. Have a chat, share some laughs, listen to memories. If you speak Yiddish, Russian, Polish or Hebrew, you would be especially welcome. Call Volunteer Coordinator 225-2112, ext. 134.

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Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	4:55 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	4:55 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	5:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:55 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:40 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 & 8:00 AM	4:55 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	5:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	5:00 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

Community Matters

Family Education Joins Generations

By Adi Neuberger

Jewish family education is being given a big boost this year, thanks to a $100,000 grant from the Saul M. Wagman Endowment Fund. Strengthening Jewish identity, through family education initiatives, coordinated by UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education, is a key component of the current community Campaign for Fifty.

UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education is designating $50,000 from the Wagman Fund for programs at nine supplementary schools. Four additional schools are expected to become grant recipients within the next month. More than 6,000 Jewish children attend supplementary schools across the city.

Educators like Dr. Ira Schweitzer of Temple Sinai, who runs ongoing family education initiatives for more than 110 families on what he calls a "shoestring budget," are pleased about being given much needed resources.

"The simple truth is that a large majority of the schools would not be able to develop and sustain what has become a very popular kind of participatory Jewish family education experience without UJA Federation's support," says Schweitzer.

Karen Goodis, Principal of Shaar Shalom Religious School, says the synagogue's bar and bat mitzvah program, which included 250 participants last year, provides an "invaluable opportunity for parents and children to study and learn Judaism together and open up a Jewish dialogue within families at critical life cycle moments."

The Downtown Toronto Jewish Community School, thanks to UJA Federation support, has hired part-time family educator Heidi Larman to conduct creative, grassroots programs for more than 225 families living in the city's downtown core. "Family education is particularly important for the hundreds of unaffiliated Jews in our community," notes Larman. "People come up with so many great ideas and now we can put them into action."

"Our goal is to get as many schools as possible to become active family educators," says Anne Glickman, the BJE's family education consultant.

"UJA Federation earmarked this money for family education because successful programs can empower both parents and children to develop stronger, more meaningful Jewish identities," says BJE Executive Director Rabbi Dr. Jeremiah Unterman. "This is an extremely important development because no matter how good the school is, if Jewish values and customs are not reinforced in the home, the child is at risk."

"This is critically important for the community's future," stresses Eileen Silver, Chair of the BJE's new Family Education Committee. "The goal is to transform homes into vibrant Jewish centres of practice and learning where Jewish identity can be nourished and protected."

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, also on the committee, says "these grants also indicate that UJA Federation recognizes the significance of synagogues as gateways to Jewish life for many families."

Societies Support March of the Living

The new March of the Living Endowment Fund, sponsored by the UJA Federation Societies Division is off and running.

A $25,000 contribution by the Ostrovtzer Independent Mutual Benefit Society brings the Endowment total to over $40,000. The Fund will be used to augment UJA Federation scholarships for March of the Living participants.

Ostrovtzer President Albert Speisman says more than 200 members decided to donate such a large sum of funds because "it's the best way to give kids a reason to stay Jewish."

Many of UJA Federation's 6,000 Society supporters, like Fanny Pillersdorf, a chaperone on the 1998 March of the Living, are Holocaust survivors. "It's only natural for us to want to do whatever we can to make sure the younger generation doesn't forget what we went through," explains Pillersdorf, who lost her entire family during the War.

The 1998 March of the Living to Poland and Israel attracted a record 400 Canadian high school students. Program Chair Barbara Bank says the Endowment Fund will make sure every Toronto teen who wants to go on the mission to concentration camp sites will be afforded the opportunity for many years to come.

"This money will allow us to maintain our policy of not turning anyone away because of financial need," says Bank. "The Societies have placed their trust in these kids."

Ostrovtzer members (l-r) Milton Cohen, Albert Speisman and Harvey Silver present a cheque for $25,000 to the Societies March of the Living Endowment Fund.

JEWISH toronto

Close to 100 members of UJA Federation's Young Professionals Network (YPN) and Young Business Network (YBN) heard the latest investment news from Peter Drake, Deputy Chief Economist, TD Bank and Jonathan Goodman, Vice-President, Goodman and Company, at a recent panel discussion at the North York City Centre. The event was sponsored in part by Goodman & Goodman, Deloitte Touche and Cott Corporation. Pictured above (l-r) Sabrina Kerbel, Co-Chair, YBN, Peter Drake, Jonathan Goodman, Dr. Betty Gerstein, Co-Chair, YPN, Sarit Goldman, Co-Chair, YPN. (**missing**- Leanne Spier, Co-Chair, YBN.)

Holocaust Education Week Changes

Nov. 1, 11:00 a.m., St. Andrew United Church. **Rabbi Irvin Beigel** will replace **Rabbi Martin Berman** as speaker.
Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m. The program co-sponsored by Beth Tzedec Congregation and Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church will be held at Beth Tzedec, 1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto.
Oct. 28-Nov. 8. The play "REPLIKA" is being performed by The Survivor Project at St. Vladimir's Institute Theatre, 620 Spadina Avenue.
Cancelled - Nov. 3, 2:00 p.m. Personal testimony from Elizabeth De Jong, Richmond Hill Public Library.

For a detailed brochure of Holocaust Education Week, Oct. 29 - Nov. 9, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 301.

Air Canada Centre Preview

The UJA Federation Construction Cabinet invites you to a special tour of the **Air Canada Centre, Nov. 5**, with presentations by **Larry Tanenbaum**, Co-Chair, UJA Federation Campaign for Fifty and part owner, Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment Ltd., company President and CEO **Richard Peddie**, and Vice President/Project Director **Tom Anselmi**. Space is limited - tickets are $20. Call (416) 635-2883 ext.177.

Rescue Report

Members of UJA Federation's Lawyers and Investment Banking Divisions are invited to a breakfast meeting with guest speaker **Udi Ben Uri, Commander of the Israeli Defence Forces National Rescue Unit, Oct. 2** at 8:00 a.m., 200 King Street West. To RSVP, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 190. Ben Uri recently participated in the Kenyan rescue effort following the embassy bomb blast.

It's on the Web!

For complete information on the latest news about ***Jewish Toronto***, its organizations, activities and special events take a tour of our Website.

www.feduja.org

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Benevolent Association marks 90th anniversary

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — The Toronto Independent Benevolent Association (TIBA) is celebrating its 90th anniversary on Nov. 1 with a banquet at Beth Radom Congregation.

The association, which now has about 250 members, many of whom are second and third generation, was started in order to provide comfort and support to its members in time of financial need or sickness, and to give members the opportunity to socialize in a Jewish environment.

Neil Cohen, president of the association, whose grandfather joined TIBA in the '20s and whose father joined in the '50s, says it is called an independent association because members were not required to have been born in a specific city, as was the case with most such groups.

His grandfather joined TIBA, says Cohen, because he was a diabetic and no other association would take him in. "Societies used to sponsor doctors, and the doctor would get paid from the dues. Many societies therefore, did not want someone who might rack up a lot of doctor's bills."

Up until about five years ago, the association still had its *aktsia*, a fund set up by, and contributed to, by members. "Anyone who needed money could borrow from the fund and arrange to pay it back weekly."

In 1932, TIBA was one of the first societies in Toronto to open a soup kitchen. "Today, we are trying to continue that tradition of caring. We do have a cemetery plot, but we are trying to make TIBA more than a burial society. We have two men and one woman who visit sick members, and we are always available, if necessary, to help make up a minyan. We still look out for each other as best as we can."

The association has more members than ever, says Cohen, "but the average age of members is creeping close to 60, and we are always looking for new members. We are looking to increase our family."

The TIBA executive meets about once a month, general membership meetings are held about six times a year, and social programs such as trips to Casino Rama are held throughout the year.

"We have women members, but voting members are men," he says.

The banquet is the association's first large celebration since its 75th anniversary banquet, and about 150 members are expected. Part of the proceeds from the banquet will go towards a donation to Shaare Zedek Medical Centre.

For information, call Cohen at 663-1161.

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Oriole Kosher	7351 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray, FLA
Boys Farmer Market	14378 Military Trail, Delray, FLA
Synon Kosher	1725 E. Hallandale Blvd., Hallandale, FLA
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Non-Jewish children celebrate Sukkot

TORONTO — Children from the Shalom Food Project (SFP) breakfast club, none of whom are Jewish, recently celebrated Sukkot at the Winchevsky Centre's Camp Naivelt in Brampton.

The children, who live at the Supportive Housing Coalition in Toronto, were guests of the Morris Winchevsky School.

"For children who are accustomed to the pace of city life, a day in the country is a marvelous alternative," said SFP president Miriam Kalushner.

"To invite the kids to help celebrate Sukkot is a delightful and meaningful way to build bridges between communities," added Maxine Hermolin, the Winchevsky Centre's executive director.

The children from SFP worked together with the Winchevsky students to build and decorate a sukkah.

Both groups of children performed a play about the holiday, followed by a session of traditional dancing and Yiddish songs. A group of shul children explained the symbols of Sukkot.

The group also visited a nearby pick-your-own apple orchard.

"The rewards the children reap from this kind of experience are immeasurable," said Kalushner.

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Understanding motherhood

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Harriet Lerner

TORONTO — She may have written the book on motherhood, but psychologist Harriet Lerner has not been immune to making mistakes with her two sons. Nor is she immune to talking about them.

If a perfect mother existed, Lerner said in a recent lecture sponsored by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, "you would not want to attend any lecture she would give. In fact, you wouldn't even want to be friends with such a person."

A capacity crowd of almost 1,300 filled the sanctuary and balcony at Adath Israel Congregation, confirming Lerner's assertion that mothers "hunger to hear the truth...about the good, the bad and the unspeakable."

Mothers can influence, but not control, their children's behavior, she said. Nor can mothers control the type of kids they get, she added.

Complaints teenage daughters have about their mothers generally fall into seven or eight categories, she discovered when talking to teens across the United States. Among them, their mothers

- are too busy for them, or the opposite – too focused on them;
- are too strict and rigid, or too much like a friend;
- don't tell them enough or tell them too much;
- lie to them or tell them more truth than they would ever want to hear;
- don't expect enough, or offer love that is too conditional;
- don't support the daughter's relationship with the father.

"An extreme response in either direction is not helpful," said Lerner.

"The mistake these girls make is that they assume when they become mothers, they're going to get it right...just wait."

One "great gift" a mother can give a daughter is to live her own life as well as possible – to put her "worry energy" into herself, said Lerner.

The 53-year-old Kansas-based psychotherapist is often asked by mothers how they can help their daughters become more assertive. "More important than what we tell them," she said, "is what we show them. When our words say one thing and our actions say another, actions speak louder."

She advised the audience to avoid perfectionism, to avoid any expert or book that makes them feel guilty, and to disbelieve any expert who predicts their daughters' future. When Lerner was 12, she said, her mother was told that she would never be college material.

As author of seven books, most recently *The Mother Dance*, as a staff psychologist and psychotherapist at Topeka's Menninger Clinic and as a monthly women's magazine columnist, she's disproved that prediction. Yet as a mother, "when I become anxious enough or intense enough, I have the brain of a reptile."

Adult women must learn that they can't change their mothers, Lerner stressed. It's also important for women to get to know their mothers, by using "creative" questions, and moving slowly. If the mother is no longer alive, it can be helpful to get to know more about her from relatives or friends, she said.

"If we don't really know our mothers, we don't really know ourselves. And if you're just focused on what's wrong with your mother and can't recognize her competence, you can't value and love yourself in the same way, which makes it then hard to love anybody else."

Daughters who have to be as unlike their mothers as possible "are no more independent than if they had to be exactly the same," said Lerner.

She defined independence as "staying connected to family members and being ourselves. It means we can take clear positions about things that matter to us, without having to change [our mother] so she sees things our way. It sounds very simple but it's very hard."

Lerner's address was the launch event of Women: An Agenda for Change, a program of the Toronto chapter of Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Proceeds will support the university's Lafer Centre for Women's Studies. The centre's president, Galia Golan, spoke briefly on women's issues in Israel. Stevie Cameron, editor-in-chief of *Elm Street* magazine, introduced and thanked Lerner.

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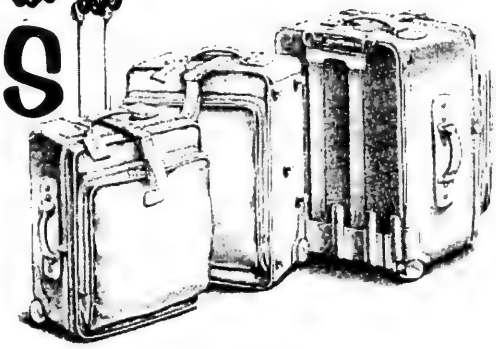

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Syria missed 'golden' chances for peace: envoy

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Syria missed golden opportunities to make peace with Israel in 1993 and again in 1995, according to Israel's former chief negotiator with the Syrians.

Had Syria's president, Hafez al-Assad, been more incisive and imaginative, Israel and Syria could have signed a peace agreement, said Itamar Rabinovich, a scholar who led Israel's negotiating team from 1992 to 1996, during Yitzhak Rabin's tenure as prime minister.

Although the talks failed to bring peace, Israel and Syria made "very significant" progress toward concluding a settlement, claimed Rabinovich, who holds the Yona and Dina Ettinger chair in contemporary Middle East history at Tel Aviv University. Recently, Rabinovich published a book about the talks, entitled *The Brink of Peace: The Israeli-Syrian Negotiations*.

In fact, the "rough outlines" of a deal were already hammered into place before Israel suspended the talks in the winter of 1996, following a series of devastating Palestinian suicide bombings in Israeli cities which Syria failed to condemn.

"I didn't invest 3½ years in vain," he observed, delivering the first Heather Reisman and Gerald Schwartz lecture at the University of Toronto.

Itamar Rabinovich

Rabinovich, who was Israel's ambassador to the United States during this period, expressed confidence that the negotiations will "resume at some point in the future and won't have to begin from scratch." He did not elaborate.

Due to serious procedural differences between the two sides, the talks remain frozen. The current Israeli government wants to reboot them without preconditions. Syria believes they should be restarted at the place they broke off, a position Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejects.

Reports suggest that both Rabin and his successor, Shimon Peres, were prepared to withdraw from the Golan Heights, captured from Syria during the Six Day War, in exchange for a fullblown peace treaty.

In August 1993, Rabin, through the good offices of U.S. secretary of state Warren Christopher, offered Assad a "hypothetical" proposal under which Syria would regain the Golan within the framework of such an agreement.

Assad, however, was only willing to to make peace with Israel under conditions Rabin considered unacceptable, Rabinovich disclosed.

As a result of Assad's response, Rabin resolved to concentrate on the Palestinian track, which culminated with the September 1993 Declaration of Principles.

In November 1995, after Rabin's assassination, Israel and Syria had another peacemaking opportunity, Rabinovich said.

On the day of Rabin's funeral in Jerusalem, U.S. President Bill Clinton asked Peres whether he intended to continue his predecessor's policy with respect to Syria.

Peres was keen to do so because he thought that Syria held the key to a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace accord.

But before he would commit himself to any particular course, Peres sought a face-to-face meeting with Assad to assure himself, and the Israeli public, that he had a genuine partner in Assad.

The Syrian president refused to engage in public diplomacy, claiming that such a meeting should occur after the signing of an agreement.

Later, Assad "melted a little," permitting his foreign minister, Faruk al-Shara, to grant Israeli television an interview. "But it was a terrible failure" because Shara displayed anger and hostility instead of conciliation.

Assad, too, declined to partake in secret diplomacy, wishing to preserve his Arab nationalist credentials. "This element was also missing in the negotiations," Rabinovich noted.

And, he added, Assad rejected Rabin's idea of a referendum to endorse any peace pact.

Rabinovich, who was recently appointed president-designate of Tel Aviv University, compared Assad to his counterpart in Egypt, the late Anwar Sadat, who signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

In drawing this comparison, he listed a number of reasons why Assad did not seize the opportunities presented to him.

Assad, a member of the Alawite minority, does not rule Syria with the same authority as Sadat did in Egypt. And unlike Sadat, he is not a leader of great vision or boldness.

Furthermore, the Golan is much smaller than the Sinai Peninsula, leaving less room for manoeuverability.

Nevertheless, Rabinovich said, Assad was definitely interested in peace, but only on his own terms.

During a question-and-answer session, Rabinovich veered away from his measured approach by flatly predicting a war between Israel and Syria unless they reach a deal over the Golan. He left this thesis unexplained.

The event, which took place at U of T's George Ignatieff Theatre, was sponsored by Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University.

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For program information and location of all events, phone (416)-598-4242 or (416)-635-2883 ext. 301

27 Churches in the Greater Toronto Area are participating in this year's Holocaust Education Week with a variety of programs, speakers, films, panel discussions, etc.

November 4, 1998, 7:30 p.m.

"The Papal Document on the Holocaust - We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah"
Lecture by Father Thomas M. Rosica, C.S.B. Executive Director of the Newman Centre at the University of Toronto and Advisor to the Israeli Government on Catholic Matters.

All programs are part of The 18th Annual Holocaust Education Week October 29 - November 9.

Coordinated by the Holocaust Education Week Committee, Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre of Toronto, UJA Federation.

Attention - Correction of Location:
at Beth Tzedec Congregation
1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto

This program is co-sponsored by Beth Tzedec Congregation and Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sun, Nov. 1 at 7:30 pm.** Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook. Ages 21-39, 40-69. **New:** Separate rooms for each group! ***BRIDGE, Trivial Pursuit, Rummicube, Scrabble, etc. Early Bird Bingo,** 7:30-8pm. Prizes, refreshments, $5.00. **86 couples have already met! Free introductions**. Mollie, 416-733-3634.

A Night of Jewish Music & Nosh for singles, featuring popular Jewish folk singer Mickey Lewin, Sat., Nov. 7, 1998 at Earle Bales Community Centre, 7:30pm. $10. For more info call 905-881-0376.

Co-ed Volleyball. Metro Toronto Sports presents its 6th annual co-ed volleyball season. **Recreational, intermediate & competitive** divisions. Next registration, Sunday, Nov. 1, 6-8 pm at Tickled Toad, 330 Steeles Ave. W. **Call 416-222-7111**

Darren, Mark & Ari Present... Nightmare on Front St. Halloween Bash. Sat., Oct., 31, 9pm-3am @ Joe Badali's, 156 Front St. West. (Plenty of parking). $8-adv., $12-door. TicketMaster 870-8000, Dana Ryckman Ticket Agent: 271-3854 or DM & A Hotline: 713-0024.

Halloween Singles Dance. Sun., Nov. 1, 8pm at Latin Fever Night Club (beautiful banquet hall), 2220 Hwy. 7 at Keele St. Friendly atmosphere, cash bar, modern music. $10. Ladies free till 9pm. Use Keele St. entrance. Don't miss this night.! **905-764-3256**

Hike The Gorge: Explore the Elora Gorge - Ontario's most picturesque river chasm, Sun., Nov. 1. Special: 2 for 1. **The Adventure Network - Doing it Outside - 905-707-0147.**

House Party. 20 men, 20 women, over 40. Saturday, Nov. 7 at 8pm. 905-731-5480 or 416-492-1532.

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Jewish seniors lose resort facility

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The summer holiday plans of 100 to 150 Jewish seniors will be affected by the sale of the Jewish Camp Council's 223-acre Maple Lake resort near Parry Sound to the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ).

Possible alternative plans for a holiday program for the seniors include a period at the end of the summer of 1999 after the children at the summer camp have gone, said Ellen Nash, head of the Jewish Camp Council.

Other sites are also being considered for the subsidized seniors' holidays, said Nash. One of these is the Northwinds camp at Haliburton.

Maple Lake has a main lodge with meeting and conference rooms and several cabins. The CCRJ will continue to offer the use of the site as a retreat when it is not being used as a camp, she said.

Ella Krylov, the camp's social convener for the seniors, said she is opposed to the disruption of the seniors' holiday program known as Good Fellowship Lodge.

"This is more than a matter of money. Many of these seniors are Holocaust survivors, and the holiday they get at Maple Lake charges them up for the year." She said the Camp Council has sponsored senior holidays for 30 years.

Many of the seniors are subsidized, paying $500 instead of $700 for a 12-day holiday, Krylov said.

Demand for holidays at Maple Lake by seniors has decreased in recent years. Instead of eight periods being scheduled, only two periods took place this summer, Nash said.

Sale of the property makes sense since it was being under-utilized and the new owners will make it available most of the year round, she said.

Krylov said it is not known whether the new owners will operate a dining room that meets the standards of kashrut required by the seniors.

Furthermore, offering the seniors a holiday after the Reform camp closes is not a viable option in her opinion, as the water will be too cold.

Maple Lake will open in 1999 as a summer camp for children ages eight to 16, according to Gavin Herman, chair of the camp board and a member of the CCRJ executive.

The CCRJ's announcement of the sale indicated that financing of the $2-million to $3-million purchase will come from private donors.

STUDENT RETREAT

Grade 6 students from Bialik Hebrew Day School recently participated in a three day retreat at Maple Lake Lodge and Conference Centre. This annual educational program focuses on environmental studies and Jewish values, particularly the theme of teshuvah.

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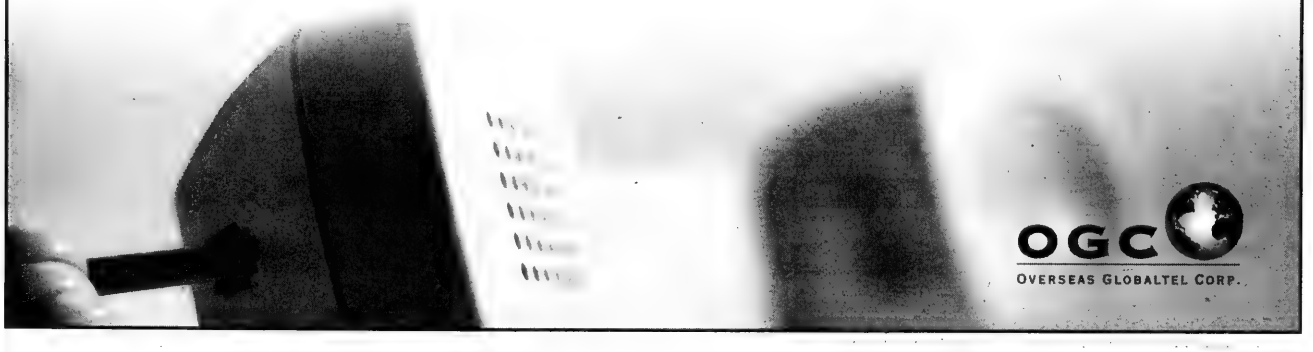

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1948 war vets to be honored

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It was the night of Nov. 29, 1947, and Joe Warner remembers listening to the radio. A bulletin reported that the United Nations had just voted to partition Palestine between Arabs and Jews.

"I knew the Arabs would not accept that, and there would be war," recalls Warner. "And I knew that if the Jews lost that war, it wouldn't be worth being a Jew anywhere."

"I couldn't sleep. I made up my mind to go that night."

The 22-year-old Torontonian became one of about 300 young, idealistic Canadians to elect to fight for the nascent Jewish state.

So did between 3,500 and 5,000 irregulars from the United States, Britain, South Africa, Canada and a handful of other countries who became members of the storied Machal, a Hebrew acronym for Volunteers from Abroad. Many had learned military tactics and fought in World War II. Some were non-Jews, and many were women.

On Nov. 9, Warner and roughly 30 surviving Machalniks in Toronto will join other Canadians who fought in the 1948 War of Independence at a special tribute at the Beth Avraham Joseph of Toronto congregation in Thornhill.

In addition to one-time Machalniks, the evening will pay tribute to those born in Palestine who were conscripted into the new state's army, as well as to the many Holocaust survivors and former partisans from Europe who made it to the Jewish state and signed up.

Slated to attend are surviving passengers of the *Exodus*, the ship whose plight helped launch Israel, as well those who fired on, and were aboard, the *Altalena*, the Irgun arms ship attacked by the rival Haganah.

Organizers say the evening will be the first time Canadian veterans of the '48 war will be honored as a group. In all, about 100 erstwhile fighters who have made Canada their home will be feted for helping Israel survive its first test by fire.

Each will receive a specially struck medal as a token of the Canadian Jewish community's appreciation, and a journal will collect their stories and photographs.

Joe Warner in uniform in 1948 and (inset) today.

Special tribute will be paid to those killed in the war, including 11 Canadian volunteers. A total of 107 Machalniks died or went missing in action.

"I wanted to preserve this period," says event co-chair Joseph Adler. "These [the Holocaust and the creation of Israel] were the two most monumental events in modern Jewish history. If we don't take action, this will disappear from memory."

Adler's father Isser, also an honoree, was a concentration camp survivor who was later interned in Cyprus. Once in Palestine, Isser Adler volunteered for the army. Of the 120 men in his unit, 87 perished in a battle against the Egyptians at the Faluja pocket in the Negev in late 1948.

Warner, now 73 and retired from a pharmaceutical company, had trained as a wireless air gunner in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II. It was late in the war, and he was never sent overseas.

Spurred by the news of partition, he found a local recruiter, was sent to New York, and sailed for Palestine in March, 1948.

There he joined a Machal unit that provided the famed Givati Brigade with anti-tank support. Warner and his 80 fellow Machalniks helped the Israelis fight the Egyptians from July to November 1948. Miraculously, his unit suffered no fatalities.

"We were young and strong," he recalls with a glimmer in his eye. "We would do things an older person wouldn't do."

Warner says Israel didn't officially recognize the Machalniks' contributions until 1968. Earlier this year, Israeli President Ezer Weizman hosted the World Machal Reunion in Jerusalem. And during a Toronto visit last spring, former prime minister Shimon Peres paid tribute to the surviving Canadian volunteers.

Historian Irving Abella will act as MC for the tribute evening. Scheduled to attend is Defence Minister Art Eggleton.

For information, call 633-4801.

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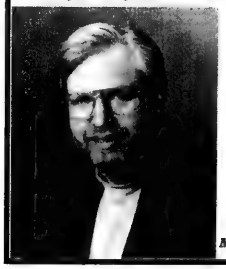
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כמו שהבטחתי חדשות טובות:

בסיעות לארץ אני מחפש בנורות דברים טובים לדווח לכם. ממש אי אפשר לסבול את הקוטריות המתמדת, את התלונות הנוראיות, את הביקורת הקשה. ובעיקר איך אנשים מתנהגים ומדברים אחד אל השני בטלביזיה. ברדיו, ברחוב עושה רושם שכולם אויבים שלך. מלבד קבוצה קטנה של בני משפחה וחברים קרובים. אבל מה... שתעיז להגיד משהוא ביקורתי - ואז כולם יחייכו, בחיוך סלחני ומבין ויסבירו לך שהדברים סה"כ די טובים ובכלל איזל לך זכות להטיל ביקורת כי אתה לא שם כל הזמן. מסקנה - הישראלים די מבסוטים וחיים יותר טוב מרוב אומות העולם. אבל הם - מה זה קוטרים, ומנזימים אוימים. אז הינה משהוא טוב לחמם את הנשמה: העיט הוא ציפור טרף שנמצאת בסכנת הכחדה. כל שנה מטילה אמא עיט שתי ביצים ומהן בוקעים שני עיטים גוזלים. אלא מה - הם נאבקים ביניהם ואחד מהם נזרק מהקן לעבר מותו. כי האמא ממשיכה לטפל רק במי שנשאר בקן. אז מה עושה החברה להגנת הטבע? יש לה סיירת מיוחדת שאוספת את הגוזלים שנזנר גורלם ומביאה אותם למכון מיוחד שמאפשר להם לגדול מוגנים, עד אשר ישחררו אותם לטבע. רעיון מדליק.

שלום שלום ואין שלום:

עד יציאתו לאור של מדור זה יתכן ויניע המו"מ בין עראפת ונתניהו בחסות קלינטון לסיום חיובי או שלילי. בהתחלה סירבה ישראל למסור 13% משטח הגדה. אח"כ הסכימה, בתנאי שעראפת יתחייב לעשות הרבה יותר למניעת פיגועים של החמאס משטחו. עראפת טוען שאין ביכולתו להתחייב לדברים שמעבר לשליטתו. איך שלא מסתכלים על זה ברור שגם אם השלב הבא יסתיים בהסכם, לא סביר שהפיגועים בישראל יפסקו, כי אלה שמחוללים אותם ממילא אינם מעוניינים בשלום ויעשו הכל כדי לסכל את התהליך.

ופה מתחיל ההבדל האמיתי בין נתניהו\שרון לבין רבין\פרס. רבין\פרס האמינו בתמונה הגדולה - שכבר שימשך התהליך למרות כל הפרובוקציות -תהיה לפלשתינאים יותר מוטיבאציה לשקט, כי יהיה להם יותר מה להפסיד. אסכולה זו מאמינה שיש להמשיך במאמצים לשלום למרות (ואולי בגלל) הפיגועים. האסכולה של נתניהו\שרון נוטה יותר לאסטרטגיה של "עד שלא יהיה שקט לא יהיה שלום". אלה אומרים " אין שלום בלי ביטחון", ופרס ורבין אמרו "לא יהיה ביטחון בלי שלום". גישתם של נתניהו\שרון תומכת כמובן באמונתם שחלקים מהגדה צריכים להישאר בישראל. רבים אחרים מאמינים שהגנה על יהודים שגרים בחברון אינה בין האינטרסים של ישראל, ושהכסף הזה - יותר טוב שהיה מושקע בעיירות הפיתוח. ובינתיים כל צד מראה איך הוא צודק ("אמרתי לכם" הידוע). צריך להתפלל שלקלינטון יהיה את הכוח שהיה לו לפני ארבע שנים עם רבין ועראפת. אבל שישאר בינינו.

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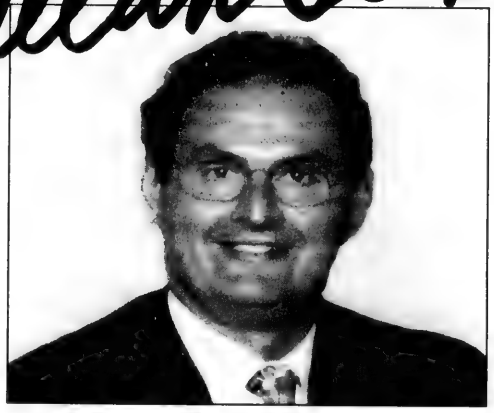

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Greater Toronto Area

Wagar '68 grads reminisce about old times

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The mood of the 30th anniversary reunion of Wagar High School's class of '68 was one of exuberance as former classmates gathered in Toronto to renew old friendships.

The party drew an estimated 150 people. Some travelled from as far away as Texas, Arizona, Florida, Vancouver and Tennessee for an evening of schmoozing and reminiscing.

But unlike most school reunions, which are generally held in a home town venue, the recent party for the Montreal-area high school was held at Hazelton Lanes, an up-scale mall in downtown Toronto.

The reunion garnered a lot of media attention because it was held in Toronto rather than Montreal. The *Gazette*, the *Toronto Star*, and the CBC national news all covered the story, while Montreal radio station CJAD and CFRB, its sister station in Toronto, broadcast live from the party for much of the evening.

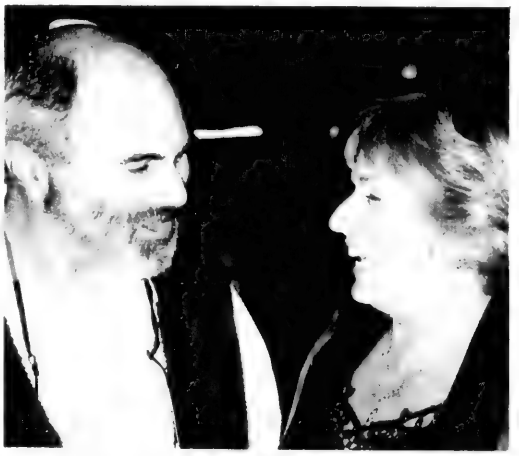
Despite the media fanfare, reunion organizers insist that politics was not a factor in their choice of location. They said that because most of them now live in Toronto, it was the most convenient locale.

The idea for the reunion was hatched in Toronto when six Wagar grads from the class of '68 came together in Toronto as a result of an article about the predominantly Jewish suburb of Cote St. Luc, said Rivka (Gornostansky) Cranley, one of the six women.

Toronto Star columnist Antonia Zerbisias, a fellow Wagar graduate, had chronicled her return to her old neighborhood in August 1996.

Cranley said a few former classmates responded to the emotionally evocative story by contacting Zerbisias; they began getting together on a monthly basis and subsequently decided to organize a reunion.

"Essentially we were a group of ex-Montrealers, nostalgic about the old days and our old Montreal friends. We were determined to make the reunion happen and it was easier for us to do it in Toronto," Cranley said.



Jerome Miller and Jewel Baro Frank laugh about old times at Wagar High School's recent reunion. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Locating the classmates took six months of hard-nosed sleuthing, said Clair (Field) Colodny, another reunion organizer. "I spent hours every night, phoning, e-mailing people, following up on leads."

She said she and fellow alumna Debbie (Skurnik) Giser, a key organizer in Montreal, e-mailed each other daily after midnight for months with leads and information as they hunted down names and addresses.

In the end, Colodny said, they were able to locate 335 of the 401 graduates. Of that number, 160 are in Montreal while close to 70 reside in the Greater Toronto Area. Some are in Ottawa and western Canada, and a large contingent are in the United States.

When asked if the fruits of her labor were worth the effort, Colodny was ecstatic in her response. "It was a fantastic party. I'm sorry it's over."

Cranley echoed her enthusiasm. "You said goodbye to people in June of 1968, said hello in October 1998, and it seemed that no time had passed despite many husbands and children later... We did a mitzvah by having the party. People kept saying, 'Thank you for doing this,' the whole night."

She said Montrealer Larry Miller, another reunion organizer, has already e-mailed her to say that he is planning to host the 40th reunion in Montreal.

Those Wagar graduates nostalgic about the past would be hard-pressed to recognize their alma mater, Bronia Hecht said in a telephone interview. A graduate of the class of '68, Hecht has been teaching art at Wagar for the last six years.

According to Hecht, the school's demographics have changed considerably. When she was a student, 95 percent of Wagar's student population of 2,000 was Jewish, while now there are only 500 students, most of them visible minorities who live outside of Cote St. Luc, she said.

In the '60s Wagar boasted some of the highest academic scores in the provincial matriculation exams, but the school has lost its academic prominence, Hecht noted.

She said she is thrilled that she has re-established friendships with some of her old high school chums in Montreal as a result of the reunion. "It's just wonderful to renew these old friendships again."

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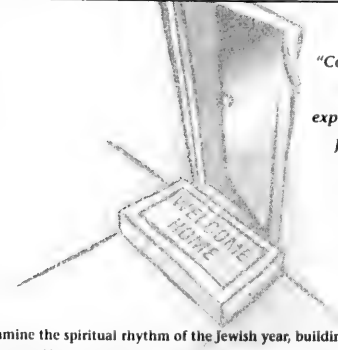

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On Campus

Kol Hastudentim developing its own national dream

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Heath Applebaum founded the Jewish Students Association (JSA) at Wilfrid Laurier University four years ago, he would have loved to have a resource like Kol Hastudentim.

The two-year-old independent, student-run organization, of which Applebaum became president in May, is made up of elected presidents of 14 Jewish campus organizations across Ontario. The presidents, in turn, elect Kol's four-person executive. (Applebaum's predecessor, Jason Young, now serves as the organization's director of finance.)

"We are a provincial, democratically elected student government. The way Canadian Jewish Congress [Ontario region] represents Ontario Jewry is the way we represent student Jewry," said Applebaum, a native of Toronto who attended Leaside High School.

Applebaum is 24 now and temporarily on hiatus from his studies, but not from his involvement with Kol. He recently completed a four-year BA in political science and international relations. In January he will begin studying public relations in a co-op diploma program run jointly by York University and Seneca College.

"There'd be a void in my life if I stopped [my Jewish involvement]," he said in a recent interview. Applebaum's involvement at Laurier was inspired in part by the example of his Orthodox grandfather, Cantor Benjamin Devor, who died in hospital, holding his grandson's hand, just after the latter returned from a summer trip to Israel in 1990.

"I can't help but sense he was passing the torch on to me," said Applebaum. "He made me realize I had an obligation to help the community."

When Applebaum inaugurated the JSA at his Waterloo, Ont. campus, he received practical support from Congress, Ontario region, but had no role models in the form of other Jewish student leaders, he recalled.

Heath Applebaum

"That's really the whole idea of Kol Hastudentim, sharing resources, information and ideas so people aren't starting from square one."

Since its inception, Kol has run leadership seminars, sponsored an annual ski trip/Shabbaton in Mont Tremblant and other province-wide events.

Most of the 14 affiliated campuses will run their own province-wide events this year.

This year Kol is adding to its roster of events. In the works is a February trip to New York, and a province-wide Holocaust candle vigil on Yom Hashoah.

"What we're trying to do is to inspire people to get more involved," said Applebaum. "All the campuses have common problems and concerns."

It wasn't until he represented Laurier's JSA at an early meeting of Kol Hastudentim that Applebaum became aware of "the big picture."

Applebaum would like to expand the network of student leaders nationwide. To that end, he took initial steps by meeting with about half a dozen student leaders from across the country at the Congress plenary held in Winnipeg in May.

At the initiative of some of the student delegates, a resolution was passed that a young Jewish adult (between ages 18 and 35) be appointed to one of four seats on the CJC's national officers' committee. Although the seat has not yet been filled, the passing of the resolution was "a major accomplishment," Applebaum believes.

He hopes that student leaders in other provinces will form their own counterpart organizations to Kol Hastudentim, and that eventually they will join forces to have an annual national student convention.

Meanwhile, he is in touch with about half a dozen Canadian Jewish student leaders via the Internet. "I'm in the process of bridging the gap."

On an international scale, he has been invited to represent Canada at a World Union of Jewish Students congress to be held in Israel in January.

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Time of your life

Zany revue filled with nostalgia and fun

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The recent sold-out performances by the newly formed Seniors' Performing Group was a delightful experience for the audience and for the amateur performers who staged the spirited show.

The group of 26, 60-plus women and one man (he plays the piano), who performed *A Zany Musical Revue*, at Earl Bales Community Centre, sang, hoofed it up, and presented comedy skits which were filled with nostalgia and fun. "The most important aspect of this group is the bond of friendship that has formed," says Shirley Katz, administrative coordinator of the Seniors Performing Group and the MC for the shows.

Katz founded the group with Dorothy (Silverberg) Little, the group's artistic director who wrote and directed the show. Little's husband Louis plays the piano accompaniment for the performers.

Little told *The CJN* that Louis had a stroke six years ago, and although he was left with aphasia – a speech impediment – and minor mobility problems, "the group has given us both such a feeling of fulfilment. We look forward to every rehearsal, and Louis enjoys playing for the group because they are all so enthusiastic."

Little, who worked as a bridal consultant and fashion show coordinator added, "I have never been in such a compatible group. I credit [Katz] who sets the tone. She is concerned, diplomatic and above all, she wants to enjoy."

Katz, recently retired from the Ministry of Culture and Communication where she was an arts officer involved with promoting Ontario's culture, says, "Enthusiasm is the prime requirement for our members."

Dorothy Gertenberg, who is in charge of costumes, is an example of enthusiasm and creativity, says Katz. "She took a piece of curtain and it became a dress, and Carmen Miranda's elaborate headpiece was fashioned from a margarine tub."

Muriel Scanlon, who presented a Gershwin medley, was one of the lead soloists. Miriam Schott and Lillian Friendly added humor to their musical performances.

Versions of Sophie Tucker, Barbra Streisand, Sonny and Cher, Tom Jones and other celebrities – Old Spice Girls, The Golden Yentas among others – demonstrated the spunkiness of the seniors.

Some of the other performers included, Vivian Wright, Ray Kay, Betty Shulman, Edith Abrams, Helen Batcher, Sandy Boxer, Eve Goldberg, Shirley Luxenberg, Kay Rodness, Betty Shulman, Claire Husdan and Lila Lerner.

Many members of the group performed in shows presented by the Well Group – a seniors' community social club at Earl Bales. They formed the independent Seniors Performing Group whose activities also include attending theatre productions, and visiting museums and galleries.

Katz says the group was "overwhelmed" when the 175 seats for each performance were sold out weeks before the show. "It was amazing – within one week from the time the tickets went on sale we were sold out."

Lead soloist, Muriel Scanlon (left) watches as Dorothy Little (right) adjusts the head piece for Shirley Katz at the performance of A Zany Musical Review.

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Time of your life

Chaplains serve seniors

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Lori and Ernest Gershon, trained volunteer chaplains, help administer to the spiritual and cultural well-being of seniors.

Although they are not retired "yet," the couple believe that volunteering has been a step towards that stage of life.

"Volunteerism is the kind of profession that fits very well into the active senior years and brings a great deal of satisfaction, particularly for people who use the professional skills they developed over the years," says Ernest, 64.

Lori and Ernest volunteer at Castleview-Wychwood Towers, a long-term care facility for residents who are disabled, and at Baycrest Terrace, a residence for well elderly at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Chaplain Rev. Lillian Curtis, coordinator of spiritual and religious care for all faiths at Castleview-Wychwood spoke to *The CJN* about the vital Jewish program at Castleview-Wychwood, where there are some 30 to 40 Jewish residents.

"I appreciate the Gershons' work, commitment and expertise which provide a viable Jewish program at Castleview-Wychwood. They head the Shalom group made up of family members of residents and former residents, and volunteers who assist with Sabbath and holiday services, festivities and other religious and cultural needs."

The Shalom Congregation was formed to hold services at the building on Christie Street. The Sabbath and High Holy Day services for all the Jewish residents are frequently led by the Gershons, who also coordinate Shabbat volunteers.

"Ernest and Lori are always there when I need someone to sit with a dying Jewish resident, to comfort family members, to arrange burial and memorial services when needed or to perform any other spiritual need," says Rev. Curtis.

The Gershons moved to Toronto from Chicago 20 years ago "because we fell in love with Toronto," says Lori, who was in desktop publishing, primarily with health care clients.

Ernest, who worked in health care insurance, is presently a partner in CAPCO Health Group Inc. and its subsidiary, Treatment Operations.

The couple became active volunteers when their three sons were teenagers, and often took their children with them to visit residents in nursing homes. They also served as lay leaders for religious services at a small Reform temple in Chicago.

After moving to Toronto, Lori received a master's degree at the University of Toronto in Near Eastern Studies specializing in biblical Hebrew, and attended a summer program of the Board of Jewish Education for religious school teachers.

The Gershons joined Holy Blossom Temple "because we felt it had the best Judaic and Hebrew programs."

Lori led the bar and bat mitzvah programs there and taught Hebrew and prayers at Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning.

They received on-the-job chaplaincy training working with Rev. Curtis and the Jewish Family & Child Service, and they both have the equivalent of a post-graduate degree in chaplaincy.

"We are shnorers for the Shalom Congregation," says Ernest. "If we can get food, entertainment or other items donated for services and holidays and other events, we do."

Ernest says he spends several mornings a week at Baycrest Terrace, where, he notes, the residents have different needs from those at Castleview-Wychwood. The visits to Baycrest provide their own brand of spiritual and emotional healing, he adds.

"It is a well known fact that the period after retirement is a very dangerous one because people stop having something to challenge themselves. Doing nothing is a dangerous step for mental and physical health. Volunteerism can be the answer," Ernest says.

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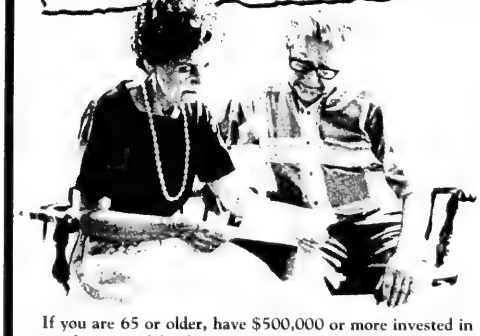

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Time of your life

These comics aren't retiring

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Sam Rosen and Norm Winkler, retirement has turned out to be a barrel of laughs. The longtime friends, who met through their wives, cemented their friendship years ago with the discovery that both men were fans of comedian Jackie Mason.

Last year, the pair started doing their own standup routines, calling themselves the Comedy Guys. Now something that began as a kibitz has become a second career of sorts.

The Comedy Guys' first gig was in front of 155 people at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation last November. They were invited to perform by a friend who'd been a guest at the Winkler sukkah the previous month.

"We were trading jokes," recalled Rosen in an interview, "and he said, 'I need a good program.'"

The event was so successful that a followup in March drew an audience of over 170. Some of the best speakers in the city don't get that large an audience, Rosen pointed out.

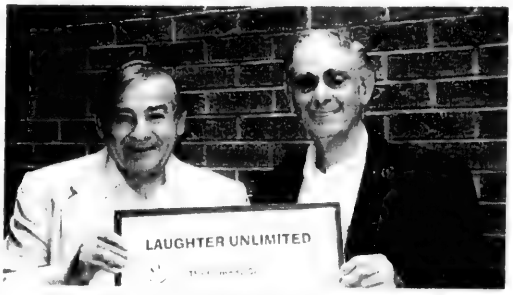
"People like to laugh," said Winkler.

Word of mouth led to more invitations to perform: for the WEL (Women Enjoying Life) group at Earl Bales Park, for an over-40 couples group at the Centennial Centre, and for other clubs and synagogue groups.

"We don't talk dirty," explained Rosen, "[although] we may make a few suggestive jokes."

"It's amazing how much you can laugh at good clean humor," said Winkler.

Much of their material is geared to a Jewish audience. Rosen takes the stage first, followed by Winkler, and they have put together three separate one-hour shows, so as not to repeat jokes if they are invited for a subsequent performance.



Comedy guys Sam Rosen (left) and Norm Winkler.

"And yet," noted Winkler, "if you hear a good joke told well, people like to hear it again. It's like a good song, or a good impersonation."

A Toronto-born former advertising manager for an office manufacturing firm, Winkler often incorporates a thick Irish brogue or heavy Yiddish inflection into his shtick. He's honed his performing skills doing magic at parties, and still has a 25-year-old newspaper clipping about a magic show he did to raise money for Israel.

He's been collecting jokes and funny stories for years, and is working on a book that promises to be humorous in format as well as in content.

Rosen, a one time self-employed printer who was born and raised in Niagara Falls, Ont., traces his humor career back to his daughter's wedding 12 years ago.

Eschewing the "formal and boring" type of speech suggested by the bridal consultant, he decided to "take a gamble," offering his daughter's room for rent and telling how, at his own wedding, he stepped on the rabbi's foot instead of the glass. "Everybody was shocked."

He soon found himself being invited to take the microphone on a variety of occasions – a retirement roast here, a shul retreat there.

"I've always loved jokes. It was a way for me to break out of my shyness," he said.

Even as a hospital patient when he had a kidney transplant two years ago, Rosen kept telling jokes. "The guy in the next room said, 'How come all the nurses come into your room all the time?' "

Both men would advise new retirees to find something they like to do. "Never vegetate," said Rosen.

"I'm having more fun now than I did working. I would bet the majority are not happy in their jobs," said Winkler. "Laughter is the best medicine."

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What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 2, is deadline for Nov. 12 issue, and Monday, Nov. 9, is deadline for Nov. 19. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Oct. 29

SELF-ESTEEM

The first of three free public forums on Self-Esteem: The Key to Positive Choices focuses on Sexual Stereotyping and the Media. 7:30 p.m., North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge St. For information, Jewish Women International 630-9313.

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Games Jewish Singles Play, ages 21-39, and ages 40-69, at Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. 7:30 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Feminist Book Discussion Group, North York chapter, Older Women's Network discusses *The Last Gift of Time* by **Carolyn Heilbrun**, 2 p.m. Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

ART SALE

Toronto artist **Tutzi Haspel Seguin's** art sale of a lifetime, 1-5 p.m., 43 Camberwell Rd. Part of proceeds go to charitable organizations.

Monday, Nov. 2

ANNE FRANK TULIP BULBS

Students from Brown School and Deer Park Public School plant 800 Anne Frank Tulip Bulbs, 1 p.m., Amsterdam Park (Avenue Road and St. Clair); co-sponsored by Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, UJA Federation and Dutch/Canadian Association.

DIABETES AND VITAMINS

Dr. Leonard Direnfeld discusses Diabetes and Vitamins: New Approaches for the Millennium at Jewish Diabetes chapter meeting, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

BIBLICAL CONUNDRUMS

Carl Ehrlich discusses Survival of the Fittest: How Many Jews Left Egypt? (Exodus 1-20), 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation.

JEWISH PERSONALITIES

Beth Tikvah Congregation's series, Jewish Personalities of the 20th Century continues with a talk on Elie Wiesel. 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3

THE CHOSEN PEOPLE

A Symposium on Being Jewish, by **Jonathan Perlman** Part 3, The Chosen People, introduced by Perlman, facilitated by **Henry Alkin** 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

BOOK REVIEW

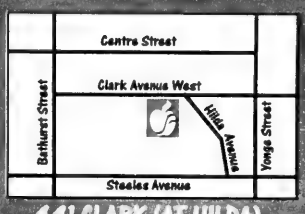
Rabbi Bernard Baskin reviews *The Gift of the Jews* by **Thomas Cahill**, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

MINYAN ON THE MIRA

Cape Breton film about a tiny Orthodox synagogue in Glace Bay airs on Vision TV, 9 p.m.

Continued on page 31

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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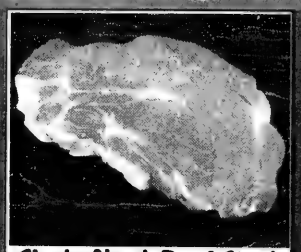

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What's New

Continued from page 30

HALACHIC IMPLICATIONS
Rabbi Moshe Stern lectures on Halachic Implications of the Microwave Oven, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation

FUN NIGHT OF CERAMICS
Jewish Women International Elan chapter (women from Thornhill and Richmond Hill, age 35-45), fun night of ceramics, 7:45 p.m. at Ceramic Works, 385 John St., Thornhill. JWI office 630-9313

Wednesday, Nov. 4

BEREAVED FAMILIES
Bereaved Jewish Families, for families who have lost a child, Family Night, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. Author **Nomi Berger** speaks on The Path to Healing. **Sheila Browne** 638-7800, ext. 202

AGING AND MEDICATION
Effects of Aging and Medication on Taste and Smell, lecture by **Dr. Barry Goldlist**, 4 p.m., Wagman Centre, 785-2500, ext. 2267

LUNCH AND LEARN
Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn group features physiotherapist **Anne Levin** speaking on Shake Your Aches: The Truth About Arthritis. At noon. Bring lunch

Thursday, Nov. 5

SHOLOM SINGERS
Sholom Singers at Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511

And What Else Is New

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS
Association of Jewish Day School Administrators weekend Nov. 20-22, Blue Mountain Resort. Keynote speaker **Stephen Speisman** will speak on Toronto Jewish Educational Community: Learning From Our Past, Learning for Our Future. Follow-up session with **Reuben Benmurgi** on Labor Relations and Management.

COME TO THE CABARET
Beth Tikvah Sisterhood's Come to the Cabaret, music, humor, dinner, silent auction with comedy team **David Gale** and **Randy Vancourt**, Saturday, Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. RSVP **Edda Laxer** 733-3340.

STUDY LUNCHEON
Shabbat Study Luncheon Nov. 7, following services. Studying Conservative Jews – what we have learned about ourselves, with **Jack Wertheimer**, Jewish Theological Seminary. Reservations (paid) by Tuesday, Nov. 3. 781-3514, ext. 3.

SINGLES WEEKEND
Sephardic Kehila Centre singles weekend in Toronto for singles from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, New York, Nov. 20-22, ages 20 and up. Guest speakers **Rabbi** and **Mrs. Asher Benoliel**. Register by Nov. 3. **Salomon** 905-669-7654, ext. 223

NEWS FROM SOLEL
Solel Congregation, Mississauga: Friday, Nov. 13, video after services on family images in the media; Friday, Nov. 27, Invite Your Neighbor service; family services Friday, Nov. 6, 20, 7:30 p.m.; regular services Friday, Nov. 13, 27, and Saturday Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 10 a.m. Tuesday morning minyan continues 7 a.m. 905-820-5915

KOFFLER GALLERY
Iris, a collaborative installation by **Devora Neumark** and **Wende Bartley** with **Naomi Kahane**, runs to Dec. 13. Exhibition opening Thursday, Oct. 29, 7-9 p.m. Artist talk Sunday, Nov. 1, 2 p.m. 636-1880, ext. 268.

NCSY HAPPENINGS
NCSY (National Conference of Synagogue Youth) Senior Regional Conference for high schoolers from across Canada, in Montreal, Nov. 5-8, at Ruby Foo's Hotel. Speakers, programs, off-Broadway production. 905-761-6279, ext. 23.

NCSY-BJC Sports Program every Saturday at Bathurst Jewish Centre, 7:45-10 p.m. Track, gym, basketball, swimming, aquatic sports.

CRAFT SHOW VENDORS
Winter Holidays arts and crafts show at Bloor Jewish Community Centre Sunday, Nov. 29. Vendors can reserve a spot by contacting **Alison Lee** 924-6211.

JEWISH PARENTING
Jewish Parenting in a Modern World series Thursdays Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Jan. 21, Feb. 25, April 29, May 27, 8 p.m., co-sponsored by Downtown Jewish Learning Council and First Narayever Congregation. Classes held at First Narayever, 189 Brunswick Ave. No fee. Instructor **Rabbi Chezi Zionce**, 924-6211.

FEMALES WITH DIABETES
Females with diabetes (IDDM), aged 13-25 needed for a brief health psychology study at Toronto Hospital. Cash payment. Contact Diabetes Study, 340-4346.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

One Family: Two Homes, three-session group for parents and children experiencing separation or divorce. Begins Nov. 26.

How Teenagers Challenge Us, begins Nov. 4; Anger Management Group for Women, begins Oct. 29; Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work, begins Nov. 5; Looking Ahead (recently separated and divorced individuals), begins Nov. 30.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

FRIDAY, OCT. 30
At Beach Hebrew Institute, **Stuart Chelin** of Simon Wiesenthal Centre, War Criminals in Canada – A Nation's Shame, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 31
Reading of *Kindertransport*, **Diane Samuel's** play, performed by Holy Blossom Temple Stagecraft Company, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Sponsored by Bathurst Jewish Centre and Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre.

Healing by Killing, film by Israeli **Nitzan Aviram**, 8 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Sponsored by Morris Winchevsky School.

SUNDAY, NOV. 1
In Their Own Words, Holocaust poetry and song in Yiddish and English, sponsored by UJA Federation's committee for Yiddish and Workmen's Circle Branch 220B, 2:30 p.m., 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

MONDAY, NOV. 2
Rabbi Erwin Schild talks about Kristallnacht – A Personal Experience, unforgettable memories in Wurzurg, Germany, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am.

Medina Theatre Ensemble staged reading of *The Sand* by **Marion André**, directed by **Fran Elliot** 8 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St.

TUESDAY, NOV. 3
Bonnie Gurewitsch, Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York, discusses *The Camp Sister Relationship: A Ray of Hope in the Concentration Camp*, co-sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women and Jewish Women's Federation, 8 p.m., Council House.

Excerpts from Songs of the Ghetto with singer **Faye Kellerstein** and pianist **Jordan Klapman** sponsored by Adath Israel Sisterhood, 8 p.m. at the synagogue.

The Sand by **Marion André**, dramatic presentation by Medina Theatre Ensemble, 8 p.m., New Fraternal Jewish Association, Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4
How to research specific areas of studies on Holocaust-related Web sites, **Judy Cohen**, a Holocaust survivor, and **Carla Shapiro**, University of Sussex, sponsored by Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tzedec Seniors Haverim program, The Exceptional Contribution of the Jews in World War II, **Sam Pasternack**, Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Monday, Nov. 2, 1:30 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 5, dinner at Chinese restaurant; Nov. 12, games; Nov. 19, bingo; Nov. 26, video; Dec. 19 Chanukah dance, (reserve, call **Malka Colla** 630-5771). Information **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Senior dancers for small entertainment group. If your get-up-and-go has got-up-and-went, give **Fred** a call at 633-2877.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip Nov. 22-Dec. 9. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Shaw Festival, *The Shop at Sly Corner*, Nov. 10; Casino Rama Nov. 11 and 25; dance Nov. 15; Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel, Nov. 22-25. 395-7881; New Year's eve dinner dance, Dec. 31. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Public Affairs forum, Common Sense or No Sense, a report card on **Mike Harris** and his government, Monday, Nov. 2, 1:30 p.m.

Literary luncheon, *Yiddish – A Two-Way Street* reviewed by **Jack Gelman** Wednesday, Nov. 4, noon to 2 p.m. Reserve by Oct. 29.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. **Anna**.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

The Holocaust: A Cultural Perspective, conference hosted by Cultural Arts Group the weekend of Oct. 31 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 1 from noon, as part of Holocaust Education Week. Film, theatre, dance, lectures, discussions.

Wednesday Wellness Night free weekly health talk series subject for November is 55 Plus, beginning Nov. 4 with Osteoporosis. Reserve.

Seniors Club program Thursday, Nov. 5, is A "Hands-On" Beauty Workshop at Shiseido Cosmetics, Dundas and Yonge Streets. Meet at Bloor JCC 2 p.m. or at Shiseido at 2:30 p.m. $2 to be used as donation to Mazon Canada. Pre-register. **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Bookings for birthday parties for December, January and February now being taken. Theme choices are sports, arts and crafts, fun centre gym, pool and dance. **Bibi** ext. 248.

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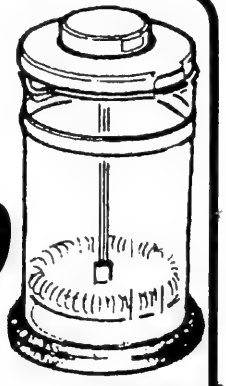

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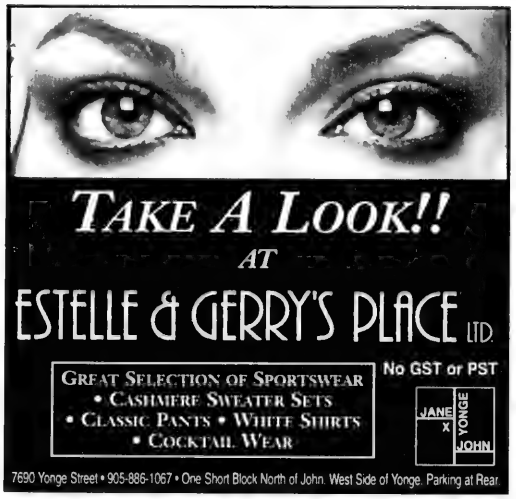
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Ottawa Jewish Archives opens its doors

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The official opening of the Ottawa Jewish Archives in the Ages Family Building was a momentous day in the history of the Ottawa Jewish Historical Society (OJHS), according to the society's president, Lawrence Freedman.

The new facility has specially designed shelving, a storage vault, humidity and fire control, and will store all archival material electronically.

Freedman thanked all those who helped raise the funds to bring the archives into the electronic age, and praised the staff members for their dedication and hard work.

In his introduction of Gdalyah Rosenfeld, master of ceremonies for the evening, Freedman said, "This gentleman was instrumental in finding the site for the campus where you sit tonight."

This was, Rosenfeld said, "an evening of celebration, an evening to thank the community for the building of this particular building, the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building... This is an evening to honor Shirley Hettler Berman for her outstanding contribution to the community... and not least, this is the official opening of the Jewish archives. Tonight we are guaranteeing the future of the recorded history of the Jewish community of Ottawa. We have succeeded in creating one of the best regional, ethnic archives in Ottawa. None of this would have been possible without Shirley Berman."

Rosenfeld praised several past presidents of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'Ir for their efforts in helping the OJHS to create and maintain the archives. In particular, he named Dr. Bernard Dolansky and Lawrence Greenberg, current president Barbara Farber and executive director Mitchell Bellman. He thanked Stephen Victor and Roger Greenberg who co-chaired the capital campaign that raised the funds for the new facility. He also recognized the efforts of Elliott Gluck, who was instrumental in making major changes to the archives' structure; of Margie Kardash of the Vaad Ha'Ir; and of the project architect.

In honoring retiring archivist Berman, Rosenfeld referred to her as "a unique individual to meet a unique challenge." As archivist for the OJHS, Berman was a "choice of excellence. The community and the OJHS are beneficiaries of this choice."

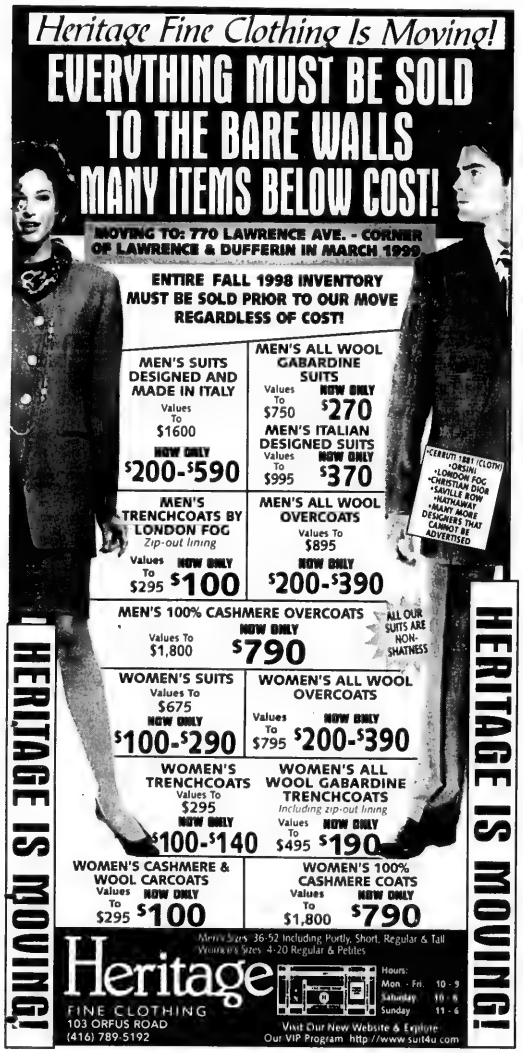
Endowment fund launched

In recognition of Berman's 25 years of service, an endowment fund was established by the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, to be known as the Shirley and Shier Berman Fund for the Ottawa Jewish Archives. Berman was also presented with roses and her husband, Shier, received a gift for his support and assistance.

Berman reminisced about her early days as archivist, when she saved clippings from the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* after the then-editor threw them out.

An endowment fund was also established to honor Freedman, and a certificate was presented by Rose Taylor, president of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation.

Following the presentations, everyone was invited to view the pictorial exhibit in the social hall, to tour the new state-of-the-art combined library and archives, and to mingle over refreshments at the reception which followed.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From coast to coast

Hadassah Bazaar ends its long run in Hamilton

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Columnist

HAMILTON — For the first time since 1924, there will be no Hadassah Bazaar in Hamilton this fall.

The city was one of the earliest communities to have a Hadassah-WIZO chapter, and the annual fall bazaar has been its biggest fundraiser, almost from the beginning.

But now, "times have changed, and so have we," says Hadassah-WIZO executive secretary Andrea Stringer.

There seems to be a general belief among members that decreasing manpower in recent years is responsible for the bazaar's demise, but according to Stringer, that's not the whole story.

It is true, she says, that not as many members have been turning out for the preparatory work in recent years as in the past, but on the day itself, "everyone came out to help. Manpower is the least of our worries. Volunteerism isn't dead."

Rather, it's the proliferation of discount and dollar stores that's to blame, she contends.

The ends of lines and seconds that manufacturers used to give away, which were always a staple at the bazaar, are now being sold to discount and dollar stores, she explains. Furthermore, manufacturers now have their own outlets. "So why give the stuff away if they can sell it?"

And with rising advertising costs, higher hall rentals and other expenses also increasing, the bazaar was no longer profitable. And so, after almost 75 years and three generations of workers, "we have moved on to a new and better project."

The new project is a Fall Fantasy Auction on Nov. 21, 6:30 p.m. at Temple Anshe Sholom. Admission is $20 per person. Proceeds from the event will go to women's shelters in Israel, and to Martha House in Hamilton, a shelter run by the Good Shepherd Services.

There will be silent and live auctions, finger food, wine and cheese and a bake table featuring the renowned baking of Hadassah's Hungarian members.

Items to be auctioned include a Dodge Saturn; a man's suede jacket with fur-lined hood from Hugo Boss; a fur jacket from Hamilton's leading furrier, Jordan Livingston; a Roots Olympic podium jacket; diamond jewelry; as well as trips, hotels, restaurant meals and sports equipment.

It's a fun project, "cleaner, with less schlepping and not such a long day [as the bazaar]," says past president Sheila Levitt, co-convener with Terry Overholt, of what all hope will become a successful annual event.

Vancouver Island's Cong. Emanu-El gets new rabbi

By SUZANNE KORT
Pacific Correspondent

VICTORIA — Rabbi David Seidenberg has been hired to replace Rabbi Victor Reinstein as spiritual leader of Congregation Emanu-El, Vancouver Island's only synagogue.

Rabbi Seidenberg, who has lived and studied in Philadelphia, New York, Jerusalem and Los Angeles, chose Victoria because, he says, he wants to be part of a smaller, more intimate community, and be closer to nature.

Rabbi Seidenberg led High Holy Day services at the synagogue this fall, and will lead Shabbat services until November, when he returns to Los Angeles for a month to research his PhD at the University of Judaism.

At the Tashlich service, held at the shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Rabbi Seidenberg reminded the large crowd that though [God] is infinite, the ocean is not and cannot absorb humanity's waste forever.

On Hoshanah Rabah, the seventh day of Sukkot, he organized a service at Goldstream Park, a nearby wilderness area. The outdoor service, dedicated to the health of our rivers and seas, used the hoshanah liturgy, and included a discussion of river ecology led by local environmental educator, Richard Kool.

Rabbi Seidenberg has received several awards for his work, including the Kohut Memorial Prize in Rabbinic Literature (1995) and the Friedenwald and Rubenovitz Prizes in theology (Peace Prize: 1994). In 1995, he founded Ansche Chesed, a chassidic egalitarian minyan in New York, and served as its rabbinic adviser until 1997.

Beth Tzedec Congregation
1700 Bathurst Street

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Tuesday, November 3rd
"The Gifts of the Jews:
How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels"
by **Thomas Cahill**

Tuesday, November 17th
"Jewish Power:
Inside the American Jewish Establishment"
by **J.J. Goldberg**

Rabbi Baskin is a regular contributor to the Book Review section of the *Hamilton Spectator* and has been Book Editor of the *Canadian Jewish News* for the past 30 years.

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3080 Bayview Avenue, Willowdale

ADULT LEARNING AT BETH TIKVAH
NOVEMBER 1998

Jewish Personalities of the 20th Century
An opportunity to explore the triumphs and tragedies of five Jewish personalities through video and discussion groups facilitated by *Gerry Ziedenberg.*

Ellie Weisel — *Monday, November 2*
Zeev Jabotinsky — *Monday, November 9*
Rav Menachem Mendel Schneerson — *Monday, November 23*
All Programs begin at 8:00 p.m.

A Symposium on Being Jewish
Join us for a video presentation by *Jonathan Perlman* of his award winning documentaries, followed by a discussion facilitated by *Henry Alkin*

"The Chosen People" — *Tuesday, November 3*
"Ritual and the Sabbath" — *Monday, November 16*
All Programs begin at 8:00 p.m.

Lech L'cha:
Where are you going? Explore Personal Journeys through the Life Stories of our Matriarchs and Patriarchs. An in-depth study with *Dr. Rachael Turkienicz* continues each *Wednesday* from *8:00–9:30 p.m.* through to *December 2, 1998.*

Shabbat Torah Study Series
Join *Professor Alex Pomson* for the study of Parshat Hashavuah.
Saturday, November 5, 1998 at 10:00–11:00 a.m.

Jewish Interest Reading Group
A series of discussions of contemporary books facilitated by *Gerry Ziedenberg.*
"Reichmans" by Anthony Bianco
Tuesday, November 10, 1998 at 8:00 p.m.

Tales of the Hasidim
Join *Rabbi Wayne Allen* for a discussion of the meaning and importance of the stories and tales associated with the life of the Ba'al Shem Tov, and his disciples.
Saturday, November 14, 21, 28, 1998 during Se'udah Shlisheet

Loss and Death: Beginnings
Join us for the first program in this series dealing with issues of loss and death from personal and theological perspectives. We will explore these issues not just in finality, but also as beginnings. *Rabbi Naomi Levy* will share with us some insights from her recently published book:
"To Begin Again: A Journey Toward Comfort, Strength, and Faith in Difficult Times."
Tuesday, November 17, 1998 at 8:00 p.m.

"Ma Nishmah" – Israel and the Jewish World
A current events discussion series. *David Goldberg,* Director of Research and Education for the Canada-Israel Committee, will be our guest as we discuss the government and politics of the Middle East, the Arab-Israel peace process, and Canada's Middle East policy.
Saturday, November 21, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

Memory Loss. Should I Be Worried?
An Informative Session on Memory Loss
Dr. Ron Keren, geriatric psychiatrist, and *Marcia Zalev,* social worker at The Toronto Hospital Memory Clinic, will discuss normal forgetfulness, dementia and Alzheimer disease and how the diagnoses are made.
Monday, November 30, 1998 at 8:00 p.m.

For more information please contact the Synagogue Office at (416) 221-3433.
Non-members are welcome. ($5.00 charge may apply)

Features

Hockey instructor developed expertise in Europe

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — During the height of the Cold War when Western athletes confronted their Soviet counterparts on sports fields around the world, East Bloc coaches often came in for merciless ribbing. If they boasted college degrees in disciplines like backchecking, cross-country skiing and the breaststroke, they deserved it, we thought.

Our hockey coaches, the Don Cherrys among us would point out, graduated from the school of hard knocks, not some fancy-shmancy institute that churns out so many degrees you could wallpaper a kitchen wall wid 'em.

My how times have changed. Rednecks notwithstanding, it turns out European coaches really knew what they were talking about, at least as far as hockey man Larry Ruch is concerned.

Ruch is part of a new breed of hockey maven, a man equally comfortable in two worlds – that of the hard-nosed skater who toils on the ice, and that of the academic who develops contemporary teaching techniques and innovative game strategies.

For nine years, Ruch coached Swiss and Austrian teams to championship seasons, butting heads with coaches from Russia, Sweden and the Czech Republic.

This year, despite an offer to coach in the Swiss first division, he's back in his native Canada, tutoring teams and individuals at the Beatrice Ice Gardens at York University. There he provides instruction in everything from power skating to on-ice drills. Seminars are available for coaches to instruct them in running effective practices, developing defencemen, implementing forechecking systems and planning breakouts.

It may not be as exciting as coaching a Swiss elite league team or a bunch of Austrian professionals, but it does keep him active in the world of teaching. With a law degree from the University of Ottawa and education studies at McGill, Ruch has always been intrigued by teaching. That applies equally to the classroom or on the ice.

That's what makes European hockey so enjoyable for him, he said. With its high practice-to-play ratio (three or four to one), there's more time to develop effective practices and teach hockey skills and systems. His teams featured a fast break, frequent "picks" (blocking opponents from the puck carrier), exploiting other teams' weaknesses and focusing on offence. The practices made it easier to implement those coaching schemes, and the players were very receptive to it, he said.

Ruch, 39, was introduced to coaching during his college days. A native of Laval, just north of Montreal, Ruch was studying education at McGill University, and tending goal for the university's hockey team at the time. Although he had a shot at an American Hockey League tryout, his coach, Ken Tyler, asked him to stay with the team as his assistant. Later, while coaching at Dawson College in Montreal, Tyler asked Ruch to join him as his assistant with Hockey Club Ajoie in the Swiss elite league.

In 1988, Ruch agreed to go for one season. "That eight months turned into nine years."

In addition to working with the top team, Ruch was put in charge of developing the club's entire hockey program, which included junior, midget, bantam and novice teams. "You're a total program developer. You give clinics and teach the coaches," he said.

Although he did serve behind the bench of the elite team, mostly he focused on the junior team. In two years, the juniors became Switzerland's French division champions.

Though he toiled in what some would consider a hockey backwater, Ruch felt intense pressure to perform. "In Europe, he said, "I never repeated drills in a season. It's very demanding."

The lifestyle and the money were good ($100,000 tax free, free car, free house), but "as foreigners you're hired to do a job and are extremely accountable for the success of the club," he said.

Porrentrui, home of the Ajoie club, had a population of only 6,000, but about 5,000 people would jam into the town's rink for weekly games. Hockey Night in Porrentrui, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, was very popular and would attract people from the surrounding region.

Most Swiss teams were stocked with local boys (60 percent in Ajoie) bolstered by a couple of Canadians, usually smaller, quicker players.

"In Europe, my teams stressed finesse, speed, preparation and discipline," he said. Although a bone-jarring Canadian-style (legal) hit usually draws a penalty from the refs, European hockey is exciting and entertaining, despite the frequent dives, Ruch maintains.

After his second year with Ajoie, when the junior team won the championship, he was offered a contract to run the hockey program in Geneva. The club was bankrupt and in last place but Ruch took on the challenge and focused on developing good junior players. After four years, the professional team, stocked with juniors he'd trained, finished first. A year later, after he left, the team won the league championship.

From Geneva, Ruch went to Longenthal, in the German part of Switzerland. "I had a great team there. We were in second place at Christmas when I got sick and I had to come back to Canada."

While living in Ottawa, he met his fiancée, Angela. When she was transferred to Toronto, Ruch came too and completed his master's thesis in education. In mid-1996, Ruch took a job with an Austrian second division team, Lustenau, and in that season he took the team to the division championship. From there, he went to Basel, Switzerland for a year to coach the city's first division team, focusing on player development.

Now with a daughter, Kyla, and with an offer from the Beatrice Ice Gardens, Ruch has returned to his hockey-mad Canadians, to some of the coaching techniques so commonly employed in Euro-hockey.

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Wye ends 19-month stalemate in peace process

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd

WYE MILLS, Md. — Israel and the Palestinians gave the peace process new momentum last week by signing a memorandum of understanding that outlines the specific steps that both sides must take to end a 19-month stalemate and move toward a permanent peace settlement.

Before a standing room only crowd in the East Room of the White House, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, and President Bill Clinton — acting as a guarantor of the deal — signed a brief but detailed memo that took months of relentless shuttle diplomacy and 10 days of secluded summit work to hammer into form.

The extraordinary signing ceremony, which came just an hour after the completion of the summit at the Wye River Plantation in Maryland and just an hour before the onset of the Jewish Sabbath, was all the more extraordinary for the presence of Jordan's King Hussein, who has been undergoing cancer treatment in the United States and who helped bring the sides together in the final days.

The memo calls for several specific steps to be undertaken immediately, including a session of the Palestinian National Council, which according to the agreement must annul the clauses in the Palestinian charter that call for the destruction of Israel. Clinton is planning a December trip to the region to address that session.

The president said Friday he would ask Congress to approve additional financial aid for Israel to help ensure its security and for the Palestinians to help their economic development.

In an interview with *Ha'aretz* in New York, Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon said that while the agreement is an achievement, he still thinks that giving up 13 percent of the West Bank is dangerous. It was not clear whether Sharon would throw his weight behind the agreement or abstain from an upcoming cabinet vote on it.

In a letter to Netanyahu from U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright that is attached to the memorandum, Albright reaffirms the principle of "co-dependent" stages in the implementation of the agreement; this means that Israel can halt its withdrawal from the territories if the Palestinians do not abide by their commitments. According to the letter, no stage in the process will be implemented without the previous stage being fully executed.

Despite Israel's insistence that Arafat drop his threat to unilaterally declare a Palestinian state on May 4, 1999, when the five-year Interim Period set out in the Oslo accords is over, Arafat said over the weekend that a Palestinian state would be established quickly.

"It is coming very soon," he told reporters in Austria after briefing European Union leaders on the Wye Memorandum. "On May 4, 1999... we have the right to declare our independent Palestinian state and we hope that it will happen according to our agreement between both of us," he said.

Meanwhile, referring to the Israel redeployment in the West Bank, a source in the IDF called the required withdrawal from 13.1 percent of Area C (exclusively controlled by Israel) and 14.2 percent from Area B (jointly controlled with the PA) a Gordian knot.

According to the Wye Memorandum, the first two percent has to be handed over in the next two weeks. Sources say that the redeployment will cost about NIS 1 billion.

The withdrawal will be taking place in three main areas: Jenin, where the withdrawal will create Palestinian territorial contiguity from Nablus to Jenin; the southern Hebron area; and in the "nature reserve" east of Hebron.

Ten army bases will have to be moved and 10 roads paved, said army sources. Most of the roads are short bypasses for isolated settlements, but two are relatively major roads – one from Arad to Ma'ale Adumim, and the other from Modi'in to Givat Ze'ev. Fifteen settlements are expected to see beefed up security arrangements as they are left relatively isolated in the midst of Palestinian territories.

Jewish groups welcome deal

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish organizations have welcomed the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement reached late last week at the Wye Plantation in Maryland.

The agreement provides for Israel's phased redeployment from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank in exchange for enhanced, verifiable efforts by the Palestinian Authority in fighting terrorism, and the abrogation of provisions in the Palestine National Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

"With this deal, there will be a precise, indisputable methodology for tracking Palestinian compliance with its commitments. This should go a long way toward reassuring Israelis that the concessions they are being asked to make will not endanger their security, said Brian Morris, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee.

"At the same time, the Palestinian community will now be better positioned to achieve its social, economic and political aspirations," he added.

Canadian Jewish Congress president Moshe Ronen commended the interim agreement, calling it an important step forward in the peace process.

He said that one of the major concerns in the mind of Israelis remains the issue of security. "Until there is security, there can be no political stability," he said.

To help alleviate these concerns, he called on the Palestinian leadership to "do everything in its power to prevent terrorist attacks while dealing sternly with the perpetrators of these acts.

"Hamas can no longer be allowed to put Israelis at risk," Ronen added. "They are the eneenemies of peace."

Ronen praised the efforts of U.S. President Bill Clinton and King Hussein of Jordan in helping to bridge the gap between the two parties. He also welcomed the involvement of the CIA in helping to stem terrorist activities.

Lawrence Hart, president of B'nai Brith Canada, said that they were pleased that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu found a way to continue the peace process started by the Oslo Accords.

"This is a historic step in the Middle East, with the increasing recognition of Israel by the Palestinians as a reality that will not go away and a commitment to live together in a real peace," he said.

Hart said that Palestinian Chairman Yasser Arafat has had, and still has, the choice of making peace with Israel or with terrorists.

The agreement now, he said, marks a "giant step towards peace with Israel and we look forward to Arafat's implentation of its Articles."

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Opposition to agreement stiffer than expected

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convened his Likud cabinet ministers earlier this week to discuss the Wye memorandum in detail. He decided on the meeting after speaking to several ministers on the phone, and discovering that the opposition to the agreement was much broader than he had thought.

The prime minister postponed the full cabinet meeting until Wednesday. Before then he devoted his time to persuading right wing ministers and MKs to support the agreement, sources said.

Ministers who compared the English and Hebrew versions of the Wye River memorandum found substantial differences between the two in several key clauses, such as the clause dealing with the cancellation of the Palestinian covenant.

According to the ministers, the Hebrew version favors the Israeli position more than the English version, which is the determining one.

The differences in the versions was discussed at a meeting of Likud ministers.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon is to go to Washington next week to meet with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in an effort to settle the amount of special aid Israel will get to help finance troop redeployments in the West Bank.

U.S. President Bill Clinton confirmed over the weekend that he recommended the aid in order to compensate Israel for the security dangers created by the second further redeployment. He added that he would also recommend granting U.S. aid for the "economic development" of the Palestinians.

Clinton did not define the scope of the aid, but before the summit at the Wye River Plantation, Netanyahu sent Albright a request for $500 million (US) – half the sum he asked for last May.

Congress is expected to support Clinton's recommendation, but according to reports from Washington, it is also likely to demand supervision over how the money is spent.

Sources in Washington say the Americans are concerned that the Israeli government will channel some of the funds, directly or indirectly, to Jewish settlements.

The U.S. aid is intended for moving military bases and paving about 20 bypass roads. Work on the roads is expected to begin soon. The main difficulty is likely to be completing the road work before the withdrawals are finished, a three-month period.

Defence sources have said that ahead of the evacuation of Palestinian towns in 1995, bypass roads were paved "at a record speed" within a similar period of time, but most of them were paved very poorly, and are now the object of derision.

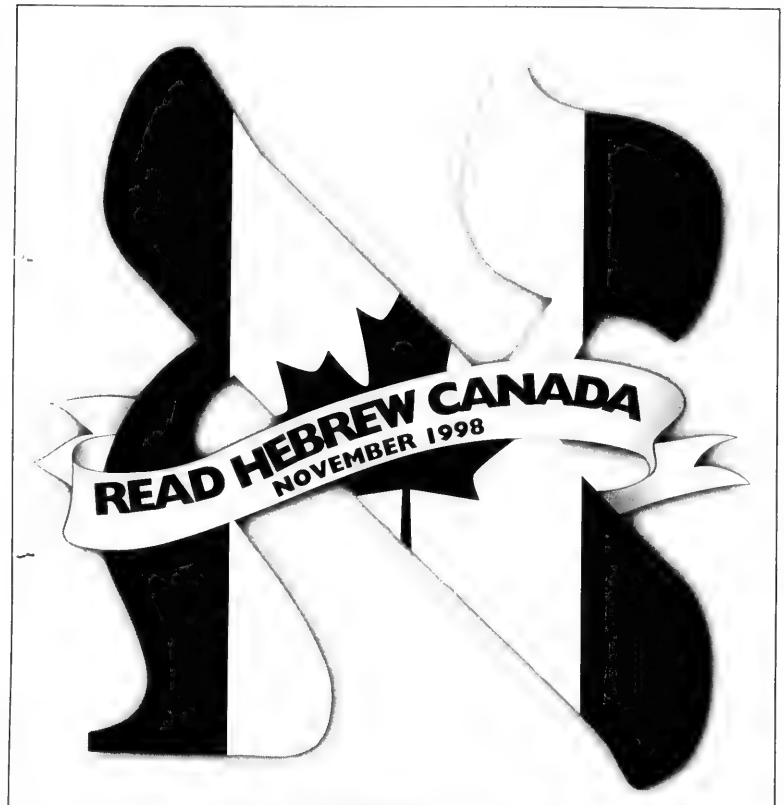
IDF to vacate 10 bases

The security establishment has warned against a recurrence of such a situation.

In keeping with the Wye agreement, the IDF will have to vacate about 10 bases in the West Bank. The IDF is not expected to have any difficulty vacating the installations within three months. The first base might be the Nahal brigade outpost Irit, south of Jenin.

Yitzhak Mordechai convened the first meeting in a series of discussions with heads of the security establishment on the implementation of the second further redeployment.

The defence minister also met with the chief of staff, the chief of IDF intelligence, the head of the Shin Bet security service and the committee for security cooperation.



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Pollard's wife angry, says Israel 'shafted'

TORONTO — Israel was "shafted" after believing that convicted spy Jonathan Pollard might become part of the Wye River peace accord, says Pollard's Toronto-based wife.

U.S. President Bill Clinton gave Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu verbal assurances that Pollard would be released from his life sentence, "but not in writing, and Clinton [later] reneged," charges Esther Pollard, who said she got her information from "sources" close to the talks.

"The only reason the Israelis made heavy concessions [at the talks] was because they thought they were getting Pollard," Esther Pollard told *The CJN* on Sunday. "It was a done deal."

At one point, Israel radio was reporting that Pollard would be released.

It was the Palestinians who "played the Pollard card," she said, in exchange for getting Israel to drop its demand for the extradition of Gazi Gibati, the police chief of Gaza.

Pollard said she puts no stock in Clinton's assurances that he would "review" the case of her husband, who received a life sentence in 1987 for passing classified information to Israel.

"It's a code word. It means absolutely nothing."

And she chided Israel for giving up on Pollard, after fighting for him vigorously at Wye River.

"Israel went to the mat for him and then said 'uncle,'" she said.

– Ron Csillag in Toronto

Israel & the Jewish World

Majority of cabinet supports Wye accord

By YERAH TAL
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

WASHINGTON — The Israeli cabinet was expected to approve the newly signed Wye accord at its next meeting, with at least nine ministers already having declared their support for the second redeployment. Four ministers have voiced opposition and four others are still sitting on the fence.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was to convene the cabinet this week, before the Knesset's vote on the accord next week.

Netanyahu's vote for the agreement is expected to be supported by two of the three ministers who were with him at Wye – Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky – as well as Health Minister Yehoshua Matza (Likud), Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani (The Third Way), Interior Minister Eli Suissa (Shas), Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai (Shas), Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav (Likud) and Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman.

Expected opponents include Education Minister Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party – NRP), Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom (also NRP), Immigrant Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein (Yisrael b'Aliyah), and Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan (Tsomet).

Still undecided are Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi, Communications Minister Limor Livnat, and Science and Technology Minister Silvan Shalom – all of Likud.

Netanyahu met with the undecided ministers in an effort to convince them to vote with him. Mordechai and Sharansky are expected to join the campaign, and so is Sharon – in spite of his own reservations about the agreement. Sharon has so far continued to cling to his assertion that a withdrawal from 13.1 percent of the West Bank will jeopardize Israel's security.

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office said they expected Netanyahu would manage to convince Hanegbi, Livnat and Shalom to vote for the Wye accord after explaining its minutiae to them. The sources said Netanyahu was less likely to prevail with the NRP's Levy and Yahalom, and with Tsomet's Eitan. As for Edelstein, the sources said they hoped he could at least be convinced to abstain.

Shas party chair Aryeh Deri said yesterday that the party's spiritual leader, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, who is expected to instruct his party's two cabinet members to vote for the accord, will do so only after reviewing the text of the agreement with the Shas Council of Torah Sages.

Eitan, speaking out against the agreement, said its demands of the Palestinians had already been stated in past accords, which he said the Palestinian Authority has ignored.

Eitan refused to say whether his party would vote for holding early elections.

Chabad releases letter

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The Chabad movement yesterday released a 2½-year-old letter from Benjamin Netanyahu, in which he promised to block the establishment of a Palestinian state and the transfer of any additional territory to the Palestinians.

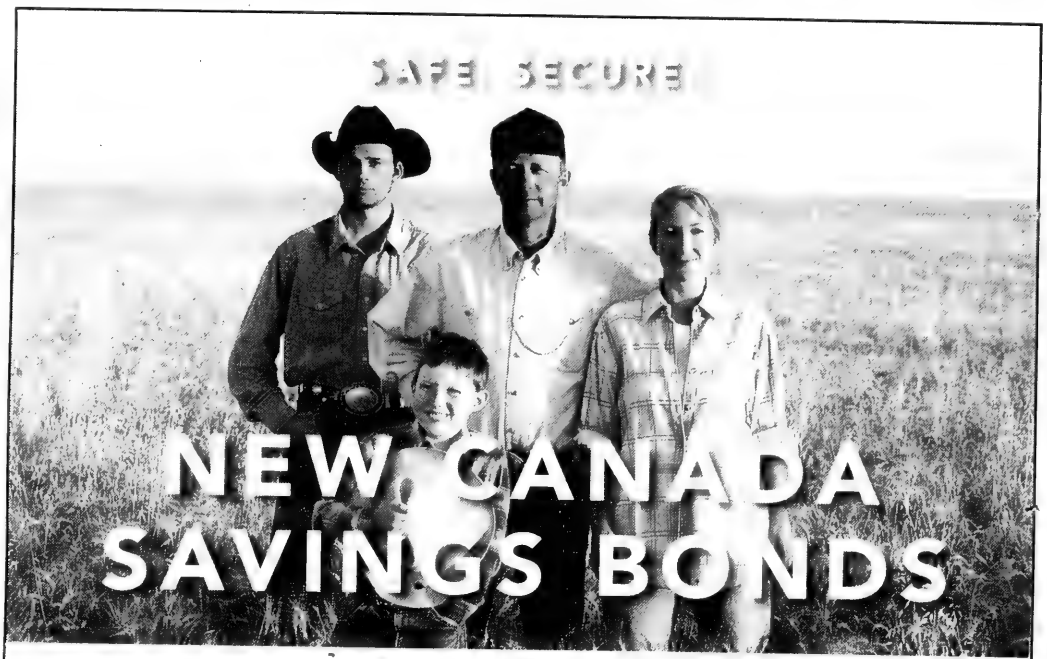
The letter, also signed by Ariel Sharon, is dated May 17, 1996 – just 12 days before Netanyahu defeated Shimon Peres for the prime ministership by 29,457 votes.

The letter also promised that the IDF would be free to fight terrorism "anywhere."

Chabad rabbis said Netanyahu and Sharon came to Kfar Chabad to woo voters, promising they would "save the State of Israel from the Oslo trap."

The rabbis cited Netanyahu as having said he expected a conflict to develop between Israel and the Palestinians after his election, during which Israel would likely enter Area A territory and regain control.

The Chabad leaders said that when they asked Netanyahu why he was publicly declaring his intent to uphold Oslo, he responded, "One must act wisely."



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AOL CANADA

Wye signals Likud shift

Continued from page 1

Along with the Palestinians' promise to publicly revoke their charter, the agreement hammered out after nine days of roller-coaster talks at the Wye Plantation in eastern Maryland includes the following provisions:

- an Israeli troop redeployment from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank;
- the release of some 700 Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails;
- opening safe passage routes for Palestinians travelling between the West Bank and Gaza; and
- a comprehensive security arrangement, carried out with CIA oversight, under which the Palestinian police will arrest terrorist suspects, and confiscate unlicensed weapons.

The deal was nearly scuttled by a last-minute dispute over an Israeli request that the United States free Jonathan Pollard, a former U.S. naval intelligence analyst who has been serving a life sentence since 1987 for spying for Israel. Clinton ultimately agreed to reconsider Israel's request for Pollard's release, but without making any commitments about the outcome or time frame of a decision.

The "test" of the Wye agreement, say many politicians and pundits, will be in its implementation.

Indeed, the agreement could quickly unravel in the face of less-than-firm determination on the part of either side to carry out the intricate process of implementation, which spans a crowded 12-week schedule.

That period will doubtless be replete with crises, some evolving out of ongoing negotiations surrounding the implementation itself, some engendered by the provocations of opponents of the accord on the radical fringes of both Palestinian and Israeli society.

Timely implementation will be critical, but it should not be overlooked that the moving White House signing ceremony – with Jordan's King Hussein in attendance despite his battle with cancer – was in itself an event of indelible political significance.

Already, stress lines are beginning to form within Israeli parties on both ends of the political spectrum.

Witness, for example, the Labor party's reaction to the Wye agreement.

Labor leader Ehud Barak said this week his party would give the agreement its support in the Knesset – thus ensuring a sweeping majority there.

But in the next breath, Barak said his party would work toward toppling the Netanyahu government and forcing early elections.

In this one case at least, he was saying that Labor would make common cause with the ultra-rightist Moledet party and with rightist renegades within the governing coalition to bring down Netanyahu for signing the Wye accord.

But this plan is being openly challenged by some prominent figures within Labor, among them former prime minister Shimon Peres.

They feel that to oppose the government now, before implementation has even begun, would be construed by the public as opposition for opposition's sake, or, worse, as opposing peace.

They add that the best interests of peace would be served by the present, Likud-led government actually withdrawing the army from a significant portion of Eretz Israel.

If implementation does not take place according to schedule, they say, there will then be time enough for Labor to take issue with Netanyahu.

The confusion in Labor is mirrored by confusion and conflict within the hard-line right.

The National Religious Party, comfortably in command of the education and transportation ministries, is plainly less than happy to leave office for the barren pastures of opposition, fearing especially that Likud and Labor – their differences now narrowed – may team up in a government of national unity.

For now, only those on the far right are saying that Netanyahu must be felled regardless of what coalition may take power in his place.

The various arguments within the leftist and rightist camps may be cut short by Netanyahu himself: Some observers believe that the prime minister, if he finds his ability to govern hamstrung by the threats of defection, may actually initiate early elections himself.

This scenario is predicated on the assessment that Netanyahu's popularity is bound to rise with the successful conclusion of the Wye accord, especially among the middle-of-the-road voters whom Barak must win over if he is to have any chance of capturing the premiership.

Certainly, it would be hard today for Labor to tar Netanyahu with the anti-peace brush with which it has grown used to painting him these past two years.

What does this mean for election tactics – whenever an election eventually takes place? And, beyond tactics, what does it mean for the evolution of Israeli politics in the long term?

So far, the 20 years of fitful peacemaking that have elapsed since the signing of the Camp David accords in September 1978 have not seriously eroded the left-right divide that cuts through Israeli politics.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin won Labor's support for the peace treaty with Egypt, but quickly lost it when he dug in his heels against autonomy talks with the Palestinians.

Subsequent Likud-led administrations have been reluctant to consider the prospect of Palestinian statehood, a prospect that many feel permeates the language and spirit of the Oslo accords.

Now, after Wye, that deep divide might at last be closing, as the Likud prime minister embraces the land-for-peace logic that lies at the heart of Oslo.

Netanyahu, at this moment, is a man in motion. He is in traumatic transit between the rightist leader of yesterday and the centrist leader of today.

The Week in Israel

Oct. 19

• Sixty-six people were wounded when two grenades were thrown at a bus in Beersheva. A lone attacker was apprehended by people on the scene. He was identified as Salem Rajab Sarsour, 29, a father of five and a resident of Hebron. Sarsour had links to Hamas. *(Sarsour subsequently confessed to the August stabbing murder of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anan in the Tel Rumeida section of Hebron, and to carrying out a grenade attack on Israeli troops on Yom Kippur.)*

Oct. 20

• The Knesset announced it will supply pistols to any lawmakers who want them. The speaker of the Knesset, Dan Tichon, said he made the decision after threats were made on the lives of several lawmakers.

Oct. 21

• Israelis opposed to a peace deal protested reports of an apparent agreement being worked out at Wye Plantation. The Moledet party submitted a motion in the Knesset of no-confidence, and dozens of Jews from the territories tried to block several roads there. *(The roadblocks continued for two days.)*

Oct. 22

• A military court sentenced two Hamas terrorists to five life sentences plus 20 years in prison for their involvement in the murder of 11 Israelis.

Oct. 23

• Israel is developing an unmanned combat plane, according to *The Military Balance, 1998-1999*, a yearly publication released yesterday at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. As well, according to the publication, Israel became equipped this year with a self-manufactured long-range precise guided missile. It is also developing and building another photography satellite, instead of Ofek 4, which failed to go into orbit in January.

• U.S.-born Yonatan Zion Dadowitz, 32, an Israeli with links to extremist nationalist groups, was placed under arrest on suspicion of killing an Arab on the morning of May 14, and wounding five others in stabbings in north Jerusalem's religious neighborhoods.

Files from the JTA and Ha'aretz

Dispute over award to cardinal

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — A group that promotes Christian-Jewish relations has honored the archbishop of Paris for his contribution to ecumenical understanding.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL), however, boycotted last week's event, which was sponsored by the Centre for Christian-Jewish Understanding, because, it said, Lustiger was born a Jew, and converted to Catholicism at age 14.

Lustiger apparently does not think that his baptism constituted a break with his Jewish identity.

Earlier this month, Pope John Paul II elevated Edith Stein, another Jew who converted to Catholicism, to sainthood, and described her as "an eminent daughter of Israel, and a faithful daughter of the church."

A few months ago Lustiger described himself, in a private meeting with Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz, the director of the Centre for Christian-Jewish Understanding, as "a fulfilled Jew."

Told that using such a term would offend Jews presenting him with the centre's Nostra Aetate Award, the cardinal pledged not to use it. The award is named for the 1960s Catholic document which recognized for the first time the legitimacy of Judaism, and ushered in a new era of interfaith dialogue.

Rabbi Rene-Samuel Sirat, who has served both as the chief rabbi of France and the grand rabbi of Europe, was also honored with the award.

For some Jewish leaders, using polite language does not change the reality of the cardinal's syncretic view of his faith.

"I respect his decision of conscience and faith" to convert to Christianity, said Abraham Foxman, ADL's national director.

"It would be fine to have him speak at a conference or colloquium," he said, "but it's inappropriate for a Jewish organization to honor him."

While the centre is run by a rabbi and supported substantially by Jewish contributors, it is not technically a Jewish organization. It is housed on the campus of Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn., a Catholic institution.

Then known by his birth name, Aron Lustiger had just become bar mitzvah as the Nazi era took hold, and he and his sister were sent by their mother to live with a Catholic family in Orleans, France, for safety.

His mother perished in Auschwitz.

The young man, whose upbringing was devoid of all but the most minimal Jewish practice, became enamored of the family who gave him haven and saved his life, said Ehrenkranz.

Soon after that, at age 14, Aron was baptized and became Jean-Marie.

Jean-Marie Lustiger

"I don't fault him for converting as a young man who had nothing," Ehrenkranz said.

"It's a problem with a lot of young Jewish people today. They are searching for something, and nobody's ever given them any Jewish spirituality or content, so they turn to Buddhism and other religions."

Fourteen years after converting, Lustiger was ordained a Catholic priest and began working as a chaplain at the Sorbonne in Paris.

In 1979, he was appointed the bishop of Orleans, and just two years later, archbishop of Paris. He was named cardinal in 1983.

He has made a valuable contribution to Jewish-Catholic dialogue, say those involved in interreligious affairs, for reasons that seem at least partly rooted in his Jewish lineage.

A close associate of the Pope, he is considered to have been instrumental in getting the Carmelite nuns to finally vacate their convent on the edges of the Auschwitz death camp in 1993.

He was also centrally involved in a document issued last year by the French Bishops Conference titled *The Declaration of Repentance*.

In it, the Catholic church leaders of France took responsibility for "failing to lend their aid" to the Jews under Nazi persecution. "We beg God's pardon and we call upon the Jewish people to hear our words of repentance," they wrote.

"Lustiger has had enormous impact on his fellow cardinals," said Rabbi A. James Rudin, director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee.

Still, Lustiger has confronted opposition before from the Jewish community. When he visited Israel a couple of years ago, Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau condemned him as a "traitor to his people."

Lustiger clearly remains devoted to what he considers both parts of his identity. In his speech accepting the award, he called on Catholics in France and New York to go to church on Holocaust Memorial Day, or Yom HaShoah, "in the spirit of penance and as an act of faith in the Lord of the living and the dead."

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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Spousal Support: Case Comment

(Bracklow v. Bracklow [1997] B.C. J 1376 (B.C.C.A)

Are all spouses entitled to support when the marriage did not create an economic disadvantage to such spouses? In ***Bracklow v. Bracklow***, B.C.'s *Family Relations Act* was interpreted to mean that if no financial dependency was created by the marriage, then there should be no claim for spousal support. In a case to be decided by the Supreme Court of Canada this fall, the parties were previously married. They commenced living together in 1985, got married in 1987, and separated in 1992.

Support contingent on dependency

The "wife" suffered from different kinds of illnesses before, during and after the cohabitation and marriage. Although her illnesses worsened during the course of their relationship, there was no causal link between the marriage and her illnesses.

The trial judge found that the marriage was *not* a traditional one, especially since each spouse made equal financial contributions to the marriage. No support was ordered and the British Columbia Court of Appeal dismissed the wife's appeal for such support. It ruled that the B.C. legislation did not provide for support just because the partners lived together or were married. There is nothing about cohabitation/marriage in this case ***that disadvantaged the wife;*** no dependency was created as a result of the cohabitation.

The question now put to the Supreme Court of Canada by the wife who appeals is this: Should the Court extend or change the principles covering spousal support as recited in ***Moge*** so that spousal support should be provided in all marriages were a spouse is in need, even if the marriage did not create that need or dependency? Is the marriage certificate itself becoming a type of "*insurance policy*", as suggested by Cristen Schmitz in the article *Spousal Support Case Tops SCC Agenda?* [1]

Beyond mere legality

I would argue that such a question is of such importance that for the Court to answer it would take the Court beyond merely interpreting either British Columbia's *Family Relations Act* or Canada's *Divorce Act*. The language of the relevant sections in such statutes may be too restrictive to permit the type of interpretation that the wife would have the Court provide.

More importantly, the Supreme Court would likely be attempting to legislate critical social policy rather than interpret legislation, which is not its mandate. If a province or the country is to extend the provision of spousal support beyond the dependency

Onus on elected representatives

caused by economic detriment in a marriage, then surely Canadians as whole, through their elected representatives, must be consulted. Given the high rate of divorce in Canada, we can safely say that only one half of marriages endure. Surely if we are to make spousal support so much more widely available, then such decisions should best be made by our legislators, whether or not politicians wish to handle this "hot potato".

[1] *Lawyer's Weekly*, Vol. 18, No. 21, October 9, 1998.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 365-0300, ext. 22.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Artists study Holocaust from cultural perspective

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Participants in a two-day program of performances, readings and lectures, The Holocaust: A Cultural Perspective, will study whether an era can be truthfully depicted after the demise of those who lived it.

The performances, to be held Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, were devised by the Cultural Arts Group at the Bloor JCC for Holocaust Education Week.

Among those participating are fiction writer and essayist Richard Teleky, who will read from his first novel *The Paris Years of Rosie Kamirr*; Allen and Karen Kaeja, artistic directors of Kaeja d'Dance, who will present their new work *Resistance*; scholar and educator Dr. Eli Pfefferkorn, author of the play *Virtual Reality*; and Judith Kalman a short story writer, who will read from her book *The Country of Birches*.

"What I wanted, was not to be factually accurate, but to be true to the emotions and emotional effects," says Kalman.

Search for identity

In *The Country of Birches*, we are introduced to Dana Weisz, who in 1956, flees Hungary with her family, stops in England for a couple of years and then winds up in suburban Montreal. These stories about dislocation and the search for identity parallel Kalman's own life, but they reach beyond relaying information. Embedded in her stories are the accounts of her survivor parents.

Significant, is the revelation that Kalman's father returned to his home farm after the war to find that his wife, their child, his parents and his siblings had all perished in concentration camps. And though Kalman's writing primarily contends with being a child in a strange land, it also discloses what it means to be a descendent of parents who went through extreme loss, while questioning how ordinary people can endure great travails and then somehow assume a seemingly normal life.

"My book also asks how to live with the past when the past is so dark. How did my parents start again? I could never resolve that," she says.

Kalman's book weaves personal memory with received testimony into a tapestry that not only reveals the journey of a family, but what may occur to any people who have faced genocide. Furthermore, she shows the intergenerational effects of that trauma.

A self-proclaimed assimilated Jew, Kalman asserts that she felt compelled to write about the experiences of Jewish refugees of the '50s and '60s. The stories were ingrained in her bones, she says. Consequently, she believes that the Holocaust years must be remembered, since it is through memory that lives are reclaimed. Holding memory, means one does not enter the future empty handed.

Kaeja d'Dance will present their new work *Resistance*.

Kaeja also was driven to convey what happened during the Holocaust, he says, but his stories are expressed through movement.

Like Kalman, Kaeja's father lost his wife, child and parental family during the war. For many years, however, his father would not talk about those events. "I remember when I was about 17 or 18, setting up an appointment with my father, sitting him down and questioning him about the war, because I had no idea [about his experiences] and I needed to know," says Kaeja.

Five years after the birth of the Kaeja's oldest daughter, Allen Kaeja realized that the Holocaust was haunting him. The discovery led him to develop dances based on his father's life just before and during World War II. *In Blood*, a portrayal of a relationship between brothers, is fundamentally about Kaeja's father and the sibling who died in his arms during the war.

Later, Kaeja created *Sarah*, a story which envisions what occurred to his father's first wife after she was transported to another camp. In 1995, Kaeja began *The*

Continued on page 41

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Travel, Arts & Business

TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

ISRAELI HOTELS CATCH MILLENNIUM FEVER

Israel's Ministry of Tourism is in the midst of a crash program to create 10,000 additional tourist beds for an unprecedented wave of visitors expected for the Christian millennium in the year 2000.

Israeli tourist officials are forecasting that some four million visitors will arrive in the Holy Land from the autumn of 1999 to the winter of 2000, compared with the roughly 2.3 million visitors that arrived last year.

Consequently, investors are pouring more than $350 million (US) to improve the country's tourist infrastructure.

Much of the effort is being concentrated on building new moderately-priced hotel rooms, especially in and around Jerusalem, where an estimated 3,000 new hotel rooms are in preparation. Because it takes too long to build new hotels, hundreds of private homes are being converted to bed and breakfast facilities and numerous kibbutzim are adding guest houses.

Israel plans to increase landing capacity at Ben-Gurion International Airport by 30 percent and streamline the procedures through which new arrivals are processed. As well, aviation officials are taking a closer look at existing smaller airports in northern Israel as alternatives to Ben-Gurion.

Three years ago, at a time when optimism was high in the Middle East as a result of the Rabin peace initiatives, Israeli officials were confidently predicting five million visitors for the year 2000. In light of the subsequent derailing of the peace process, that estimate was reduced by 20 percent.

However, there's no telling what the figure might eventually be. A lot depends upon whether Pope John Paul II, during the millennial year, will make good on his long-standing commitment to visit Israel.

Israel's Minister of Tourism Moshe Katsav, who recently met with the pontiff, is optimistic about a papal trip to the Middle East for 2000. If it occurs, a papal visit could draw even more Christian tourists to Israel.

Still, after being disappointed in their expectations for the Israel at 50 campaign, Israeli tourism officials are wise not to indulge in excessive optimism. Ugly geopolitical realities have had a strange and unfortunate way of intruding into the most sunny tourism prognostications of previous years.

* * *

Canaan and Ancient Israel: A new permanent exhibition dedicated to the archeology of ancient Israel and neighboring lands opened this month at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Philadelphia.

The Canaan and Ancient Israel exhibit features more than 500 rare ancient artifacts dating from roughly 3000 to 500 BCE, principally excavated by museum archeologists in Israel, Jordan and Lebanon. Objects include pottery, statuary, inscribed jar handles and seals, weapons and weights, personal objects of gold and ivory, semi-precious stones and carved faces from sarcophagi.

University archeologists and a few others uncovered nearly 15,000 ancient artifacts from Bible Lands between 1921 and 1981.

The museum is located at 33rd and Spruce streets, Philadelphia. 215-898-4000.

* * *

Travel Tidbits:

• A 40-page color Visitors Guide to Palm Springs, California, is available free of charge by calling 800-34-SPRINGS (800-347-7746).

• The Four Seasons hotel chain is opening a new property in Las Vegas in the first quarter of 1999. As a non-gaming hotel, the Four Seasons Las Vegas will be a small (424 rooms), quiet and residential "oasis of elegance and tranquility." 702-632-5000.

• Travelspots is the largest Canadian-owned and operated travel information service on the Internet. Run by *CJN* reader Judy Singerman of Toronto, Travelspots is located at [www.travelspots.com].

•Sanctuary and Synagogue: The Experience of the Portuguese and Ashkenazic Jews in Amsterdam opened this month at the Jewish Theological Seminary, 3080 Broadway, New York. With rare engravings from the library's print collection, the art exhibit traces the roots and development of these two Jewish communities in Amsterdam. Through Feb. 28. 212-678-8000.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Artist's images connect at emotional-sensual level

Continued from page 40

Old Country Trilogy. The first two parts of the work are *Zummel* and *Court Yard*, which examine the dissolution of a community, and what happens to people imprisoned in a ghetto. *Resistance*, the last part of the trilogy, returns to choice and hope. Excerpts of this new piece will be performed at the Bloor JCC Holocaust Education event.

Kaeja feels too, that he wants to tell these stories through images that connect with the emotional-sensual levels. He employs metaphor to take himself, performers and viewers on a learning journey which leads to catharsis.

According to Pfefferkorn, when teaching the arts, "you have to find the metaphor which is both familiar and alien. Familiar in order to enable the reader or listener to make contact with the experience, and alien to indicate that one has entered the land of the grotesque…"

A child survivor who was brought to England after the war, he eventually became a student of theatre. "Drama is an underlying human experience," he says. "We're just not always aware of it."

While in the United States on a Fulbright scholarship, he applied this concept to design Holocaust curricula using drama and stories.

"Empirically we can't reconstruct an experience. We can reconstruct the spirit of an experience …through metaphor. If you're a good storyteller you can convey it better than fact."

He suggests that young people be introduced to the Holocaust years gradually through symbols and images. In this way, the youngsters won't be shut down by the weight of the material, yet they will assimilate it in a profound way.

At the same time, Pfefferkorn warns that we must guard against distortion, denial and the watering down of events. We cannot reduce that era to only another instance of inhumanity, because then we deny the depth and particularity of those years. Through generalization, we depersonalize those who perished, and make them nameless and faceless. From victims' acts of courage during a time of terror we can, however, extrapolate what it means when the world loses its soul.

We must remember the Holocaust, Pfefferkorn says, "because for democracies, it is a lesson that might prepare societies for facing economic and political crises without going under and turning back to the Middle Ages."

He adds that the lessons of the Holocaust are important to Jews, but just as valuable to other nations since, "Hitler's dark design" intended to subvert the entire Western world.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

FILM SET IN HOLOCAUST IS "SWEET & FUNNY"

Italian stand-up comic and film maker **Roberto Benigni** has received much acclaim and media attention of late for his film *La Vita e Bella (Life Is Beautiful)*, which won the Grand Jury Prize at Cannes this year and the People's Choice Award this season at both the Toronto and Montreal film festivals.

A recent profile on Benigni in the *New York Times Magazine* ("The Funniest Italian You've Probably Never Heard Of," Oct. 11) called him "Italy's Robin Williams" and described his latest film, a comedy set in the Holocaust, in glowing terms.

The film focuses on Guido, an Italian Jew who is deported with his 5-year-old son to a German concentration camp, where he tries to convince the boy that their horrific surroundings are part of an elaborate game.

Life Is Beautiful took Israel by storm, so much so that Jerusalem **Mayor Ehud Olmert** gave Benigni a medal of recognition. The film, which recently opened in the United States, is expected to be a contender for Best Foreign Language Film at next year's Oscar ceremonies.

The Toronto Jewish Film Festival is screening this "sweet and funny fairy tale romance" as a fund-raising event, Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m. at the York Cinema, 101 Eglinton Ave. E. Tickets $25 include post-film party at the nearby Shark City Athletic Club. 324-8600.

Play Reading: *Virtual Reality*, a play by **Eli Pfefferkorn**, contrasts the opinions of Holocaust victims and modern museum sponsors. **Jennifer Herszman Capraru** directs a reading of the play on Nov. 1, 4 p.m. as part of The Holocaust: A Cultural Perspective–the Bloor JCC's third annual Holocaust Education Week conference.

Tickets for the two-day conference (Oct. 31 and Nov. 1) are $12 in advance, $15 at the door. Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave.

Arts Briefs:

• *Israel Today*, a new public affairs TV program about Israel, is hosted by **Howard Adelman** with commentary by **Louis Greenspan**; **Shira Herzog** joins the show in mid-November. The focus is the March of the Living on Nov. 2; Israel at 50 on Nov. 9. CTS, channel 36, cable 9, Monday, 9:30 p.m.

• Toronto Symphony principal cellist **Daniel Domb** and his partner, guitarist **Carey Domb**, present a musical soiree of familiar romantic love songs, accompanied by the **Robert Raines Orchestra**. Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street at Avenue Road. $20 Oct. 31, 8 p.m. 482-6174.

Going Home: TALK 640 radio in Toronto is presenting the documentary special *Going Home to Auschwitz*, right after the 1 p.m. news. The radio station's **Marsha Lederman** attended the recent March of the Living and documented her experience during the annual march in Poland.

At the Galleries:

• Artists **Devora Neumark**, **Wende Bartley** and **Naomi Kahane** have produced the collaborative installation IRIS that is on view at the Koffler Gallery, 4588 Bathurst St., through Dec. 13. Opening Oct. 29, 7 to 9 p.m. Artist talk, Nov. 1, 2 p.m. Free. 636-1880, ext. 268.

• The Mission, a monumental painting by **Dubi Arie** commemorating 4,000 years of Jewish history, was on view at the CNE this summer and may be seen at Uptown Gallery Inc. through Nov. 18. 43 Martin Ross Ave., North York. Meet-the-artist reception Oct. 28, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. 739-1929.

• **Willowdale Group of Artists** presents its 51st annual fall show, Nov. 1 to 28, North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St. Opening ceremony, Nov. 1, 4 to 7 p.m. Refreshments. 395-5535.

Holocaust Education Week: The 18th annual memorial week runs Oct. 29 to Nov. 9, with the usual full roster of events – such as:

• A reading of *Kindertransport*, **Diane Samuel's** poignant play, by the Holy Blossom Stagecraft Company, Oct. 31, 8 p.m. Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, Bathurst Jewish Centre.

• Toronto playwright **Marion Andre's** Holocaust play *The Sand*, performed by the Medina Theatre Ensemble, Nov 2 and 3, 15 Hove St., North York.

• *Musical Remnants of Eastern Europe*, performed by **Mickey Lewin**, Nov. 3, 7 p.m. Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave., North York.

• **The Jewish Folk Choir** performs songs in Yiddish, English and Hebrew, Nov. 4, 7 p.m. Barbara Frum Library, North York.

• *The Hidden Story of the Jews: Airbrushing the Jews Out of History*, a talk by film producer **Simcha Jacobovici**, Nov. 4, 8 p.m. Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St., Thornhill.

• *Healing by Killing*, a film by **Nitzan Aviram**, presented by the Morris Winchevsky School, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Oct. 31, 8 p.m. Free.

More Holocaust Remembrance: A cultural program "In Their Own Words" taken from diaries, poems and songs written during the Holocaust is being presented in English and Yiddish on Nov. 1, 2:30 p.m. Adapted from the original by **Srul Irving Glick** and **Hindy Nosek-Abelson**, the show features singers **Lenka Lichtenberg** and **Michael Smolash** (*Forever Plaid*).

A joint presentation of the Federation's Committee for Yiddish and the Workmen's Circle, it takes place in the auditorium, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family. There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah. They cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, 1998.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50. Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 4, 1998.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 10, 1998. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Experts examine economic outlook

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Anyone expecting a hot stock tip or anything more than general advice for these uncertain economic times probably came away from a recent UJA Federation event a little disappointed.

Economist Peter Drake and portfolio manager Jonathan Goodman did provide outlines of the risks associated with the current bear market, and they did explain why world markets have headed south recently, but neither went out on a limb to suggest specific investments in the months ahead.

Instead, their advice to 100 eager investment acolytes was much broader. "Get in the habit of learning... You don't have any choice," said Drake, vice-president and deputy chief economist for the Toronto-Dominion Economic Group. Learn to live with globalization and accept only those risks that allow you to sleep at night, he told a gathering of the young business and young professionals networks of UJA Federation.

Goodman, vice-president of Goodman and Company, also cast his gaze at the global stage, noting how current economic difficulties "started as a currency crisis, turned into the Asian flu and became the global economic crisis."

Speaking soon after the U.S. Federal Reserve Board dropped interest rates by one-quarter of a percentage point, Goodman said, "It was the first time in four years that the Fed [did so] without a public discussion." He speculated that "there's a problem out there that we don't know about but will learn about" soon enough.

Turning from macro-economics to the micro scale, Goodman said that in today's "high risk market," cash is a tremendous asset to hold in a portfolio. "It allows you to buy at great values when things go down."

His firm is "building a shopping list" by "valuating businesses, doing our homework, seeing how much a company is worth and waiting for opportunities. A stock well bought is a stock well owned," he said.

"This is not a good market to hit home runs. We're looking to hit singles."

Goodman declined to get more specific, but when he was asked if the stock market had hit bottom, he predicted it could fall another 10 percent.

Drake discounted suggestions the world could be entering another depression like the one triggered by the 1929 stock market crash, though "one learns never to say never."

An important difference today is that world leaders acknowledge the existence of a global economy. Unlike the situation in the 1930s, world economic leaders are priming the pump of their national economies and not shutting the door to trade, he said.

In Canada, the economy is expected to grow at a rate of 1.5 percent in 1998 and one percent in 1999, according to Toronto Dominion economists, Drake added.

Travel, Arts & Business

Play explores family conflicts

By PETER CAULFIELD
Special to The CJN

The Waltonsteins, a one-woman play by Vancouver-based writer/performer Frannie Sheridan, is being presented Nov. 2 at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

The play, which has been variously dubbed a "traumady of errors" and "an incredible story," is a comedy/drama based on Sheridan's real-life family story. Their Holocaust survivor parents raised her and her six brothers and sisters to hide their Jewishness and pretend to be Christian.

Sheridan's father, an established and respected eye doctor, changed the family's name from Sigal to Sheridan, and had the entire family converted to Roman Catholicism.

"My parents believed that to tell anyone we were Jewish equated with death," Sheridan said.

Although the Sheridans/Waltonsteins feared that another Holocaust was just over the horizon, the family was a war zone rather than a buffer against the outside world. Father and mother fought incessantly (in Yiddish), using their children as pawns in their never-ending battles.

The first performance of *The Waltonsteins* took place in Vancouver in August 1995. Since then, it has been performed more than 25 times in Canada and the United States.

Sheridan said *The Waltonsteins* started out as personal therapy. "The play is about a young woman's journey through life, the obstacles she encounters and how she deals with them by going back to her roots and ultimately finding out the truth about her heritage and telling the truth."

Sheridan called *The Waltonsteins* a family story that most people, both Jewish and non-Jewish, will be able to relate to.

"The play touches on everyone's family experiences and unresolved family conflicts," she said. "It encourages people to examine their own family situations."

The one-woman production is spare, with the stage bare except for lighting design. "The play is relatively set and prop free," Sheridan said. "The stark and bare environment gives me the freedom to create the play within the audience's imagination."

Over the past three years, the play has evolved. "Now it's a more professional gig, a play," the 36-year-old said. "I still find it challenging and I love doing it. Personally, I find my performances hugely rewarding, and I know many people in the audience get a lot out of the play as well."

Paul Kyle, a West Vancouver art dealer and "Frannie's biggest fan," said he was deeply affected by *The Waltonsteins*.

"It's very emotional and also incredibly entertaining at the same time," Kyle noted. "I felt the full gamut of emotions, and I'm not easily moved to tears."

When the play was first presented, Sheridan's family was so terrified about being "outed" as Jews that they threatened her with legal action.

Over time, however, their feelings about the play have mellowed. "Some of my siblings and their families have seen the play, and it has changed their lives," Sheridan said. "Many of them are now exploring their Jewish roots. They're learning Hebrew, attending conversion courses, going to synagogue." Sheridan's father, who lives today in his native Vienna, has returned to Judaism.

"It's important to be proud of who you are," Sheridan said. "If my story can evoke a feeling of pride, that's good."

The Toronto performance is sponsored by the Israel Cancer Research Fund. After its Toronto performance, *The Waltonsteins* moves to Ottawa (Nov. 7 to 9), Waterloo (Nov. 13) and Vancouver (Nov. 15 and 16)

The Waltonsteins is co-written by Lynna Goldhar-Smith, and is currently being workshopped by director Michelle Porter. Original music is by Laurie Lesk and lighting design by Kerrene John.

A feature film based on the play, with Sheridan playing the role of her mother, is currently in the development stage. The film will be directed by Edmonton-born director Arthur Hiller, who directed *Love Story*.

FUNDRAISER FOR HOSPITAL
Pictured at the Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim- Herzog Hospital Gala Concert which raised over $100,000 for the hospital are [from left]Srul Glick (musical coordinator), John Arpin (pianist), Jacques Israelivitch (violinist), Lydia Wong (pianist) and Shauna Rolston (cellist). [Kodiak Gallery photo]

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Travel, Arts & Business

Pianist shines thanks to strong family support

By LORI FIREMAN
Special to The CJN

Ori Friedman

VAUGHAN — To those who've seen the movie *Shine*, the term piano prodigy instantly connotes the image of Geoffrey Rush as David Helfgott, a once-great musician reduced to a stuttering shell of a man exhausted by the pressures of early success, and a father unwilling to let go.

Happily, Ori Friedman is no David Helfgott. That they are both pianists and of rich Jewish heritage appears to be where the resemblance starts and ends.

"Helfgott had conflicts at home...His father did not support him...My father and family have gone out of their way for me," Friedman says.

As Gabriel Friedman looks on, there can be no doubt that this is true. Interviewing Ori is as much an interview with his father, as the violinist and music teacher eagerly details his son's many accomplishments.

At the age of 15, Ori has already received international acclaim, having performed with numerous orchestras in the United States, and at such esteemed galas as a tribute to Broadway legend Kitty Carlisle-Hart, an AIDS benefit by designer Pierre Cardin, and a special occasion honoring Maestro Isaac Stern.

He has the distinction of being one of the youngest pianists to have recorded a CD, and with only six years of piano studies, has earned a full scholarship to the Juilliard School pre-college program in New York, where he is currently being taught by Yoheved Kaplinsky, the chair of the piano department.

His scholarship, the Chalmers Performing Arts Training Grant is rarely given to such a young musician.

Ori's original desire was not to be a pianist, but a ballet dancer, and he was successful enough to be accepted, like his younger sister Natalie, to the National Ballet School of Canada. On his switch from dance to piano, Ori says, "I suppose I always had the rhythm inside me. I was just unsure how to express my love for music."

'I always had the rhythm inside me'

A gifted scholar, Ori skipped Grade 1 and left Yorkhill Public School to attend the Independent Learning Centre, where he can work more productively and accommodate his busy touring schedule.

"Piano is fun," he says. "Satisfaction with my playing is what's important."

Ori recently won a competition to perform *Rhapsody in Blue* at the Avery Fisher Hall with the Little Orchestra Society in New York to honor George Gershwin's birthday and New York's centenary.

He is thrilled, he says, about his upcoming performance at Vaughan's City Playhouse. His program will include, among others, pieces by Beethoven and Chopin, and Ori welcomes the opportunity "to be able to share what I've learned with the friends and family who have always supported me."

Ori performs at the City Playhouse located on 1000 New Westminster Drive (and Bathurst). Tickets obtained at 905-709-4057, or call Ticket Master.

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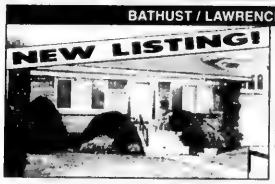

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Fabulous 42'x126' lot! Renovated 2 storey, 3 bedroom., private drive. Cheryl Sniderman* 488-2875.

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME AT OAKLEY PLACE!
Mature treed enclave lots start at $569k. M. Paul**/C. Sniderman* 488-2875.

1ST AD! 38 HOUNSLOW AVE! $499,000
Fab. 40.25 x 132' lot, surrounded by new dev't! Prime Yonge/Finch local! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

30 FOREST WOOD! $449K! 3+2 BR., 4 BTH.
Exec. split level! Updated! Mn. family room + sep. nanny suite! Fabulous 50' lot!+++ Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

AVENUE/LAWRENCE 50 FT. LOT!
Building lot - 1st Ad! Won't last! Sammy Roth** 488-2875.

144 GOULDING AVENUE! NOW $377,700!
Reno 4+2 bdrm., 4 bath, split level in absolute move in condition! Fabulous 50x132'! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

109 YORK DOWNS DR! $339,900!
Spacious 3+1 bdrm., 3 bath, main fam. + lau. + 2 pce.! Fab. in-law suite! Backs onto Clanton Park! S. Schwartzben** 226-1987.

105 CARMICHAEL AVE! NOW $269,900!
Avenue Rd. S./Wilson P... SOLD 40x115' w/bonus! Updated 2+1 br. bung.! Shows to pe...tion! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

PARK LANE CIRCLE - 2.6 ACRE - RAVINE
"Baghai" built over 12,500' ultimate finishes, pool & tennis court. Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875.

225 KINGSDALE AVENUE $679,000!
Bayview/Sheppard! Just completed by Neotekton Ltd.! Lux. 3,600'! Walk-out basement! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

BRIDLE PATH/POST ROAD AREA! 439K!
Unbelievable 4+2 br. ... SOLD main fam. rm. overlooks spectacular 90'x146' lot! Sep. ...ste.! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

BAYVIEW MILLS TOWNHOUSE - 3 BDRM., 3 BATH
Renovated - 2 car garage, corner unit, private patio, outstanding value. J. Uslaner*/S. Gruenstein* 226-1987.

NORTH PROPERTIES

MAGNIFICENT - BATHURST - 407 $995,000
Modern, bright & spacious, 1/2 acre. Lynn York* 488-2875.

4000+ SQ. FT., 4 BDRM. ONLY $629,900
W/o lower level, ravine lot, pool, fabulous kitchen, granite/hrdwd./skylites. Cul-de-sac. S. Gruenstein*/J. Uslaner* 226-1987.

CONDOMINIUMS

240 HEATH ST. VENDOR MOTIVATED!!!
Beautiful luxury condo, 2 bath, large principal rooms, 2 bdrms., concierge+++ Eleanor London* 226-1987.

2200 JOHN ST. $179,000 - ASCOT
2 bdrm., 2 baths, 5 appl., concierge, exercise room, 2 parking, locker. Baghai built. Eleanor London* 226-1987.

150 NEPTUNE DR. VALUE PLUS!
3 bdrm. condo, 1,300 sq. ft., large kitchen, laundry, ensuite, 2-4 pce. washrooms. Large principal rooms. Rose Simon* 226-1987.

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

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Charming – on park, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, fin. bsmt., lovely grnds. Furnished pref. – short term lease poss. P. Bernstein*

TOWNHOUSE IN THORNHILL
SOLD
3 bdrm., 2 bath, family ... Deep landscaped lot. Shows well. Paula Bernstein* & Harold Hillman**

NEW LISTING @ BATHURST & CARRVILLE–HURRY!!
Det. 4 bdrm. w/mn. flr. fam. rm. & library. Dbl. gar. Gleaming white kit. Sep. entry to bsmt. apt. w/2 bdrms. Only $328,800 – Perry Steinberg**

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Newer white kit., drk. stained hrdwd. flrs., newer roof/furnace/C.A. 57 ft. lot. Child-safe crescent. Perry Steinberg**

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Lovingly updated by original owner. 3 bdrm. brick bung., close to BJC, schools & subway, thermal wind., C/A, rec. rm., move-in cond.
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REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

BATHURST & CENTRE – UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Over 4,000 sq. ft., pool size lot, mature trees, park like setting, loaded with extras, steps to everything. *Cila Fleischmann

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CUSTOM BUNGALOW AT HILDA & STEELES
73 x 150 ft. lot, very unique! Upgraded kitchen, ceramics, cathedral ceiling, income basement. *Cila Fleischmann

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THORNHILL 4 BDRM. BEAUTY – A PERFECT 10++
Totally upgraded, designer kit., slate entrance, hardwood floors & more! **Joan Landy

• • •

BATHURST/CENTRE $399,000. "ROSEDALE NORTH"
A beauty! Move right in! Nanny's 1/4's, steps to private/public schools! *Helen Gould

• • •

BAYVIEW & WILLOWBROOK – QUIET CRESCENT
Demand area! 4 bdrms, finished rec. room, motivated vendor! *Helen Gould

• • •

BATHURST/CENTRE "ROSEDALE NORTH"
4 bdrms., backs onto homes, 2 car garage, $299,900! *Larry Wronzberg

• • •

BATHURST/CENTRE "WILSHIRE" – 1ST AD!
2 year new 4 bdrm. freehold TH, upgraded, 2nd floor laundry, garage access, fenced, separate shower stall in ensuite, over 2,000', great location! *Perry Waisglass

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FINCH AVENUE WEST – 60 FT. FRONT
Renovated house, ideal for professional office, best value on Finch. *Cila Fleischmann

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BATHURST & CLARK – MUST SEE! $244,900.
3 bdrms., appls., air, newly decorated throughout! Part. fin. bsmt. *Ted Waxman

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST/CENTRE "ONE OF A KIND" 3 BEDROOM
About 2,000 sq. ft., large principal rms., tandem parking, locker $279K. *Ted Waxman

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BATHURST SOUTH OF STEELES $153,900
Fabulous 2 bdrm. condo, great exposure, ensuite laundry, parking. *Helen Winer

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
3 bdrms. split lvl., 3 bths., fam. rm., liv. & din. combo, fin. bsmnt., dble. gar.

• • •

ALLEN RD. SHEPPARD
3 bdrm., SOLD fin. bsmnt., dble. drive, gar.

• • •

BLUE FOREST AREA
4+ bdrms., 4 bths., huge liv. & din., lge. kit., fam. rm., fin. bsmnt., steps to all

• • •

BATHURST SHEPPARD
3 bdrms., SOLD mod. kit., fin. bsmnt., gar.

• • •

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Armour Heights - 4 + 1 bdrm., 4 bth., 55' x 174' lot, $450K. Private, no agents. 416-943-5527.

Bath./Lawrence - 1 1/2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bth., new kit., new bsmnt., hrdwd. flr., priv. drive. Must sell! $249K. 416-789-0728

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Cedarvale - Warwick Ave. off Strathearn, 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bth., CAC, 4 appl., w/out, gar., rec. room, avail. Nov. 1. $2200/mo + utilities. 416-762-7292.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Crystal Towers - New lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., 1 pkg. 466-2529.

Don Mills - Skymark, lux., 5 rooms., 1560 sq. ft., view, many extras, appl. pkg. 416-491-2613

Marlee/Ridelle - 2 bdrm., PH, near subway & shops, A1 cond., private. $140K. 785-6602

80 ANTIBES DRIVE 3 bdrms., 2 baths, all appliances, high floor, immediately! Call **Saul Goldkind,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **416-739-7200.**

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

Rel. senior couple will house sit. No charge. Great refs. Pref. near Forest Hill. 204-284-2921.

Room & Board in Toronto in exchange for p/t driver/nanny, afternoons & evenings. Call Heather at 416-340-4491.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/Sheppard - Sunny, bright, 2 bdrm., underground. pkg. Call 416-635-5031.

Bathurst/Steeles - 1 bdr. bsmt. apt., sep. entr., all incl., avail. Nov. 1, after 6pm 905-731-1071

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

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125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., bright bsmt. apt., modern, n/smkr, pkg., sep. entr., near TTC, business person preferred. 416-638-4070.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

SPEND THIS WINTER IN WEST PALM BEACH
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
Luxury Condo Rentals Overlooking Golf Course
1, 2, and 3 bedrooms available with or without Golf. 3 Month Minimum.
Call or write for further information.
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

West Palm Bch, Century Village,grnd. flr. condo, corn. unit., 1 bdr., 1 1/2 bth., furn., estate sale. Avail. immed. $17,500 US. Call Florida, 561-734-4241 or Toronto, 416-221-9064.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Boca, Century Village, beautifully furn., 1 bdr, 1 1/2 bth, 2 flr, lake view, elev. 905-889-3779.

Delray Beach Villas, beautiful villa, 2 bdr., 2 bth., screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, close to shul. Million $$ Club. $1400/mo. 905-886-4930.

Ft. Laud., 1 bdrm + conv, 1 1/2 bth, encl. sun rm, avail Jan. for the season, $1100./mo U.S. 905-886-1150.

Ft. Lauderdale - Bonaventure 2 br., 2 bth., sleeps 6, del., all amen., AC, TV, micro., golf, tennis, pool, reas. 733-1019.

Hallandale, Diplomat Parkway, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath condo, balc., canal view, $1,400/mo. U.S.+ util. Avail. Dec. 1- April 15. Season pref. 416-932-1345

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on ocean, 1 bdr conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. from January. 488-9819.

Lauderdale Lakes - Somerset 1+1condo w/encl., Florida rm. Newly renov. Fully furnished. 2nd flr. Elev. Pool. Clubhouse. Asking $1200/mo. U.S. 3 mo. min. Call Shelly, 905-737-9937

North Miami Beach, Coastal Towers, 2 bdrm., 2 baths apt. Avail. immediately. $1300/mo. U.S. 416-223-7147.

Polo Club, Boca Raton. Lux. 4 bdrm., courtyard home with heated swimming pool, cabana, walking distance to club house & facil. Avail. Dec. & Jan. $10,000 Cndn/mo. 964-7775.

Pompano Beach, Oceanfront, spotless 2 bdr., 2 bth., close to shopping & golf, all amen., for the season. Serious only, $2400/mo. U.S. 416-443-8909.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Pompano Beach, X-lge. apt., 2 bth., fully furn., on ocean, pool, clubhouse, 2-3 mos., Jan. 15. $1900/mo US. 416-967-3678.

South Palm Beach, on ocean, 1 bdrm. conv., 2 bth., S/E exp., newly decorated. 416-322-6471

West Palm Bch., Lands of the President, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., overlooks golf course 416-498-0966

West Palm Beach, Century Village, 1 bdrm condo, 1 1/2 bth., balc., liv /din. area, kit. $3,500 US/season. 972-964-1144.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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Some seasonal rentals still available. Play tennis on our new cushioned courts, enjoy our new outdoor putting green. Workout in our first class fitness center. Swim in our beautiful indoor/outdoor pools. You'll love our magnificent lifestyle, and the nicest people you will meet anywhere!!!
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Miami, Hallandale - 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bths., ocean view, $1700/mo. U.S. 416-638-7257.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Pembroke Pines, Hollybrook Golf & Tennis Club, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bths., fully furnished & equipped. Call 905-770-8720.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Hollywood/Hallandale/Pembroke Pines - 2 br./den., 2 bth. condo, fully furn, clean, modern. Mid Jan. - mid Mar. 226-2145.

Palm Aire - Oaks pref., 2 bdrm., Feb. or 6 wks., must be immaculate & updated. Refs. provided. 416-226-2025.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Housemate, companion for senior citizen in Miami Beach wanted for winter months. Call 416-789-3007 after 7pm.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

LAKE SIMCOE - FABULOUS LOT $219,900!!
Hidden behind a soaring hedge, this south facing lot slopes very gently over 226 ft. to 88 ft. of waterfront with natural beach area, beautiful mature trees. Cozy 900 sq. ft. cottage included!
Call Adrienne Meier now! Sales Rep. Royal LePage First Contact Realty Ltd. Toll Free 1-877-728-4067

LUXURY LAKESIDE CONDO - BARRIE $149,900!!
15th floor, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, corner unit with private balcony overlooking bay, marina and city. Shows mint - won't last!!
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190 VACATION PROPERTIES

PALM SPRINGS
VACATION RENTALS
We have 1-2-3 bedroom condos Nicely furnished in super location From $850 - $3500 per month
CHOPSY SAMUELSON REALTY
(760) 327-8429

Lux. 2 bdrm condo in **Palm Springs, Calif.,** avail for rental, lots of amen, gated. 707-5685.

192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, CA, 2 bdr., 2 bth condo, winter season, 2 pools, tennis, etc., near downtown. $1250 US/mo. 818-591-7978.

Spain, Marbella - private villa, pool, near beach, maid service, call 416-922-4965 until Nov. 15, after fax 011-3-498-643-4183.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

WATERFRONT PARADISE!
Lake Simcoe - 2 km. from Barrie - 1 hr. to Toronto. 2½ acres TOTALLY PRIVATE waterfront estate w/201' frontage, architecturally exquisite residence w/cathedral ceilings, soaring 2-way fieldstone FP, spectacular views, south exp. A year-round paradise. $1,495,000.
Call
Adrienne Meier or Krista Alkerton
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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

$2500 US/wk income potential. Own your own business. Become financially secure. **Call - 24 hrs. 416-410-6818.**

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SCRAP METAL OPERATION
We are seeking a person to be Receiver/Shipper Manager for a large scrap metal operation in the greater Toronto (Ontario, Canada) area. Person should be experienced in Non-Ferrous Scrap Metals. Excellent Compensation/Benefits. All replies will be treated in strictest confidence. Apply to CJN Box 7112

City of Vaughan
The City Above Toronto

Located in the Greater Toronto Area, the Municipality of Vaughan is one of Canada's fastest growing urban communities with a population of 140,000

Capital Clerk

As an integral part of the Finance department, you will provide administrative assistance to the Capital Finance Accountant with the capital finance and accounting function. Your primary responsibilities will include monitoring expenditures and financial transaction process, preparing and reviewing invoice/cheque requisitions, helping to prepare quarterly reports for council and Statistics Canada, and responding to enquiries from staff, contractors, etc., regarding such matters as capital works and invoice payments. You will also be expected to assume associated research and liaison duties, and maintain appropriate records.

Your background combines a minimum of two years of financial analysis and general accounting experience, preferably in a municipal environment, with a secondary school diploma (or suitable equivalent) and enrolment in a professional accounting program. You have a working knowledge of PC applications including Lotus 1-2-3 and WordPerfect, and mainframe computer experience. The ability to communicate effectively at all management and government levels is important.

To be considered for this position, please forward your resume, quoting **File #98-101**, by **November 6, 1998**, to **City of Vaughan, Human Resources Department, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, Ontario, L6A 1T1. Fax: (905) 832-8575** *We thank all applicants but advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.*

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Electrologist & massage therapist to join prof aesthetic clinic at Bathurst & Lawrence. 416-783-9462

Opportunity for self starter. Ideal for student, homemaker, semi or retired. P/T can develop into F/T. Computer, sales, office exp. important. 416-544-3516

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Sun. morning Hebrew school in West Toronto requires exp teacher immed for a small multi-age class. Excellent remuneration for the qualified candidate. Call Arlene at 416-766-8261

247 DAY CARE

Daycare by exp. ECE teacher Bath/Elgin Mills 905-737-3534

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Lady avail. to live-in Mon-Fri, for elderly. Refs. 416-265-1913.

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Exp. cleaning lady avail. Mon. - Sun. Reas rates,refs.588-0658

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Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning, Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

Polish cleaning lady w/exp. for apts. & houses. 416-693-0279

Stasia will clean your home or office beautifully. 905-542-3602

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Live-in/out Tagalog speaking & European nannies/h avail **NO FEE TO THE EMPLOYER** International Value. 487-5157

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Legal, l-out nanny, f/t, drivers lic., care of 1 & 3 yr old, cleaning/cooking, summers up north. Fax refs & resume to 482-2860

Live-in companion/housekeeper for elderly lady, drivers lic. & refs. req'd. 416-494-4424

Live-out nanny req'd for 2 kids, 8 & 11, + hswrk, needs driv lic, references, Yonge & Davisville area. 416-486-3093

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

HCA to care for elderly, sick or disabled. Nursing home, private home or hospital. 661-9515

PSW avail. for any shift. Exp. & refs. Call 416-386-1884

RN, Yiddish speaking, avail for private duty in the home. Also exp. in dialysis. 416-962-3684.

259 SENIORS

Looking For The Perfect Senior Care? Sincere, exp., quality senior caregivers. HCA, nurses avail. F/t, P/t. Bonded, refs. **Call # 1 Domestics. 416-224-9907.**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together, we really do! 2 more engagements, view photos. 905-731-5204.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Personal Weight Management Coach offers a successful approach to weight & low energy concerns. Rob Sugar's unique one-on-one coaching process may provide a long term solution. Special techniques may offer you better control, more energy and lasting changes in the way you look and feel. For over 10 years, Rob has helped hundreds of people reach their goals with ongoing guidance, support and motivation. He is a therapist, Coach and N.L.P. Practitioner and has been featured by the Toronto Star, City TV, CFRB and other media. **Contact Rob Sugar N.L.P. Pr. at (416) 410-5915.**

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bernie & Mary-Fran Zeldman are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter **Sarah** to **Andrew**, son of **Hyman (Hy) & Sarah Novak** of Montreal. A May wedding is planned.

I have a sister! Hey guys, look who joined the family, **Rebekha Rachel**, to my mommy and daddy **(Maureen & Jonathan Bayer)** on October 11, 1998. Proud grandparents are Rose & Alex Bayer and David Robins and the late Eve Robins.

Katz-Kott - Daniel & Caroline (nee Kott) are delighted to announce the birth of **Jacob Samuel**, born on Sept. 8, 1998. Also thrilled are big sisters Sarah, Lilly and Hannah. Proud grandparents are Bernard & Irene Kott of Toronto, Jean Katz and Milton Katz of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Jacob is named in memory of Zeidis Jack Kott and Samuel Hirschman.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 *Ext.#* 65**
OR **call 1-888-400-3283 *Ext.#* 65**

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single female, young looking, teacher, 47, spirited, loves to laugh, 5'3", 118lbs, kind, has 2 teenage children. Seeking a male, kind, non-smoker, honest, successful, emotionally stable, 40-55. AD#1607

LOVES TO LAUGH
Single mother, 47, slim, attractive, professional, youthful, spirited. Seeking an emotionally and financially secure male, non-smoker for friendship, possible relationship. AD#1611

SPEAKS RUSSIAN
Single Jewish female, attractive, intelligent, kind, honest, non-smoker, good cook. Seeking a Jewish male, that speaks Russian and is in the similar age group. AD#1626

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, down to earth, professional, enjoy movies, theater, music, reading, travelling, walks, bowling, keeping fit seeking a single Jewish male, 31-43 with similar interests & values. AD#1596

NIFTY 50'S
Single female, 50's, 5'1", slim, warm, sincere, charming, down to earth, good sense of humour, no dependents, variety of interests. Seeking a well groomed, non-smoker, easy going, emotionally mature, caring male from the Toronto vicinity. AD#1591

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, attractive, intelligent, kind, caring, many varied interests. Seeking a male, 68+, educated, honest, caring, sincere. AD#1599

OUTGOING
divorced female, 36, fit, attractive, sincere, witty, outgoing. Seeking a male, 35-40, with no dependents, beautiful on the inside and outside with similar qualities. AD#1579

EMOTIONALLY OPEN
Single female, attractive, affectionate, creative, curious, enjoy folk dancing, hiking, cross country skiing, music. Seeking a caring, warm, fun loving male, that is open to new experiences, emotionally open and expressive. AD#1583

BEST FRIEND, LOVER, PARTNER
Single Jewish lady, 47, 5', auburn hair, blue eyes, sparkling smile, bright, pretty, playful, romantic, non-smoker, loves kids, pets. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, open, honest, handsome, for long term relationship. AD#1571

BEAUTY INSIDE AND OUT
Divorced Jewish female, 36, attractive, fit, witty, outgoing. Seeking a Jewish male, 34-40, with no dependents and similar qualities. AD#1587

KNOW HOW TO TREAT A LADY?
Single Jewish female, slim, green eyes, dark hair, attractive. Seeking a Jewish male, 49+, 5'9"+, someone who will pamper and spoil me. AD#1672

SPICE UP MY LIFE
Single female, pretty, trim, affectionate, cheerful. Seeking a male, 50+, wise, witty, content with his accomplishments in life. AD#1563

WARM MY NIGHTS
Single Jewish lady, slim, bright green eyes, romantic, varied interests. Seeking a Jewish male, 49+, 5'9"+, intelligent, kind, caring. AD#1570

FAMILY VALUES
Single female, enjoy entertaining, theater, travelling. Seeking a male, honest, thoughtful, respectful, with similar interests. AD# 1575

VIVA LAS VEGAS
Single Jewish female, very stylish, dark hair, green eyes, enjoy dining & dancing, comedy clubs, movies, music, trips to Las Vegas. Seeking a single male, handsome, 31-43, with similar interests and outlook. AD#1572

FRIENDSHIP AND MORE
Single professional Jewish female, non-traditional, 29, well travelled, has cultural interests. Seeking a stimulating, intelligent Jewish male, with good sense of humour, bold, 25-35. AD#1589

SOULMATE NEEDED
Single female, 41, long red hair, vibrant, attractive, a dreamer, teacher & a writer. Seeking a handsome, intellectual male, a soulmate to rome the universe with. AD#1542

ENGLISH ROSE
Single female, 45, red hair, blue eyes, outgoing personality, non-smoker, enjoy opera, ballet, music, theater, travelling, especially europe, fine dining. Seeking a tall, bright, established male, kind, clean shaven, under 60. AD#1549

ENERGETIC
Single female, professional, 40, slim, attractive, athletic, enjoy golfing, travelling dining out, fine wines. Seeking a male with a sense of humour, enjoys the finer things in life, similar interests. AD#1552

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single female, European background, orthodox, attractive, intelligent, educated, 57?. Seeking a single male, 34-43, honest, kind, caring, good sense of humour and family values. AD# 1554

SUNSHINE SMILE
Single female, slim, petite, 5'2", brown hair & eyes, radiant smile, music teacher, professional, self-employed, enjoy dining, dancing, cycling, swimming. Seeking a considerate fit, young at heart male with similar values and interests. AD#1555

Men seeking Women

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity. Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

CLASS OF '98
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit. AD#1584

NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional. Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, satire & Jewish values. AD#1595

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel. Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and children in the future. AD#1597

SEEKING A COMPANION
Single male, 31, 5'10", medium build, brown eyes, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, outdoor activities, quiet evening at home. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1615

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SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives. Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests. AD#1616

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking. Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family. AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead. AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing. Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times. AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times. Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour. AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace. Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group. AD#1547

LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing. Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests. AD#1527

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NO HEAD GAMES
single male, 40, originally from Montreal, handsome, sincere, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hardworking. Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour. AD#1543

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38. Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship. AD#1523

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male, late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling. Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded. AD#1534

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-faceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tete-a tetes. lots of T.L.C. to give. Seeking a slim, elegant, non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre". AD#1504

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Professional gentleman, Jewish, 52, traditional values, handsome, healthy, successful, enjoy good food, dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking marriage minded lady, looks are not important, for a long term relationship. AD#1513

ROMANTIC & LOYAL
Gentleman, early 50's, tall, athletic, Canadian, non-smoker, easy to look at & talk to, enjoy life's pleasures. Seeking an attractive, fit, single Jewish female, 39-45, for lasting love, no pretenders pls. AD#1514

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling. Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile. AD#1485

264 SOCIAL ANNOUCEMENTS

IT'S A GIRL! Levy/Krofchick. Shawn & Traci are extatic to announce the birth of their daughter Shannyn, on October 16, 1998 at 1:39 a.m. Shannyn is welcomed by her grandparents Harvey & Beverly Krofchick, David & Sol Levy, great grandparents, Harry & Betty Goodman, her great aunts and uncles and all her many aunts, uncles and cousins. Shannyn is named in loving memory of her great grandfather Issie Krofchick. Special thanks to North York General Hospital Delivery Team and Nursing Staff. Our greatest appreciation to Dr Linda Stirk.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Fun loving, attractive **SJF** early 30's, brown/blonde hair, brown eyes, 5'1". I am a teacher & enjoy aerobics, movies, dining out, theatre, reading & traveling. Seeking SJM, 30-45 w/similar interests. CJN Box # 7113

Modern Orthodox. Take my niece please! You make Kiddush, I'll light Shabbos candles. Attractive, witty, prof., enjoys travel, willing to relocate seeks a male, 45-55. CJN Box # 7111

Parents, do you have a daughter between 35-45, attr., petite fin. secure? I'll help some special Torontonian men find their soulmate. PO Box 2717, Wpg., Mb. R3C 4B3 204-452-5400

Very pretty woman, likes music, theatre, tennis, mod/trad., seeks handsome Can. born educated, well groomed (jean/tux), fit, fun, employed, non/smkr, good dancer for many simchas, 50's, 5'9" +. CJN Box # 7110

Sincere male, 50, honest & caring would like to meet younger female for a serious relationship. CJN Box # 7106

SJM active, prof., 30's, seeks a down to earth, SJF, 30's. Call 416- 633-1273

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

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315 CARS FOR SALE

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330 OBITUARIES

COHEN, Louis - on Oct. 1, 1998, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #610.

LIEBERMAN, Louis - on Oct. 2, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.

PICOV, Elsie - on Oct. 3, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.

PUGEN, Louis - on Oct. 3, 1998, late of 21 Northmount Ave.

BAER, Zelda - on Oct. 4, 1998, late of 550 Cummer Ave.

FREEDMAN, Max - on Oct. 4, 1998, late of 1131 Steeles Ave W., #1407

SCHEFF, Robert - on Oct. 4, 1998, late of 50 Panorama Crt., #802

SOLOMON, Paul - on Oct. 4, 1998, late of 132 Hillmount Ave.

BORSOOK, Eva - on Oct. 5, 1998, late of 440 Crawford St.

RESNICK, Carl - on Oct. 5, 1998, late of 1 Mill Hill Rd.

MILLER, Phil - on Oct. 6, 1998, late of 7601 Bathurst St., #711

SIGEL, Charles - on Oct. 6, 1998, late of 1 Benvenuto Pl., #424.

JACOBSON, Bella - on Oct. 8, 1998, late of 41 Regatta Cres.

SOMMER, Harry - on Oct. 8, 1998, late of 35 Canyon Ave., #708.

BLISS, Betty - on Oct. 9, 1998, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd., #3202

GROSSMAN, Jennie - on Oct. 10, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

LIBMAN, Annie - on Oct. 10, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.

SHANE, Gerald - on Oct. 10, 1998, late of 1555 Finch Ave E., #2607

ABRAMSON, Belle - on Oct. 11, 1998, late of 72 Laureleaf Rd.

ATLAS, Regina - on Oct. 11, 1998, late of 26 Sparrow Ave.

SOSSIN, David - on Oct. 11, 1998, late of 3705 Bathurst St., #316.

LEIBSZTEIN, Helen - on Oct. 12, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

MILTCHIN, Albert - on Oct. 12, 1998, late of 630 Roselawn Ave., #912.

GREEN, Irene - on Oct. 13, 1998, late of 3000 Bathurst St., PH #1

MARKOWSKI, Abraham - on Oct. 13, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

ALLISON, Kerry - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 400 Walmer Rd., #907

BROWNSTONE, Eva - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

FISHMAN, Alfred - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.

GOLDSTEIN, Stanley - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 3174 Bathurst St., #910.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

WELT, Aaron - on Oct. 5, 1998, late of 360 Ridelle Ave.

WAISGLASS, Jack - on Oct. 7, 1998, late of 43 Frankton Cres.

MARKUS, Jacob - on Oct. 9, 1998, late of 95 Charlton Blvd.

WEISBLATT, Nathan - on Oct. 11, 1998, late of 55 Ameer Ave.

LEVY, Jack - on Oct. 13, 1998, late of 349 Fern Ave.

WOCHENMARKT, Mendel - on Oct. 13, 1998, late of 96 Elm Ridge Dr.

BOLTMAN, Sadie - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 495 Wilson Ave.

KLODAWSKI, Anszel - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 488 Drewry Ave.

PLENER, Herbert - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 49 Exbury Rd.

SHAPIRO, Brenda - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 5 Amos Cres.

FELDMAN, Abraham - on Oct. 15, 1998, late of 660 Eglinton Ave W.

KATES, Gussie - on Oct. 15, 1998, late of 6200 Bathurst St

Steeles Memorial Chapel

KAUFMAN, Erna - on Oct. 9, 1998, late of 351 Christie St.

LEVENE, Ethel- on Oct. 12, 1998, late of 1 Northwestern Ave

MALDAVER, Hartley - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 131 Bloor St. W., #806

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

ZAKON, Frances Pearl - on Oct. 15, 1998

JOSEFSBERG, Alexander - on Oct. 16, 1998

RAHMANI, Joseph Moise - on Oct. 16, 1998, late of 131 Beecroft Rd.

MANN, Jessie - on Oct. 18, 1998, late of 65 Livingston Rd.

SALTZMAN, Lillian - on Oct. 18, 1998

SHAPERO, Pauline - on Oct 18, 1998, late of 7825 Bayview Ave.

BARTA, Peter George - on Oct. 20, 1998

COVRIGARU, Solomon - on Oct. 20, 1998

GLASS, Beverly - on Oct. 20, 1998, late of 1301 Wilson Ave.

MELNICK, Hymie - on Oct. 20, 1998, late of 263 Maxwell St.

MELTZ, Beatrice - on Oct. 20, 1998, late of 6200 Bathurst St

GOLDBERG, Sylvia - on Oct 21, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St

Steeles Memorial Chapel

338 SHIVA CATERING

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

ESTHER BITTNER ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, Nov. 1st, 11:00 a.m.

Pardes Shalom
(Dufferin Street north of Major Mackenzie)
Community Section 5

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

TOBY SHEMEN ז"ל

will take place

Friday, Nov. 6th, 9:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chevra Shas Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

ARTHUR GRYFE ז"ל

(former owner and president of Gryfe's Bagel Bakery)
will take place

Sunday, November 1st at 1:00 p.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

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Government cutbacks seen as hurting medicare

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Medicare in Canada is deteriorating as a result of government funding cuts and privatization of health services, a rally of 350 seniors was told

Among the 16 organizations sponsoring the rally at North York Memorial Hall were the Association of Jewish Seniors (AJS) and the Bernard Betel Centre. Al Gorlick of AJS was chair.

"Your system is underfunded, and privatization is a bizarre route to take because it leads to huge profits for a few powerful people," said Dr. David Himmelstein of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., who recounted abuses of private medical plans in the United States.

The issue was presented to the rally in stark, human terms by three women who gave personal testimony about how hospitals and the medical system had failed them.

Rita Deunisch-Turner of AJS recounted the story of her friend and neighbor, identified only as Ron. He was "dehumanized" by the system, she said, and he was only allowed into a hospital – and not his first choice – when she, Deunisch-Turner, agreed to use her credit card to pay up front.

The friend, a noted radiation scientist, was given a powerful drug that caused diarrhea and sent home with a prescription that cost $300, could only be filled in hospital and was not covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan.

In this case, she related, the patient was sent home by ambulance from the hospital and left alone, even though she had left her name and telephone number to be informed in case of emergency.

"He vowed he would not return to hospital and he chose to die at home. And it was a blessing when he died," said Deunisch-Turner.

Helen Heeney said that "superbugs" which did not respond to antibiotics invaded her hospital room, because the carpets had not been vacuumed for 10 days. Her hospital stay for 10 days turned into a "nightmare" because of the superbugs and the fact that cuts had eliminated the housekeeping department.

Heart patient Dorothy McKinnon said there was no angiogram facility in her hospital, and she had to wait 14 days to have one in a hospital across the street. She suffered a massive hemorrhage as a result of having been given blood thinning drugs, was sent back to her original hospital, given the wrong medicine and put in a windowless room in intensive care.

Finally, after 22 days in hospital, she was operated on at the hospital across the street. It took her four months to recover.

"It's a myth that Canada has the best medical system in the world," she said. "When I needed the system most it let me down."

A two-tier system that rewards the rich and punishes the poor will result from present trends, moderator Bruce Mutch, president of Canadian Pensioners Concerned, warned the audience.

"Health care is in deep trouble, with the support of the provincial government and the tacit approval of the federal government," said Patricia Spindel, a Humber College professor of social sciences.

"It's a scandal the way the Ontario government has hoodwinked the public. It's time to send the Harris government back to the stone age from whence they came," Spindel said.

"Ageist thinking" at Queen's Park has led to disability services and payments being made available for young people but not for seniors, she said, citing the case of a woman who was given $10,000 to $15,000 to cover services for her son, but nothing for her husband, who was suffering from the same non-genetic disability.

Community Access Councils set up by the Ontario government are running out of funds and are a convenient method for the government to avoid responsibility for the situation affecting seniors, Spindel said.

Most of the $1 billion set aside by the Ontario government for long-term care beds will go to private corporations, she predicted.

Fully one-third of the health system in Ontario is already privatized, said lawyer and health care activist Amani Oakley. "There is no proof that the private sector can do things cheaper than the public sector," she said.

She told the story of a Baltimore man who died waiting for a liver transplant, even though one was available. The insurance company would not pay for it, Oakley said. "I don't want to live in a country with such a lack of care."

Councillor Michael Feldman brought greetings from Mayor Mel Lastman who was in China.

New migraine drug approved

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Zomig, a drug that studies have shown to be both quick acting and effective against migraines, has recently been approved for use in Canada.

The announcement was made at a press conference held recently at the King Edward Hotel in downtown Toronto.

Migraine is a biological disorder, involving a complicated relationship between the blood supply to the brain and its nerve network. Symptoms may include one-sided head throbbing pain, sensitivity to light, sound and smell, nausea and vomiting, aura, impaired vision, flashing lights, weakness or numbness.

It tends to run in families, but attacks may be triggered by such factors as stress, diet (such as chocolate, cheese or caffeine), weather, hormonal changes and cerebral dysfunctions.

Emily Levitt, communications manager of The Migraine Association of Canada, described it as "a hammering and throbbing – it is not just another headache. Someone told me it was like a creature inside his head trying to get out of his eye."

Zomig (zolmitriptan, made by Zeneca Pharma) constricts the dilated blood vessels, decreases inflammation and appears to work in the brain stem, which transfers pain to the deeper parts of the brain, according to Dr. Alan Rapoport, director of the New England Centre for Headache in Stamford, Conn.

Rapoport carried out one of the most extensive clinical trials of the drug.

Dr. Gary Shapero, medical director of the Markham Headache and Pain Treatment Centre, who was also involved in the clinical trials of Zomig, said that over three million Canadians, nearly 17 percent of the population, suffer from migraines. It is two and a half times more frequent in women, especially those between 21 and 50, he said, explaining that it frequently is connected with the menstrual cycle. For some reason, Canada, he said, has proportionately one of the highest percentages of sufferers.

The effects go beyond the individual: "71 percent report cancellations of social activities, 51 percent of business activities, and 34 percent say that their holidays have been ruined."

Shapero said that the economic impact is staggering, both in direct costs, such as visits to doctors and hospitals and drugs, as well as in the indirect cost of lost productivity, since migraines can last from two hours to several days.

While there are other drugs available to help migraines, the most notable recent one being Imitrex, Zomig has been shown in clinical trials to meet both physician and patient needs, said Rapoport.

His research shows that it is effective in about 65 percent of the patients who tried it, a significant improvement from Imitrex, which works in about 51 percent of cases. Nearly 95 percent of those report complete success.

He found that while there is usually rapid relief in anywhere from 35 to 40 minutes up to 2 hours, it is effective when taken at any time during the attack, and continues to be effective for future ones.

"It is one of the best tolerated migraine medicines today," Rapoport said, noting that "none of my patients stopped taking it because of side effects."

Zomig is easy to use, he said, explaining that a person with migraine takes a 2.5 milligram tablet as soon as he or she realizes that a migraine is in progress (this is unlike most migraine medications that must be taken at the onset of symptoms). The patient may need another tablet two hours later, and, if the migraine recurs, one more. Cost is $12.95 per pill, a little bit less than other migraine drugs such as Imitrex and Sumatryptin.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE

Residents of the Municipality are hereby asked to take note that the City of Vaughan's Annual Remembrance Day Parade, held in co-operation with Branch 414, Royal Canadian Legion (Woodbridge), will take place on Wednesday, November 11th, 1998.

The Parade will "form up" at Market Lane Square, in Woodbridge, at 10:30 a.m. local time, proceed westerly on Woodbridge Avenue to Wallace Street, thence southerly on Wallace Street to the War Memorial for Service at 11:00 a.m. Following a brief Commemorative Service, those in attendance will proceed via the previously described route, back to Market Lane where the parade will disperse. Your participation is respectfully requested

LEST WE FORGET

L. D. Jackson
Mayor

John D. Leach
City Clerk

The Canadian Jewish news

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Israeli windsurfer named European champion

By SIMON GRIVER
Special to The CJN

HAIFA — For Israeli Amit Inbar, the past year has been like a new beginning.

A former Israeli windsurfing champion, Inbar had retired in 1996 after failing to qualify for the Olympic Games. But after he had taken an extended vacation in northern India, the lure of top flight competition proved too strong and he returned to Israel in 1997 to make a comeback.

Last July, his comeback was complete when he was named European windsurfing champion.

Inbar has now set his sights on an Olympic medal in the Sydney Games in 2000.

"I really missed the sea and all the excitement of competition when I was in the mountains of India," said the 26-year-old windsurfer. "Of course I missed Israel and my family too, but then I expected to get homesick. Even when I'm away competing for a few weeks, it feels wonderful to get back to Israel. I feel like a tourist discovering a new country."

Amit Inbar

Inbar is as amphibious as any human being is ever likely to be. He grew up in Michmoret, a village on the coast midway between Tel Aviv and Haifa that is famous for its naval high school, "and the family house is less than 100 metres from the sea," he said.

He still lives at home with his parents, Danny and Vered, both kibbutz-born and bred. Tall, dark and handsome and with an athlete's slim, muscular physique, Inbar has a relaxed, open manner, and he makes no attempt to hide his resentment when he recalls his childhood, which he describes as obsessively competitive.

"My brother Eran, who is three years older than me, was Israel's leading young windsurfer," he explained. "A the age of nine, my parents decided that I had to learn windsurfing to provide him with some competition. I hated it."

Gradually Inbar mastered the art of windsurfing and by the time he won his first major competition several years later, his attitude had completely changed.

"I soon found that winning was very intoxicating," he recalled. "I was hooked."

Windsurfing, he explained, is a cross between surfing and sailing. "Basically, you have a surfboard with sails attached. You have to understand the winds and currents and be very fit and strong if you want to become a champion."

As he entered his teens, Inbar began finding it increasingly easy to beat his older brother.

"They were very tough years at home," he said. "There was a charged atmosphere in the house. Basically the Israeli surfboarding championship was always a fight between my brother and myself. Before competitions, both of us would be tense. Afterward one of us would be elated and the other depressed.

"Fortunately, we fundamentally had a good relationship," Inbar stressed. "By the time I was 19, I was nearly always beating Eran. One day I suggested he retire and become my trainer. To my surprise, he accepted."

With Eran complementing him rather than competing against him, Inbar enjoyed his greatest success. Nevertheless, he finished a disappointing eighth at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992. "I was very young and inexperienced and made a lot of foolish mistakes."

In 1994, he reached the pinnacle of sporting achievement when he won the World Championship, becoming one of only a handful of Israelis ever to win a world title in any sport. He also won the European Championship in 1995.

"It was a fantastic feeling to be the world champion," Inbar said. "But if it is difficult to win a world championship, it is even more difficult to stay at the top."

By 1996, Inbar's world had fallen apart. He finished eighth in the world championships held in Haifa and lost out to local rival Gal Friedman, who finished second in Haifa, and became Israel's lone sailboarding representative in Atlanta. Friedman went on to finish third, becoming only the third-ever Israeli to win an Olympic medal.

"I was not jealous of Gal," insisted Inbar. "In fact, we are very good friends. I'm not the jealous type. I'm more concerned about my own performance and I was not performing very well, so I decided to retire."

Inbar was able to reflect on the sport in India and he realized how much he missed the sea and windsurfing. Perhaps most importantly, he was able to put his childhood resentment behind him. He knew now that he was doing it because he wanted to, not because his parents had forced him to. This self-knowledge gave him a new appetite for training.

"I train for many hours, seven days a week," he said, "mainly in the early morning and later afternoon. I'm actually on the water for only a few hours a day. The rest of the time I'm running, exercising and body-building. Each race is 12 kilometres long and lasts several hours. You have to be very strong physically to maintain your balance and adjust the sail."

Inbar spends much of his time at major international competitions. "My major worry at present is economic. In the past, I was sponsored by Bank Hapoalim and Swatch, but due to the present recession in Israel, they have withdrawn their sponsorship. I receive a small salary from the Israel Olympic Committee (IOC) but for the most part, I'm subsidizing competition from my own savings."

Despite his financial difficulties, it all feels worthwhile when he stands on the winners' platform, as he did in July after he won the European Championship in Marathon, Greece – even though he finished behind local favorite Nikos Kakalmanakis, the Olympic gold medalist. But, "he cheated," Inbar said, and the result was appealed to the judges.

"He consulted with his trainer during the race from a radio he had concealed on his board. Ten other competitors were witness to this. I don't mind being beaten, but only if it's within the rules."

Inbar admits he would dearly love to win an Olympic medal. "But the year 2000 is still a long way off," he observed. "First of all, I have to focus on the upcoming World Championship later this year in Brest, France. It is based on my performance in that championship that the IOC will decide whether to send me or Gal Friedman."

Looking farther into the future, Inbar suggests he could participate in two more Olympics before retiring. And then what?

"I'd like to study, maybe subjects like nutrition or psychology. I already have an understanding of these two disciplines because they are such an important component of my sport."

He and his girlfriend, Dana, have been dating for three years but have no plans to marry. "I would like to have my own family when I retire from windsurfing," Inbar said.

"And one thing I know – I won't make my children compete when they're very young. Unless of course they want to," he added with a smile.

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Fencers impress expert

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Fencing master Ernest Meister doesn't get impressed easily, but he was mightily impressed with the performance of the Israeli fencing team at the recently concluded World Championships in La Chaux de Fonde, Switzerland.

Meister, former coach of the Canadian and Romanian national teams, attended the championships, and said he was surprised by the Israelis' technical proficiency and determination among the male and female fencers both.

"They had a lot of heart, They fought like lions," he said.

The women in particular, impressed him, finishing 16th in the team event, ahead of Canada, Sweden and Denmark. The men finished 14th, ahead of Canada, Britain, Japan, Portugal, Australia, Denmark and Holland.

The Israeli teams have a tremendous future in world fencing. "They have very strong footwork, and they work very fast. Their temperament is very important. It's a very hot temperament. They fight for every hit," Meister said.

Unfortunately, he continued, they receive little financial assistance from the Israeli government. For more information, Meister can be reached at 663-7971.

The Inside Back

Out of the Cold – interfaith style

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

The book of Job tells us that "no stranger need lodge in the street." Leviticus and Deuteronomy say the stranger should be treated with kindness and generosity. In fact, the word stranger is mentioned some 70 times in the Bible. Now, I'm not knowledgeable enough to know how the stranger is regarded by the Muslim, Buddhist and Zoroastrian faiths, but I suspect it is with similar sentiments.

It's against this multi-faith backdrop that four very different houses of worship are embarking on a new path: welcoming the homeless as the newest partners in Toronto's decade-old Out of the Cold program.

Anyone familiar with the west side of Bayview Avenue just north of Steeles has had to notice a kind of religious shopping strip: just south of Temple Har Zion is the Jaffari Islamic Centre (famously, the two buildings share a parking lot); a little further south is the Cham Shan Chinese Buddhist Temple, a magnificent structure that is home to several monks and nuns. A bit south of Steeles, nestled in a wooded area, is the Zoroastrian Society of Ontario, whose adherents follow a faith that evolved in eastern Iran hundreds of years before the common era.

All four are about to join hands in feeding and sheltering (for a night) the shamefully growing number of homeless in Toronto. Temple Har Zion will be the host every Wednesday night in December (Temple Kol Ami will provide some of the volunteers); the Zoroastrian temple takes over from January to February; and the mosque will be the venue for February to the end of March. The Buddhist temple has made a financial contribution to the project.

This is an effort filled with "nons": Non-denominational, non-judgmental and non-threatening. "Guests," as they are called, will be shuttled to and from the Finch subway. The program provides TTC tokens.

At Har Zion, up to 35 guests will be fed a hot supper, and 16 will spend the night on thin mattresses. Clothing will also be proffered, as will a cold breakfast and a bag lunch.

Those who attended a community information meeting at the temple last week voiced concerns that by now are familiar: Are the homeless dangerous? Do they spread disease? Will they present a danger to students at the temple's day school?

"It's OK to worry. It's OK to have concerns," assured Freda Muscovitch, founding chair of the Out of the Cold program at Holy Blossom Temple, where the project has been a smashing success since 1995.

An array of health and security experts allayed concerns: the homeless are rarely dangerous; the risk of catching a disease from them is negligible; and they will be gone by the time students arrive in the morning.

What the homeless are, the panel indirectly agreed, is simply out of luck. Many are educated and able. Of course, some do abuse alcohol and drugs, and according to one study, two-thirds have been treated for a psychiatric disorder at some point in their lives. But Holy Blossom has found there's nothing to fear, and everything to gain.

Last winter, I attended an evening at Holy Blossom, and rarely have I encountered a crowd so well-mannered and, in a way, dignified. The volunteers who cook, serve food and mingle with the guests come away vastly enriched by the experience.

The Out of the Cold program now tallies dozens of churches, and with the addition of Temple Har Zion, four synagogues: In addition to Holy Blossom, Darchei Noam is partnering with a downtown church, and the First Narayaver is doing the same with a coalition of area churches.

Earlier this month, I interviewed "Rachel," a Jewish woman who had been homeless for a year before social worker Lillian Freedman found her an apartment (*CJN*, Oct. 22). It wasn't easy meeting Rachel. She was wracked with pain and suffering. She hurt, body and soul. That night, I yelled at my kids for arguing over a Nintendo game.

I wish everyone could meet Rachel.

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1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
2/3 cup peanuts

Heat sugars, syrup, and peanut butter in a heavy pan until smooth. Mix cornflakes, chips and peanuts in buttered 9 x 13" pan. Pour peanut butter mixture over all and mix. Press gently into pan. Allow to cool. Cut into bars.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

My sister died suddenly three months ago and my 75-year-old mother cannot stop crying. She falls apart at the slightest thing. She also does not go to see her friends or do all the things she used to do. She was a very active woman. My other sister and I are quite concerned, but as mother lives with me, I am bearing the brunt of the problem. I am becoming more concerned as mother is eating less and less at every meal.

Concerned for Mother

Dear Concerned for Mother,

It is probably a good idea to have the doctor check your mother's physical status regularly. You should accompany her, and perhaps both you and the doctor could encourage her to consider either a bereavement support group or individual counseling to help her work through her grief. It is likely that this is playing a key role in the appearance of her depressive symptoms and should be addressed as soon as possible.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal*

What are you laughing at?

Eighty five year old Bessie Goldberg bursts into the rec room of the men's retirement home. She holds her clenched fist in the air and announces, "Anyone who can guess what's in my hand can have sex with me tonight!!!"

An elderly gentleman in the rear shouts out, "An elephant?"

Bessie thinks a minute and says, "Close enough."

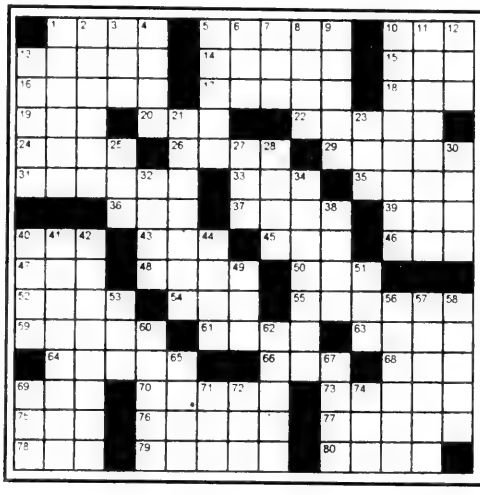
At the height of a political corruption trial, the prosecuting attorney attacked a witness.

"Isn't it true," he bellowed, "that you accepted five thousand dollars to compromise this case?" The witness stared out the window, as though he hadn't heard the question.

"Isn't it true that you accepted five thousand dollars to compromise this case?" the lawyer repeated. The witness still did not respond.

Finally, the judge leaned over and said, "Sir, please answer the question."

"Oh," the startled witness said, "I thought he was talking to you."



The Canadian Jewish news CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Greatest
5. Purim must
10. Shluf (Eng.)
13. Sarah once
14. Reznik's objective
15. Exist
16. Hebrew letter
17. Peerce part
18. Wilderness of
19. Imitate Hoffman
20. Her
22. Israelite
24. Seder plate item
26. Writer Sholom
29. "Satan in __" Singer novel
31. Like Goliath
33. Elijah's __
35. Zeta __ Tau, fraternity
36. Affirmative
37. Baby holder
39. "__ Accident" by Wiesel
40. Jacob's sorespot
43. Platters by Bolton
45. Actor Cobb
46. "Barney Miller", Linden
47. E. Lazarus specialty
48. Actress Madeline
50. Ken Holtzman
52. Not on Shabbas!!!
54. Abzug's trademark
55. Tashlich tossings
59. Island of entry
61. Teva offering
63. Jewish restaurant
64. Moses' Dad
66. Anti-Semitism fighters
68. Adam to Abel
69. Arkia stat
70. Seder water
73. Previn
75. Not: comb. form
76. Bandleader Shaw
77. Orthodox minyan
78. Hadassah employees
79. Use for Tzedakah
80. Soul windows

Down

1. Judah's lion?
2. Abba Eban
3. Tisha B'Av mood
4. Acts as Gelilah
5. Tekiah and Teruah
6. Solomon's mine product
7. Son of (Seph.)
8. Mount Hermon sometimes?
9. Lulav companion
10. Israeli city
11. Haman's boy
12. Sopher need
13. Seen at the Sukkah
21. Passover book
23. Gang for Bugsy Siegel
25. Dreidel
27. 300 Roman style
28. Imitate Koufax
30. Olympic medallist Arad
32. Tallit hanger
34. Like Bondsmen's ears
38. Purim drink?
40. Writer Irving
41. Pagan
42. Rhea and Yitzhak
44. Political party
49. Last degree
51. Dead scud
53. Syrian ancient homeland?
56. Act the Yenta
57. Sounds the shofar
58. Four to a dreidel
60. Beelzebub
62. Desert cool spots
65. Slight bit
67. Jacob after the Angel
69. Sof Pasuk
71. Enjoyed the Seder
72. Got away
74. Negative

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. *(Last week's answers are on page 41.)*

CHANGING LIVES

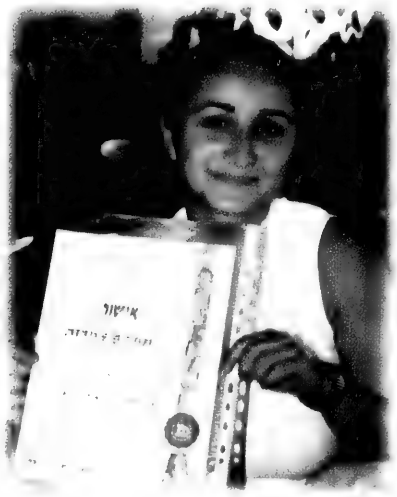
Jaqlin Walters

When you give to UJA,

where will your money go?

Ask Jaqlin, Tamar or Evelyn.

The Bernard Betel Centre, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, restored hope, comfort and friendship to 80 year old Evelyn Rabkin, whose life had been derailed by tragedy and illness. An Israel Experience program, subsidized by UJA Federation, attached teenager Jaqlin Walters to her Jewish past. Now, for the first time, she dreams of a fully Jewish future. The Jewish Agency, supported by the world-wide UJA Federation movement, allowed Tamar Pichkhadze to escape the instability of Tbilisi, in the former Soviet republic of Georgia.



Tamar Pichkhadze

Evelyn Rabkin

UJA Federation's community **Campaign for Fifty** will allocate $13.5 million in new funds to assist the vulnerable, strengthen Jewish identity and rescue Jews around the world. Just as it did for Evelyn, Jaqlin and Tamar. Just as it will do, with your support, for hundreds of thousands in need.

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See Page 45 for El Al Specials
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This Week

National

WJC urged to boost Swiss fund payments. *Page 3*

Spousal abuse often a hidden problem, rabbi says. *Page 5*

Former Toronto mayor Phil Givens praised at memorial lecture. *Page 6*

Health

Israeli researchers help in breakthrough in treating leukemia. *Page 31*

CJ Kids

Children's Museum opened recently at Bathurst Jewish Centre. *Page 47*

Sports

Archer Tom Brodie, 16, hopes to represent Canada at 2004 Olympics. *Page 54*

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Shabbat: Vayera
Candlelighting: 4:45
Cheshvan 17, 5759
Havdalah: 5:50

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Israel, U.S. sign strategic pact

Deterrence against long range missiles, unconventional weapons

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Israel and the United States have signed a new strategic memorandum of understanding aimed at strengthening Israel's deterrence capacity against the threat of long-range missiles and unconventional weapons.

President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu separately signed the memorandum of agreement (MOA) last weekend. The MOA promises that the United States will "enhance Israel's defensive and deterrent capabilities" against threats of ballistic missiles, and will upgrade the strategic and military cooperation between them.

The MOA, the first signed between the two countries in a decade, also calls for "upgrading the framework of the U.S.-Israel strategic and military relationships, as well as the technological cooperation between them."

Netanyahu said the document marks the first time the United States pledges to enhance Israel's "deterrent" capabilities, but officials from both sides refused to detail what that could mean.

Officials say the document upgrades Israel's status as an ally of the United States, but they stress that this should not be construed as constituting a de facto military alliance.

Beyond calling for the upgrading of the strategic and military relationship, the document states: "The United States Government would view with particular gravity direct threats to Israel's security arising from the regional deployment of ballistic missiles of intermediate range or greater. In the event of such a threat, the United States government would consult promptly with the government of Israel with respect to what support, diplomatic and otherwise, or assistance, it can lend to Israel."

Continued on page 53

Jewish MDs targeted?

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Is someone out there hunting Jewish doctors?

Early last week, Amherst N.Y. Dr. Barnett Slepian became the third Jewish physician who performs abortions to be shot by suspected anti-abortion zealots since 1994.

Slepian was murdered shortly after he and his family returned home from synagogue where they attended Shabbat services.

His shooting came about a year after Dr. Jack Fainman was wounded by a sniper in Winnipeg. In 1994, Dr. Garson Romalis was wounded in Vancouver while in 1995 a sniper wounded Dr. Hugh Short in Ancaster, just outside of Hamilton. Short is not believed to be Jewish.

Continued on page 25

LIGHTING A MEMORIAL CANDLE

The third anniversary of the killing of Yitzhak Rabin was commemorated last week in Israel. Here we see two young children lighting a candle to his memory. ***Please see related story on page 35.*** *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

INSIDE

The real meaning of the Akedah.
Please see page 9.

Weizman speaks out against violence — please see page 35

The News in Brief

CANADA

Spy Agency Cleared

OTTAWA — Canada's spy agency has been cleared of any involvement in last fall's passport caper, in which Mossad agents used forged Canadian passports in a botched attempt to assassinate a Hamas leader in Jordan. In its annual report, the Security Intelligence Review Committee, which oversees the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), says there is no evidence CSIS played a role in Israel's bid to kill Khaled Meshal.

Jewish Teens Chosen

TORONTO — At least two Toronto Jewish teens will take part in Junior Summit '98, an international youth forum under the auspices of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Gil Hagi and Tsipora Mankovsky, both 16, will travel to MIT for six days in mid-November. They are among 100 youngsters selected from a group of 3,000 representing 139 countries, who discussed global issues, particularly technological ones, on an online forum. The in-person forum will have an audience of global media, Nobel laureates and world leaders.

Plans Made For New Shul

EDMONTON — A donation made by Bill Lutsky, in memory of his parents, Aaron and Gertrude Lutsky will allow Beth Israel Synagogue to move to a new building on land it currently owns in the city's west end. Plans for the new synagogue include a 500-seat theatre-style sanctuary, a social hall and two kitchens. Occupancy is expected late next year.

ISRAEL

Funeral For Jordanians

JERUSALEM — A funeral was held near Jerusalem last week for four Jordanian soldiers killed during the 1967 Six Day War. The bodies were uncovered three years ago during excavations at a site north of Jerusalem. A Jordanian delegation, including army officers and legislators, participated in the ceremony.

Israelis Back Accord

JERUSALEM — Some 74 percent of Israelis support the land-for-security agreement spelled out in the Wye River accord, according to a poll published by the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot*. Eighteen percent of those polled oppose the pact, while eight percent have no opinion, according to the poll, which has a 4.5 percent margin of error.

Arms Exported

JERUSALEM — Israel is one of the world's leading arms exporters, according to the annual survey of the London-based Institute for Strategic Studies. Israeli arms sales exceeded $1.5 billion (US) last year and represented about 3.3 percent of the world arms market, the report noted.

Burial Policy May Change

JERUSALEM — The Israeli army may allow families of fallen soldiers to hold military funerals without the presence of a rabbi. The army chief of staff said the army is considering changing the regulations on military burials, which currently require a religious component.

WORLD

Gingrich On Pollard

WASHINGTON — U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich says President Bill Clinton should not release Jonathan Pollard. Gingrich maintained that the jailed spy for Israel has knowledge of classified secrets, which he may sell to a foreign nation upon his release.

Monument Vandalized

VILNIUS — Vandals overturned a monument to victims of the Holocaust in a cemetery near the village of Liaudiskes in northern Lithuania. Police are investigating.

Sex and the Married Jewish Couple

LONDON — Rabbi Shmuley Boteach has sold excerpts from his latest book, *Kosher Sex*, to *Playboy* magazine for a reported $200,000.

Rabbi Boteach, 32, whose fellow Chabadniks in Britain were critical of his first book, *The Jewish Guide to Adultery*, was asked to resign from an Orthodox synagogue in London following publication of *Kosher Sex* earlier this year. The rabbi counsels a liberal approach to sex between consenting, married adults. He anticipates a fresh outcry from Orthodox Jews over his deal with *Playboy*, which will publish the excerpts in its December issue.

While reiterating his opposition to pornography, he said he was delighted to use the pages of the magazine to communicate his "serious message" that married couples should strive to become more sexually intimate in order to stay together.

Rabbi Boteach, who has six children, insists that his approach to sex is deeply traditional and that he is motivated solely by a desire to strengthen marriage.

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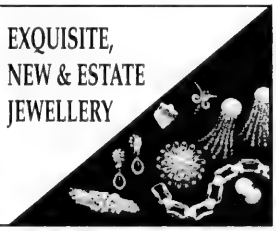

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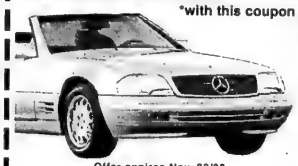

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CJC urges WJC to boost Swiss fund payments

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The estimated 18,000 Holocaust survivors in Canada will not be adequately remunerated by the $2.5 million (US) offered them from the Swiss humanitarian fund, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) national executive agreed at a recent meeting.

CJC president Moshe Ronen said he will urge the World Jewish Congress (WJC) to increase the amount for Canada.

The funds, part of the $188 million set aside for needy survivors, are separate from the $2.1-billion restitution settlement agreed to by Swiss banks.

If it was up to him, he would give money to any Holocaust survivor who claimed need, said Rabbi Gunther Plaut, chair of the Swiss restitution committee.

"It is obscene to ask any of these survivors to wait any longer," said Rabbi Plaut.

But survivor Herman Landau said he would not ask for any of the money and that CJC must define who is needy and eligible.

Ontario region chair Keith Landy said $2.5 million divided among 18,000 survivors would give them each $138 and would not help anybody in need. The survivors should give the money to Jewish education to ensure a Jewish future, he suggested. But several members said the survivors themselves should be polled about such an idea.

A better formula for compensating survivors needs to be worked out, said Tom Kuttner of Fredericton, N.B.

CJC offices and Rabbi Plaut are being inundated with requests for help, but so far the CJC has not received "one Swiss franc of the money," said CJC executive director Jack Silverstone.

In reply to complaints that CJC is lagging behind the United States in making application forms for help available, Ronen said the CJC was not in the picture until a month ago.

"We are being overwhelmed with requests and underwhelmed with information," Silverstone added.

No input was asked of the CJC by the WJC in allotting $2.5 million to Canada, Silverstone said.

Rabbi Plaut said the WJC worked out a formula under which there are an estimated 365,000 survivors in Israel, 200,000 in the former Soviet Union, 150,000 in the United States, and only 20,000 in "the rest of the world," including Canada and South America.

Rabbi Plaut said his committee will be made up mostly of survivors across Canada, "and not a nickel will be spent for administration."

He concluded: "Pray for me; we're facing a no-win situation. Nothing we do will be without the sharpest criticism."

On other fronts, the CJC executive decided to press the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) to deal with charges of anti-Semitism by its members.

"The leadership of the IRB doesn't seem interested in meeting with us or having a comprehensive inquiry into the complaints," Ronen said.

The executive heard that a conference in Ottawa Nov. 8 to 10, called Friends of Sabeel and co-sponsored by the Ottawa Anglican Diocese on the future of Jerusalem may "turn out to be an exercise in Israel bashing."

In addition, staffer Eric Vernon of the CJC Ottawa office said the speakers listed have an anti-Israel bias and include a well-known Jewish anti-Zionist.

The genesis of the first Friends of Sabeel conference in North America is innocent enough, Vernon said, but the CJC has asked him to meet with its president, Naim Ateek, on Nov. 11.

Ronen reported that a good partnership has been worked out with the United Israel Appeal (UIA), particularly with the federations in Toronto and Montreal. This has resulted in the CJC setting up a stronger advocacy office in Ottawa.

The national CJC administration will remain in Montreal, but its executive director will have an office in both Ottawa and Montreal, while the Quebec region will leave CJC headquarters in the Samuel Bronfman building and move rent-free into the new Federation campus.

These changes reported by Milton Harris, former president, will cost $300,000. Federations have agreed to pay half the cost.

"Our funding partners now have a better appreciation of what the CJC does," he said.

An attempt is being made to sell the Samuel Bronfman building in Montreal and any income will go to an endowment to fund CJC programs, he said.

A new internal governance plan for CJC drafted by committee head Zena Simces of Vancouver was adopted.

The following individuals were co-opted as CJC national officers: Manuel Prutschi, Bernard J. Firestone, Dr. Arnold Noyek, Leslie Dan and Rabbi Dow Marmur.

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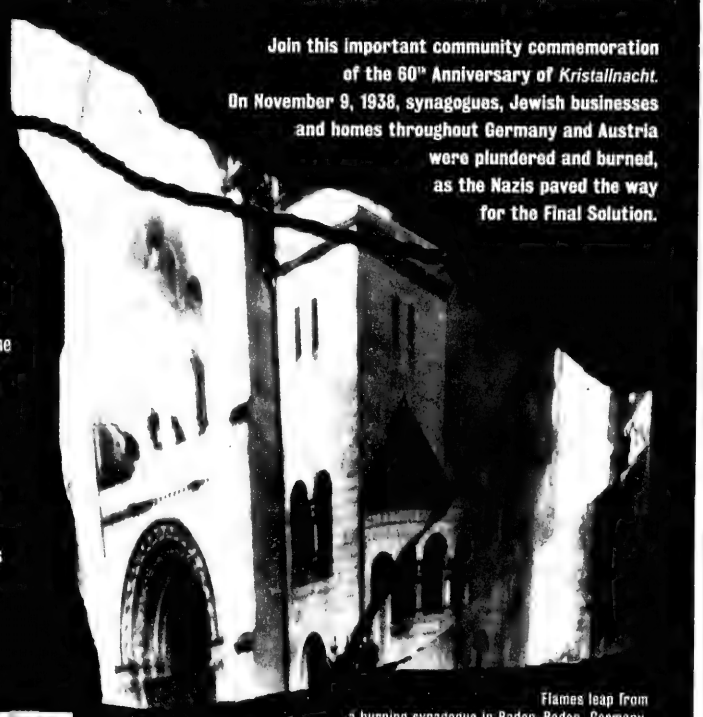

Flames leap from a burning synagogue in Baden-Baden, Germany, on *Kristallnacht*, Nov. 9, 1938.

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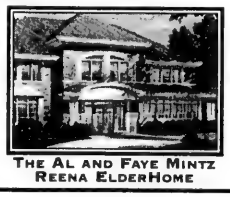

THE AL AND FAYE MINTZ REENA ELDERHOME

From the editor's desk

When memory beckons

Too often in modern times, we have attempted to build for our youth a structure of Jewish identity that has rested on two-pillars only: the Holocaust and Israel.

But feelings of Jewish peoplehood should not be triggered *only* by recalling the horrors of the Holocaust or by expressing pride in the achievements of Israel.

Jewish identity should be based on the positive, intrinsic richness and myriad meaningful, spiritual possibilities within Judaism itself.

Rather than stepping meekly forward, if at all, to experience "peoplehood" on the sheltered peripheries of our lives, we should try to "dance" with a feeling of community, belonging and peoplehood at the very centre of our lives.

Mourning must be seen in the context of celebration. The laws must be seen in the context of responsibilities. The Sabbath must be seen in the context of holiness. History must be seen in the context of purpose.

Across five millennia, in our homes, in our schools and in our synagogues, one generation has transmitted to the next an awareness of our history.

Memory – collective and individual – has been the key instrument defining that transmission.

This of course, brings us back to the Holocaust and to Israel. They were and are the two most radical physical/metaphysical interventions into Jewish history this century.

Thus, while Jewish identity must not be triggered solely by evocations of the Holocaust and Israel, Jewish identity that is bereft of a personal commitment to "remembering" the Holocaust and to "supporting" the State of Israel runs the risk of soon slipping into a self-centered, exclusivist obsession with ritual observance alone.

It is against this background therefore, that I beckon memory, and recall for readers two special dates this week that have seared a mark on the pages of Jewish history.

***

Three years ago yesterday, November 4, Yitzhak Rabin was murdered by Yigal Amir.

Political anger and religious sanctimony combined into a ghastly, horrible evil that casually, without even the smallest regret, took life in the false name of saving life.

In Amir's mind, murder was an acceptable method of political expression, religion the justification.

The shame and the sorrow of Amir's cowardly act fell on all of us because he was one of us.

We hope and we pray that there is no residue of political/religious extremist poison dripping into the body politic of the state.

We hope and we pray that Israel has not been forever altered, forever infected by that poison. But we see an alarming edge of intolerance and disrespect among the extremists. Brandishing the Bible, they delegitimize those with whom they do not agree. And, thus delegitimized, their co-religionist fellow countrymen's views hardly matter.

Even as these words are being written, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu lives in the shadow of threats by Jewish extremists against his life.

Were it not so frightening it would be unbelievable.

Three years later, Rabin's murder shakes us.

* * *

Sixty years ago, on the night of November 9 and into the day of November 10, the Jews of Germany finally, without illusion or delusion, came face to face with the wild beast of Nazi terror.

Over the course of 24 hours of savage street violence, 91 Jews were killed. More than 30,000 were arrested and sent to concentration camps.

But as Martin Gilbert describes in his book *The Holocaust*, "[I]t was not by the killing however, nor by the arrests or by the suicides, that the night of November 9 was to be remembered. During the night, as well as breaking into tens of thousands of shops and homes, the stormtroopers set fire to 191 synagogues; or, if it was thought that fire might endanger nearby buildings, smashed the synagogues as thoroughly as possible with hammers and axes.

"The destruction of the synagogues led the Nazis to call that night the Kristallnacht, or 'night of broken glass': words chosen deliberately to mock and belittle…

"In the aftermath of the Kristallnacht, German Jewry was "fined" for the damage done. The fine, a thousand million marks, was levied by the compulsory confiscation of 20 percent of the property of every German Jew. This confiscation was promulgated by government decree on November 12, 1938. Three days later, following more than five years of being pilloried and discriminated against in the classroom, German Jewish children were finally barred from German schools."

* * *

And, while memory beckons, let us also remember 19-year-old Alexei Neykov. He came to Israel from Russia as a teenager.

Last week, he prevented more than 40 schoolchildren from being blown to bits by a craven, sadistic Hamas suicide bomber. He placed his jeep between a bomb-laden truck and a school bus, and steered the truck away from the children on the bus.

He undoubtedly understood in that split second, valorous decision that he was offering his life for the safety of the children.

From this day forward, anyone who complains about Russian aliyah, should remember Alexei Neykov.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

YITZHAK RABIN, OF BLESSED MEMORY

Former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin is seen here at a rally in northern Israel in April 1993.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Spousal abuse often a hidden problem, says rabbi

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

Rabbi Abraham Twerski

TORONTO — It is almost impossible to determine how prevalent spousal abuse is in the Jewish community because Jewish families are experts at concealing their problems, says Rabbi Abraham Twerski, a psychiatrist and author.

"If the federal government could do that, there would be no leaks," said Rabbi Twerski, author of *The Shame Borne in Silence: Spouse Abuse in the Jewish Community*. (Mirkov Publications, Inc.)

Rabbi Twerski, who will speak at the Jewish Book Fair on Nov. 10, at a lecture sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation and Jewish Family & Child Service, is founder and medical director of Gateway Rehabilitation Centre in western Pennsylvania. He said in a recent interview from New York that, "suffice it to say, the incidence of [abuse] is greater than what we may think, and if it is true that it is less than in the non-Jewish population, that is a hollow consolation.

"It is still far too great an incidence, and it is the responsibility of the community to do whatever it can to remedy it and provide resources for help."

Organized public lectures about spouse abuse may bring the problem into the open, he said, and may stimulate a community to take steps to provide for the needs of the abused wife. "However, let us not lose sight of the fact that an abused wife does not get any relief from public lectures. The abused wife needs help, real help. Every Jewish community should have a 24-hour hotline, operated by trained personnel."

As well, said Rabbi Twerski, there should be immediate access to legal counsel provided by the community, proper shelter accommodations provided for the wife and children, and emergency funds for temporary support until something can be worked out.

Education is essential, he said, in the fight against spouse abuse. "All young men and women should be prepared for what it means to be married and what it means to be parents. If we wait until after [an incident occurs], we have lost an opportunity. The incident could have been averted, if the couple had understood the red flags."

Some of the behavioral clues Rabbi Twerski labels as red flags include a person who has behaved violently toward others, a person who loses his temper more frequently and more easily than others and a person who breaks things when angry.

As well, a woman should be aware if her husband tries to isolate her from her family and friends, and if he expects her to spend all her free time with him exclusively. "Any indication of control should be a red flag. Women should trust their instincts. People should not be controlled by other people."

Often, there are no behavioral clues to identify an abuser, and in this case, "the next best thing is early case identification. In the overwhelming number of wife abuse cases, the woman has been tolerating abuse for years by the time she finally seeks help from anyone. This is wrong, dead wrong. Abuse must be nipped in the bud. Steps must be taken not to allow the abuse to continue."

Rabbi Twerski stressed that it is not his intent to break up marriages. "To the contrary, ignoring and denying spouse abuse is what will ultimately result, not only in the dissolution of marriages, but also in an impact on the children.

"If spouse abuse is identified and properly managed early, there is hope for the survival of the marriage. However, the survival of the marriage is contingent on the abuser's choosing to make changes in himself."

Ackerman wins Yiddish prize

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —An immigrant's impassioned plea for a better life in America is the message of *Der Kol*, which won first prize in a Yiddish song writing competition.

The song's lyrics were written by Eileen Ackerman, recalling the memories her mother Tilli had of her birthplace in Tulcea on the Black Sea in Rumania.

Tilli Goldenberg arrived in Toronto in 1904, and the family, part of a Montefiore sponsored immigration plan, settled in the Queen-Ossington area.

"My mother said life was bitter in Romania but they heard of better things happening in America, and her heart cried out for this better life," said Ackerman.

The words of *Der Kol* were set to music by Ackerman's daughter, Eleanor Ackerman-Rice, and Eleanor's brother-in-law, Dr. David Saslove.

Saslove specializes in emergency room medicine at York Central Hospital.

Der Kol won first-prize at the International Yiddish Institute song writing competition in Charlotte, N.C.

"I do not speak Yiddish, my mother is not a musician, and my brother-in-law studied German in university, but we turned out to be a winning combination," said Ackerman-Rice.

Ackerman-Rice is the musical director at Temple Har Zion in Thornhill, and also directs the seniors' choir for the Bernard Betel Centre.

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New wave of terrorism seen as threat in wake of accord

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The most immediate danger facing Israel's Oct. 23 peace-for-security agreement with the Palestine Authority (PA) is a new wave of Islamic fundamentalist terrorism, says an Israeli analyst.

"Hamas wants to wreck the peace process," said Barry Rubin, a senior resident scholar at the Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University in Tel Aviv.

"The agreement is directed against Hamas more so than the 1993 Declaration of Principles and the 1995 Oslo 2 accord. Hamas and Islamic Jihad will make a serious effort at terrorism."

Successful terrorist attacks will "put a damper" on the pact, conceded Rubin, editor of *Middle East Review of International Affairs*. "But the peace process will not collapse. Both sides need it."

In an interview, Rubin, the author of several books about the region, said that Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, is seriously interested in implementing the Wye Memorandum, as last month's agreement is known.

"Netanyahu is not an ideologue, and he's more flexible than imagined. He wants to keep the process alive, and move it forward."

Netanyahu is prepared to offer the Palestinians autonomy, provided no Jewish settlements in the disputed territories are dismantled, said Rubin.

At best, he will relinquish no more than 70 percent of the West Bank as part of a final settlement, an offer he doubts the Palestinians will accept.

The PA, he observed, wants a Palestinian state, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

In Rubin's judgment, the Wye Memorandum represents a step toward Palestinian statehood. But he voiced skepticism that final status talks, which have yet to begin, would be concluded on schedule on May 4, 1999.

It's quite probable that the PA will unilaterally declare a Palestinian state next May, but it will not make much of a difference to the peace process, he argued.

According to Rubin, Netanyahu will survive politically despite disaffection among his far-right backers.

"Even though he has lost some of his support, he's in a good position. He's firmly in the saddle." His critics, notably the National Religious Party, have nowhere else to go. "What is their alternative?"

At present, the chances of a national unity government are nil, he noted. The Labor party, led by Ehud Barak, will not back Netanyahu's policies. Besides, a national unity regime would be a prescription for political paralysis, he observed.

Despite the presence of extremists like Hamas among the Palestinians, the overall trend in Palestinian politics is one toward moderation. On the other hand, he cautioned, Palestinian public opinion is changeable.

Rubin believes that Syria is not interested in signing a peace treaty with Israel because it would threaten its control of Lebanon and expose the Syrian regime to severe internal strains.

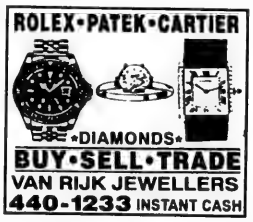
In theory, he said, Syria poses more of a military threat to Israel than Iran.

In Rubin's view, Egypt generally plays a positive role in Middle East peacemaking, but Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak fears Israeli domination of the region.

Saudi Arabia, he said, has been "totally unhelpful" in furthering the peace process.

If United Nations economic sanctions are lifted, Iraq will rebuild its armed forces, said Rubin. In the meantime, the United States has shelved its determination to destroy all of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Rubin was in Toronto under the auspices of the Canada-Israel Committee and Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University.



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Former Toronto mayor praised at memorial lecture

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "Phil Givens was a conscious, deliberate Jew and a blessing for the general community," Rabbi Erwin Schild said at a memorial marking the third anniversary of the former mayor's death.

Phil Givens

Givens' role in organizing a UJA mission to Israel following the Yom Kippur war 25 years ago was recalled by the evening's chair, David Newman.

"He proudly led the mission across the Suez Canal on a bridge built by Ariel Sharon during the war," Newman said.

Among the audience at the memorial sponsored by the Yiddish Culture Council at the Workmen's Circle Hall was the former mayor's wife, Min Givens.

"Phil spoke with wisdom, and he was a real orator in English and Yiddish," said Rabbi Schild, rabbi emeritus of Adath Israel Synagogue.

Recalling his friendship with the former mayor, Rabbi Schild said he remembers Givens speaking at Adath Israel when he was an up-and-coming alderman for the ward, and later, before the Yom Kippur war, to a group of "entranced" young people.

"Though his real name was Pinchas Givertz, Phil Givens was not a split personality. He was together as one man, a passionate Zionist, a wonderful family man and the best mayor Toronto ever had," Rabbi Schild said.

Another feature of the evening was a talk on Morris Rosenfeld, poet of the ghetto, by Mark Miller, of Columbia University, a former Montrealer. His talk marked the 75th anniversary of the poet's death.

Eli Moidel read excerpts from Rosenfeld's poetry.

Greater Toronto Area

UJA Federation training leaders for the future

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

(Part 1 of a two-part story)

TORONTO — There's an old maxim that states, "leaders are born, not made."

That may have been true once, but not any more. At UJA Federation, human resources experts have taken that aphorism and turned it on its head.

They believe that with the proper education and motivation, leaders can indeed be made.

For 35 years, the Toronto Jewish federation has operated a leadership development program designed to give community volunteers the skills they need to contribute to policy-making at numerous community agencies.

Recently, the federation has added a "young leadership" program to recruit and train future policy-makers at an early age.

The flagship of the federation's efforts is its Leadership Development Program (LDP), an intensive 1½-year period of study, discussion and hands-on participation. Held every two years, the program is designed to graduate volunteers who will join community organizations in policy-making roles on committees and, ultimately, boards of directors.

"The foundation of many of these organizations are the lay people setting the policy and making the decisions," said Chaia Nadal, a federation senior associate who coordinates the LDP. "They're the backbone of these agencies."

Nadal noted that the federation's leadership programs are geared mainly toward policy-making, as opposed to providing direct service volunteers. "Some of the most significant leaders in the community are graduates of the program," she said.

Its effectiveness has been recognized by the Council of Jewish Federations, a North American body which in 1989 bestowed its leadership development award on the program.

Deborah Pinsky, director of the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), estimates that 20 percent of the BJC's board of directors are LDP graduates. "I get a lot of very valuable board members through their programs," she said.

Reena, the agency that serves developmentally challenged individuals, has had an open line of communication to the LDP for some years, said Sandy Keshen, the organization's executive-director.

An estimated 15 percent of the agency's board has been referred by the federation. But as with the BJC, these volunteers usually begin their association with Reena by serving on committees before taking more senior positions, she said.

At Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), a UJA beneficiary, the numbers are somewhat smaller. Gordon Wolfe, the agency's longtime director, while lavish in his praise for the program, estimates that fewer than 10 percent of JF&CS's volunteers come through the federation connection.

"I think the program has value. It attracts people to the community's family of agencies. But the fact of the matter is that we get a lot of people who want to volunteer by word of mouth," Wolfe said.

Zac Kaye, director of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, also a beneficiary agency of UJA, has a similar take on the federation's assistance. He said the LDP program has been only "somewhat helpful" to the student organization.

When Campus Services was first established, the federation provided people to help get the organization on its feet, he said. Its president, a past president and two members of the organization's executive came from the LDP list.

But since then, the federation and the agency have been unable to recruit enough people who are passionate about the work. "There are not enough people to go around," Kaye maintained.

For UJA Federation, recruiting new community leaders and preparing them for key roles is a year-round undertaking. Five staffers are dedicated to the task.

The process begins each spring when the federation sends out mailings to its affiliated agencies, synagogues, schools and other organizations. At the same time, the federation is receptive to applicants who come out of the blue to volunteer their services, Nadal said.

Generally, 100 applications are considered seriously and selectors whittle that number down to 50. They consider factors such as a balance between men and women, religious backgrounds and organizational affiliation. Historically, more women than men have been involved, Nadal said.

Generally, most volunteers who come have been professionals — doctors, lawyers, teachers, accountants. Most have some Jewish education, she added.

Once chosen, participants meet regularly for group lectures, breaking into smaller groups for discussion and to complete assigned projects. They learn about public speaking, negotiation techniques, running committees and other boardroom skills. An important component of the program is education in Jewish history and Jewish organizational life in Toronto.

At the end of the program, this year on Nov. 9, graduates and community agencies will meet at an Agency Fair to trade ideas and find suitable volunteer matches.

In addition to that meeting, the federation provides a referral service. But it's up to the volunteers to agree to a referral, often based on what they've learned in the LDP, Nadal said.

The time has long passed when large, complex organizations could simply rely on the amateur expertise of their supporters and relatives to make them run, said Gerald Fisher, director of human resources at UJA Federation.

"We feel it's really important that given the complexity of issues facing our agencies, schools and synagogues, it requires a certain basic level of expertise and some minimal requisite skills," Fisher said.

"We're trying to set a direction, a process for developing good governance in all our agencies and our role is to augment the volunteer recruitment of people with commitment."

Unlike the U.S. experience, where leadership development often goes hand in hand with fundraising ability and expectations of philanthropic giving, in Toronto the focus is on developing personnel to assume leadership in policy-making roles, Fisher said.

Next week, we'll look at the federation's efforts to attract younger people.

ANNOUNCEMENT

SB&C Financial Group and Financial Growth Associates Join Forces to Enhance Customer Service

SB&C Financial Group and Financial Growth Associates have merged to form a new company, which offers an expanded range of products and services. Known as **SB&C Financial Growth Associates**, the new company gives clients a total of more than 70 years' experience through its three principals.

"We believe that joining forces with Financial Growth Associates is a positive move that enables both operations to serve their clients better, with a broader range of financial products and services," said SB&C's Earl Crackower. "We will also gain some operating efficiencies, which will benefit all of our clients."

SB&C Financial Group's clients are primarily retirees, while Financial Growth Associates has concentrated on a younger pre-retirement market. Combining the two companies will give clients one-stop shopping, from retirement planning right through to investment portfolio management during retirement years.

"I'm delighted to be associated with two industry veterans like Earl Crackower and Richard Orviss," said Allan Kalin, of Financial Growth Associates. "I feel that all of our clients will be better served as we pool our resources and experience."

SB&C Financial Growth Associates is serving all clients from the SB&C offices at 272 Lawrence Avenue West. The firm offers a full range of investment, retirement, insurance and estate planning services, with mutual funds provided through Capital Management Group. The company's enhanced computer system and a toll-free telephone service provide clients with instant access to information on their portfolios.

Seated L-R: Murray Sherr, Bunny Bergstein, Allan Kalin. Standing: Steven Bacher, Earl Crackower, Dick Orviss.

SB&C FINANCIAL GROWTH ASSOCIATES

For more information, call **SB&C Financial Growth Associates** at (416) 787-4517

Editorials and Letters

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At the core, falsehood

It took Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard only three days to violate the promise he made at the outset of the election campaign that he would not "engage in personal attacks" against Liberal leader Jean Charest. Speaking Saturday night to a gathering in Sherbrooke, Charest's home riding, the premier ridiculed Charest as "a man in denial of Quebec. Jean Charest does not like Quebec the way it is with its profound identity."

The invective against Charest followed by one day a similarly stiletto verbal lashing against the federal government. In emotion-soaked hyperbole that, regrettably, is the premier's trademark, Bouchard did his best to whip the audience into a nationalistic frenzy: "When are we going to stop sending half our taxes to Ottawa to have them managed by those who have different interests than ours, who thwart our decisions... who invade our jurisdictions, divide us, weaken us, debilitate us?"

And so it has begun.

The people of Quebec will elect a new provincial government on Nov. 30. Judging by the premier's pre-campaign rhetoric, which noted commentator Lysiane Gagnon described as "punchy, vicious and extremely demagogic," and by his early campaign fusillades, the contest for votes will resemble a street fight: no holds barred, no punches too low.

The choices in the contest are clear. Bouchard is promising to create "winning conditions" for taking Quebec out of Canada. Charest, on the other hand, is promising to create winning conditions, as it were, for keeping Quebec inside Canada.

Both leaders are targeting the undecided, primarily francophone voters, the "soft federalists" as they are called. Charest offers them economic and social policy alternatives. Bouchard, on the other hand, offers them the traditional scapegoat for their fears and the tired target for their hostilities: Ottawa, whom he accuses of refusing to revise and reinvigorate the current federalist structure.

But it is a sham offering by the premier, an argument without substantive merit, and, more to the point, at its core, a falsehood.

Time and time again, Premier Bouchard has promised his party that he is not interested in renewing the Canadian federation. He is only interested in removing Quebec from it. He is, therefore, attempting to persuade the undecided, "soft" voters on the basis of a possibility that he suggests to them he would embrace, but which in fact, he assures his party loyalists, he abhors.

A regrettable decision

The decision last week by Great Britain's High Court of Justice to quash the arrest warrants issued against former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet was regrettable. Pinochet had been arrested while in Britain at the request of a special Spanish prosecutor seeking his extradition on charges of murder, kidnapping and torture.

"The applicant is entitled to immunity as a former sovereign from criminal and civil process in the English courts... A former head of state is clearly entitled to immunity for criminal acts committed in the course of exercising public functions."

Legal and human rights experts around the world lament the decision. They correctly point out that the decision may undermine the international effort to outlaw *and punish* the perpetrators of crimes against humanity. How can conscience acquiesce to the notion that committing atrocities or ordering genocide are protected activities of a head of state because they fall within "the exercise of public functions?"

Let's hope the appeal succeeds.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"And Abraham approached and asked: "Will you destroy a righteous person along with an evil person?" ***Parshat Vayera***

Editorial Advisory Board
Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Zac Kaye, Lou Ronson, Herb Rosenfeld, Kurt Rothschild, Joseph Steiner, Elias Toby, Elizabeth Wolfe.

Clinton should forgive Pollard as well

President Bill Clinton has begged for forgiveness and has indicated that his fate is now in the hands of God. Jonathan Pollard has asked for forgiveness and has served much more time than any person previously convicted of providing state secrets to an ally. His fate is in the hands of Clinton, and it would indeed be timely if Clinton showed the same compassion to Pollard that he is asking for himself.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Dreyfus affair mapped route to Holocaust

Linda Goldman asks who was Madelaine Levy? Madelaine Levy, who was rounded up with French Jews and shipped to Auschwitz where she perished, was the granddaughter of Alfred Dreyfus. Surviving family members found it appropriate to inscribe her name on Alfred Dreyfus' tombstone.

Might one conclude that the anti-Semitism in France that spun the Dreyfus affair in 1894 was a precursor to the Holocaust? I believe it was.

Gerda Frieberg
Toronto

Academic freedom not issue on circumcision

Morton Weinfeld's letter and article (*CJN*, Oct. 15) are to say the least contradictory. What I find contradictory is his spirited defence of Dr. Margaret Somerville's position on circumcision and his holier than thou attitude towards the politically motivated shenanigans going on in the United States.

Somerville seems to shoot from the lip on every occasion when a little reflection and research would do well to temper these outbursts. It becomes tiresome to hear some academics constantly tout the canard about academic freedom when anyone questions their opinions, even when they disregard some of the basic facts.

Benjamin Shara
Montreal

Kanader Adler helped Yiddish in Montreal

Re: David Lazarus' article about the *Kanader Adler* (*CJN*, Oct. 22).

Lazarus is to be commended for his positive assessment of the establishment by the late Hersh Wolofsky of Montreal's Yiddish daily newspaper *Kanader Adler*. Sustained by his sons Max and Daniel for a number of years, it remained a quality mouthpiece of our Yiddish speaking community for a considerable number of years.

When Max found it impossible to carry on following the decline of our Yiddish readership, the National Committee for Yiddish, then of the Canadian Jewish Congress, stepped in and undertook to revive the *Kanader Adler* as a weekly.

As much as the committee deserves recognition for undertaking a difficult task, in view of the dwindling Yiddish readership in our community, the lion's share of the praise belongs to Sara Rosenfeld, the talented, dedicated director of the committee.

There can be no doubt of the lasting imprint left by the *Kanader Adler* on the now relatively somewhat better fortune of Yiddish in Montreal.

Prof. Arthur Lermer
Montreal

Differs with reviews of *The Gifts of the Jews*

This is in reference to reviews in *The CJN* (various dates) of *The Gifts of the Jews* by Thomas Cahill.

To spare other unsuspecting people the unpleasantness and distaste that I experienced while reading this book, I want to warn your readers that it is not as it appears to be. It actually spends very little time writing about what special gifts the Jews gave the world, but rather purports to be a *history* of the Jews.

It takes Cahill more than 50 pages to even get to Abraham, the patriarch of the Jewish people, as he prattles on and on about previous civilizations and cultures and their licentious religious and sacrificial rites. When he finally does get to the founders of the Jewish religion (both male and female), he often speaks of them in a disparaging or belittling manner, sometimes even ascribing to them impure motives, thus showing a total lack of understanding on his part of their true characters.

This book is *filled* with distortions and inaccuracies and mistranslations of the Bible, and very often the language used is either crude or lewd, unbefitting a book that by the author's own admission is about a holy nation. One very annoying habit of the author is to refer to the God of the Jews using the four-letter Hebrew name. Not one Jew that I know of ever refers to God in this way, except in prayer.

Shelley Rothman-Benhaim
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

The real lesson of the Akedah

By JERRY FRIEDMAN

The Akedah intrigues us at every stage of our lives. As children, we learn in helpless fascination the story of a father who is ready to kill his child and is prevented from doing so only at the last minute. As young adults, we are inspired by Abraham's unquestioning and fervent obedience; Abraham, described by Sören Kierkegaard as a "knight of faith," is our emblem of absolute belief. Later in life, as parents, we may seek a psychological understanding of Abraham's actions. We wonder what kind of unconscious drives or wishes, feelings of rivalry or disappointment, underlie Abraham's readiness to do away with his son.

Throughout Jewish history, the story of the binding of Isaac has become a paradigm of faith, associated with martyrdom in both ancient and contemporary times. From the sacrifices of Hannah and her children in the times of the Maccabees, to the slaughter of innocents in the Holocaust, the binding of Isaac illuminates the generations of martyrdom Al Kiddush HaShem, sacrifices in which there was no intervening angel.

Sacrifice of Isaac by Rembrandt
[From The Law and the Prophets, Abrams]

Seen from a different perspective, however, the Akedah yields a radically different paradigm. Abraham's single-minded willingness to answer the call to sacrifice his only son, and the fact that he needs to be stopped by an angel of God, may function as a caveat – less a test of faith than a lesson demonstrating the perils of unrestrained religious zeal.

Many readers have wondered at Abraham's almost indecent readiness to perform this ultimate sacrifice. Is this the same Abraham who vehemently argued with God at Sodom, negotiating for the lives of a city of strangers: "Will the Judge of all the land not act justly?" The contrast between this individual and the father who is so ready to obey the command that he sacrifice his beloved son raises a question: Would the Abraham of Sodom, who confronts God on an issue of humane justice, have silently accepted this command as a simple test of faith? The inconsistency leads one to conclude that perhaps Abraham's willingness to carry out this command comes from a source other than faithful obedience.

The text is careful to emphasize the intimate relationship between the father and son prior to the sacrificial act. Isaac is referred to as *bincha asher ahavta* (your son whom you love). The togetherness of Abraham and Isaac as they ascend the mountain is continually stressed (*shneihem yachdav*). Isaac is described only in terms that tie him to Abraham, so that the son is seen more as an extension of the father than as an individual in his own right. Isaac is to become for Abraham the tool through which Abraham will demonstrate his devotion to God.

As a result of the ordeal on Mount Moriah, Abraham's closest relationships undergo a noticeable change. There is no further specific mention of Isaac returning from the mountain with his father. The language expressing togetherness, ease and intimacy is absent. The family unit is shattered as well. We learn that Sarah dies shortly after the Akedah. The rabbis tell us that her death occurred as a result of her belief that her son was sacrificed.

Moreover, Abraham's relationship with God undergoes a change. The faithful servant who apparently has passed the most demanding test of faith is never again addressed directly by God. We may wonder whether Abraham did, in fact, pass the test. More significantly, we may wonder exactly what the test was.

Many rabbinic commentators have questioned whether, indeed, the Akedah is to be read as a test of faith. Instead they have interpreted it as a lesson. On the simplest level, the Akedah takes a position against child sacrifice, which was widely practised in neighboring pagan societies. Although the readiness to sacrifice one's children may be seen as the ultimate test of faith, in fact the God of Abraham does not ultimately require it and sends an angel to intervene and forbid Abraham to carry out the act.

By the time the angel appears, however, Abraham is so deeply committed to the act that the angel must tell him not once, but twice, to desist: "Do not put a hand on the boy and do not do anything to him." Given Abraham's unquestioning obedience to the earlier command and his single-mindedness in carrying it out, the reader is left with the impression that, instead of giving Abraham a welcome way out, the angel actually has to restrain him. If there is any test at this point it is: Will Abraham stop? It is only when Abraham lays down the knife that the angel can declare, "Now I know you are a God-fearing man."

In instructing Abraham to sacrifice his son, God unleashes a torrent of religious zeal. Abraham is a changed man in responding to this command. He feels privileged to undertake the supreme sacrifice to demonstrate his faith. This explains the puzzling absence of any hesitation or questioning on that inexorable march to Mount Moriah. Abraham has lost touch with two aspects of this authentic self: his willingness to engage and dispute with God, and his ability to recognize the integrity of another human being, in this case, his son. The command to sacrifice his son elicits no equivocation from Abraham. Instead, Isaac, the long-awaited son of his old age, the future of a great people, becomes an extension of Abraham in his religious zeal, a means by which Abraham can demonstrate his faith.

In stopping the sacrifice, the angel must remind Abraham that Isaac is an individual apart from himself, not an extension of his religious ardor. A life is at stake here, the life of the *na'ar* (the boy or lad). Abraham must recognize that there are limits to what he regards as an act of faith. He must stop before he kills. In stopping, Abraham shows that there are limits to religious zeal. Herein lies the real test and lesson of the Akedah.The truly god-fearing person must reconcile this essential paradox – the tension between the passion to serve God and the God-given human responsibility we have for one another.

Generations later, Mount Moriah, the site of the Akedah, becomes the site of the Beit Hamikdash. The sacrificial rituals enacted here in Temple times extend the lesson of the Akedah by providing a carefully structured and controlled avenue for the expression of faith. The detailed laws of Temple sacrifice, by prescribing a rigid formula for worship, function in part as an institutional response to the dangers of unrestrained religious fervor.

The Akedah presents a complex picture of faith. It asks us to examine how to ardently express our faith, and warns us of the danger of blinding religious passion. We have seen the tragic results when, in our own time, religious zeal has led to dehumanizing and even murderous words and acts. The Akedah tells us to be wary of the clash between what we interpret as our religious duty, the compelling "call" of faith, and our accountability to others and to our authentic selves. Abraham, on fire with religious passion, was brought face-to-face with this conflict on Mount Moriah.

Jerry Friedman is a psychiatrist who practises in Toronto.

When religious zeal went beyond the limits. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Opinions

Making friends in Halifax

Smoke wafts to the ceiling to be sucked in by the air purifiers. The cue ball is knocked into the corner pocket and empty glasses litter the tables. A typical night at The Wardroom, the King's campus bar. Voices try to compete with the blaring music, which suddenly changes from rap to retro, and the voices lose. Just a typical Saturday night, except for one thing. Why are there kosher snacks on all the tables?

Jennifer Fox in Halifax

The annual Schmooze and Booze, the first event for the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation (APJSF) takes place at the end of each September, after the stress of starting another school year has subsided. The APJSF is an organization that tries to get Jewish university students to meet and hang out with other Jewish university students. Simply for meeting fellow Jews, the APJSF is needed more than its counterparts in Toronto or Montreal. Accidentally bumping into other Jews on campus is less likely in the Maritimes.

The Wardroom is beginning to fill. The small clusters around the tables have transformed into large, loud groups of people. Having been here for two hours already, I've had enough time to finish one bowl of pretzels and to use up my reserve of small talk. I've already quizzed my neighbors on their school, program, living arrangements and hometown. A few statements about Judaism and Israel have been uttered, but not enough to allow a passerby to guess what all these people have in common.

They don't have much in common really, except for being Jewish. Given this realization, another question springs to mind. Why bother? Why come to a bar when I don't drink only to leave smelling like an ashtray when I don't smoke? Probably for the same reason I attended all those United Synagogue Youth dances in high school when I don't dance – to mingle, to network, to meet Jews.

I already know lots of Jews. It's hard to live in Thornhill, Ont., for 14 years and not make a Jewish friend here or there. In Halifax I can't make the same claim, but I know I interact with my Jewish friends the same way I interact with my non-Jewish friends.

So why go talk to strangers for three hours when I can be at home with people I already know? Because my King's friends don't quite understand why I get so worked up over the Middle East Peace Talks, and though they were curious, they didn't have to fast for 26 hours for Yom Kippur. Knowing Jews, no matter where you live, gives you a sense of familiarity and comfort.

The APJSF has its own agenda for throwing this yearly gathering. The Schmooze and Booze is the on-sale item that gets shoppers into the store. While they're looking for their two-for-one sale, something else will spark their interest and they'll buy a big-ticket item. A social event gets students to put their name on a mailing list, and hopefully 20 or 40 of the 75 students who came to The Wardroom will make another appearance at a Shabbat dinner or a bagel brunch with a speaker. Good marketing in September builds the membership base for a successful year.

Midnight approaches and it's time to leave. I grab my jacket and head for the door. I've had my fill of new faces, brief biographies and listening to the fly-hitting-a-bug-zapper sound the air purifiers make in a futile attempt to cleanse the air of smoke. I didn't make any new friends tonight, but that wasn't the point. At the next APJSF event, hopefully I'll recognize some faces. Now I know there are Jews in the area, now I know I'm not alone.

History in the making

What year was the War of 1812 fought? What color was Napoleon's white horse?

Historical facts and events can guide us in our present lives and motivate our actions. However, I vividly remember Grade 10 Canadian history and my relentless efforts to memorize names and dates, all of which I would forget two minutes after having handed in my exam. This was not the result of apathy, but rather, these abstract facts bore no relevance to my life. I was interested to learn about the battle on the Plains of Abraham, about Generals Montcalm and Wolfe (I apologize die-hard Chinese food fans, no General Tao here), but at the end of the day, it was a mere mumbo-jumbo of data.

Erica Horn in Montreal

Upon visiting Upper Canada Village at the end of Grade 6, I enjoyed the re-enactment in the old schoolhouse and the woman who dressed up in a bonnet and apron like a strict school teacher and continuously whipped the desk where I sat during her little show. The history we had learned about so briefly came to life during our three-hour visit there.

It is like matching a name to a face. In this day and age, when electronics and advanced technology have replaced human contact, it is nice for you to finally be able to present yourself to your professor and say, "Now you can match my face to my millions of typos you read over e-mail."

My intent is not to bash the cocooning that has developed in the past two decades, but rather to highlight our more readily available access to the world at large and to first-hand experiences. How lucky we are that today, when a breaking news story is unfolding, we can watch on TV and make judgments of our own. (Granted, of course, that actually being there is even better, but that is a luxury less frequently extended to most of us). Clearly, my visit to Upper Canada Village was not a true first-hand experience, because it was a re-creation, but it was evidently the closest I could come to the "real thing."

* * *

Q: Why was the UN worried when the waiter dropped a platter of turkey on the floor?
A: It meant the fall of Turkey, the ruin of Greece and the break-up of China.

* * *

After school on Friday, Oct. 23, I tuned in to CNN to watch the signing of the Middle East agreement. I sat transfixed and listened attentively to the words being spoken.

In the past, when students were asked about specific historical events, perhaps their closest relation to and recognition of them was in jokes. They remained words typed in a book, with a picture or two. The story could have been completely fictitious, as far as they were concerned, because they could not fathom the reality. Today, with the multitude of technological developments, we are able to view visual images which could make us feel as though we are actually in Confucius' sixth century B.C. or Shakespeare's 16th.

* * *

Q: Why is Saturday night important to Julius' girlfriend?
A: That's when Julius Caesar (sees her).

* * *

Truth be told, it is not the same. No visual imagery could ever reproduce a society of centuries ago and do it justice. One problem is that we would be bringing to the experience 20th century attitudes and values, which have been manipulated and created to deal with problems that have evolved since then.

Anyway, I was trying, on that Friday afternoon to relish the moment. I was able to sit in the comfort of my own home and watch, as leaders, who just nine days earlier had been in steadfast disagreement, now signed documents and shook hands.

Their calling each other "co-partners in peace," although we may not realize it now, will be included in the history textbooks from which our grandchildren will study. And, while to them the words will remain words and nothing more, to us, to people who had the opportunity to appreciate the context and background from which these words were expressed, we will always remember the Wye Plantation summit of October 1998.

* * *

Q: What one difference between Arafat and Netanyahu did Clinton comment on, on Oct. 23, 1998?
A: Benjamin, I could never picture you in a kaffiyeh.

* * *

It's exciting. We witnessed history in the making.

Dry Bones
THE PRICE IN SHEKELS JUST WENT UP?
YES... BUT IN DOLLARS IT'S STILL THE SAME.
DOLLARS?!...HAH!
I GET PAID IN SHEKELS! I WRITE CHECKS IN SHEKELS! I THINK IN SHEKELS!!
NOT DOLLARS SHEKELS!
WOW!
...THE LAST OF THE ZIONISTS!

Holocaust started 60 years ago

At the end of October 1938, a young Polish Jew living in Paris, Herschel Grynszpan, received a letter from his parents in Germany:

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

"We are now stateless. The Poles have taken away our citizenship papers and the Germans want to take away our residents' permit. We may have to leave, but as stateless persons, where could we go?"

A few days later, *Le Monde*, the well-known Paris daily, brought further news. On Oct. 28, the Gestapo had rounded up thousands of Polish Jews and dumped them at the Polish border. There, the paper reported, they existed in utter deprivation, suspended between two nations that had one objective: to prohibit these Jews from entering or re-entering their countries.

Grynszpan had no further word from his parents. Every day, he scanned the press for news. What there was, read like the reportage of a soccer match, minus the pinch of emotion one might find even on the sports page. No one seemed to care. What would it take to let people understand that Jews were human beings, not animals shipped in box cars to the stock yards?

In despair, Grynszpan wandered the streets of Paris. When he passed a gun shop he made a sudden decision, and bought a revolver. He took the Metro to the German Embassy. When the door was opened, he asked to speak to the ambassador. He trembled, he could hardly speak.

The ambassador asked his third secretary to enquire after the visitor's wishes. Moments later, Ernst von Rath lay mortally wounded. Grynszpan had mistaken him for the ambassador.

The shooting was news around the world, for young Grynszpan told the reasons for his desperate act to the police, and did so with dramatic urgency. The press was sympathetic.

What Grynszpan did not know was that he had given the Nazis the ammunition that they had been looking for. They decided to use the incident as a frontal assault on Germany's Jews. Sixty years ago, on the night of Nov. 9/10, they burned or destroyed 1,100 places of Jewish worship. Twenty thousand Jews were arrested, 36 were killed and another 36 seriously wounded. A decree from the government ordered German Jewry to clean up all debris across the country occasioned by the burning, and to pay damages to the government.

That night, my wife and I happened to attend a special celebration in Cincinnati, Ohio. The telephone rang, and we were informed that terrible events had taken place in Germany.

Later on, I found out that my own Dad was in hiding while we partied in Cincinnati. He and Mother eventually made it to England, but all too many had no place to go, and ended up in the gas chambers.

On that November night in 1938, the 600,000 Jews of Germany had lost their last legal protection, and had become fair prey to the Nazis' rapacious appetite. The ultimate pogrom – now known as the Holocaust – had begun. It was not to stop until the Nazis were vanquished, but by then, six million Jews had perished.

The Kirshner File

Remembering Yitzhak Rabin

Carmi Gillon, the director of Israel's internal security agency, Shin Bet, warned Yitzhak Rabin repeatedly that Jewish extremists were threatening violence against him. But Rabin, a hardened warrior, shrugged off the warning, refusing even to wear a bullet-proof vest. "A Jew would not kill another Jew," Rabin said blithely, ignoring the looming danger.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

In the three years since Rabin's assassination at the hands of Yigal Amir, a Jewish fanatic, Israeli prime ministers have come to know better than to scoff at such warnings. Nevertheless, it is sobering and saddening that such a cold-blooded crime could have been committed.

Since Rabin's untimely death, journalists have churned out numerous profiles, while memoirists, notably his wife and his granddaughter, have commemorated the man and his deeds. To the best of my knowledge, Dan Kurzman's *Soldier of Peace: The Life of Yitzhak Rabin* (HarperCollins), is the first biography about Israel's first sabra leader since he was shot in Tel Aviv on Nov. 4, 1995. It is a workmanlike book designed for the general reader. And while Kurzman – an American writer – tries mightily to be objective, *Soldier of Peace* is unabashedly pro-Rabin.

Striking a hagiographic note early on, he observes: "After David Ben-Gurion, the founder of Israel, Rabin may well be judged the greatest leader in Israel's history..." Although it is a debatable point, Kurzman presents a compelling case, focusing on Rabin's contribution to Israel's victory in the Six Day War and on his role as prime minister in bringing the Oslo accords to a degree of fruition.

For all his achievements as a general and a statesman, Rabin was, as Kurzman correctly notes, a study in contradictions. He had a hawkish reputation, yet he signed an agreement with the PLO. He was shy and uncharismatic, yet he exuded a certain natural magnetism.

In the final analysis, Rabin was a pragmatist insofar as his views on peace were concerned. He was big on security, but he realized that territorial compromise was in Israel's long-range interests. He knew that if it ruled the Palestinians, Israel would ultimately evolve into a binational state.

Kurzman is also right when he says that Rabin's story is a mirror reflection of Israel's history.

Rabin was born in 1922, when Palestine was a British mandate torn by Arab-Jewish confrontations. His parents, Nehemiah and Rosa, were Russian Jews animated by the allure of Zionism.

Appointed second-in-command of the Palmach's First Battalion at the age of 23, Rabin compiled a distinguished military record during the War of Independence. But as he later admitted, he drove 50,000 Arab civilians from their homes in Lod (Lydda) and Ramle into Jordan. Shortly afterward, as a delegate at the 1949 Rhodes conference, he refused to sign the armistice agreement with Egypt, arguing that Israel should retain the Gaza Strip. (When he was prime minister for the second time around after 1992, he modified his view of Gaza's value to Israel's security.)

During the post-war years, Rabin rose in the ranks while many of his fellow Palmachniks left the army. In 1959, he was appointed chief of operations, and in this capacity, he tried to convince Ben-Gurion to switch most of Israel's arms business from France to the United States. He swayed Ben-Gurion, but angered deputy defence minister Shimon Peres, with whom he was to have an unsettling relationship.

Some of the finest chapters in *Soldier of Peace* turn on the period before and during the Six Day War. As chief of staff, Rabin devised a piecemeal strategy toward Egypt. Burdened by the casualties his troops had sustained in the 1948 war, Rabin was reluctant to take on the Egyptians in one swift stroke, favoring a phased campaign.

This, of course, was not to be. Several of his generals, notably Ariel Sharon, opposed the scheme. And after Rabin's nervous breakdown (or severe state of exhaustion) in the days preceding the outbreak of hostilities, Ezer Weizman, the head of operations, persuaded the general staff to enlarge the plan.

Whatever Rabin's condition, Kurzman suggests that Ben-Gurion had triggered it because he had chastised Rabin for having mobilized the army too soon.

As well, he claims that Rabin had to plead with Moshe Dayan, the defence minister, to capture the Golan Heights from Syria. Dayan mistakenly feared that Syria's ally, the Soviet Union, would intervene on its side.

As Israel's ambassador to the United States from 1968 to 1973, Rabin left a solid legacy. By far his most important achievement was to help elevate Israel into America's strategic ally. In addition, Rabin turned the trickle of U.S. aid into a torrent, and set a precedent for Israeli access to the White House.

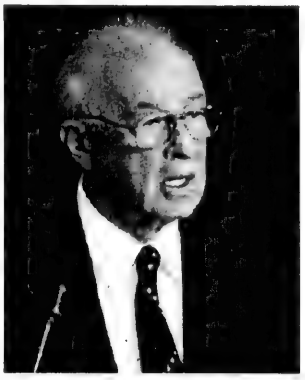
Aside from his decision to resign as prime minister in 1977 following the disclosure that his wife Leah had kept an illegal dollar account in the United States, the toughest chapter of his life was the Yom Kippur War.

Rabin spent hours at military headquarters in Tel Aviv, but was virtually ignored. Yet, because he had not been smeared by that war, he was chosen to replace Golda Meir, the discredited prime minister.

As premier, Rabin picked up the pieces, signing disengagement pacts with Egypt and Syria. But he miscalculated by leaving Jordan out of the equation. The U.S. secretary of state, Henry Kissinger, had called on Israel to withdraw from Jericho, and let Jordan administer this West Bank town. If Rabin had accepted this far-reaching proposal, he might have strengthened Jordan's position in the Arab world at the expense of the PLO.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Rabin moved steadily to the right. He criticized Peres, his rival, for suggesting that Israel should be ready to negotiate with any Palestinian representatives who recognized its existence. And he excluded the PLO as a negotiating partner, belligerently declaring that Israel and the PLO could meet only on the battlefield.

In 1982, Rabin reluctantly accepted Menachem Begin's 40-kilometre incursion into Lebanon. But he deplored the idea of a full-scale Israeli invasion to bring about a new political order in Lebanon and to destroy the PLO. However, he urged Sharon, the then-defence minister, to tighten the disastrous siege of Beirut.



Yitzhak Rabin

From 1984 to 1990, Rabin was defence minister in the national unity government, led successively by Peres and Yitzhak Shamir. When the Palestinian revolt in the territories (the intifadah) erupted in December 1987, Rabin downplayed its gravity.

"Don't worry, it'll be quashed in a few days," he is reported to have boasted, hardly realizing that the rebellion would last until the first year of the Olso peace process, a development which Kurzman analyzes at length.

But as the insurrection spread, Rabin, who had promised to break the bones of Palestinian rock throwers, came to the belated conclusions that military means would not defuse the problem, and that Israel was locked in a battle with Palestinian nationalism.

By 1992, when he was campaigning for the premiership, Rabin's conception of peace had undergone a sea change. As he put it: "I am unwilling to give up a single inch of Israel's security, but I am willing to give up many inches of settlements and territories... for the sake of peace... We seek a territorial compromise which will bring peace and security."

Regettably, he was killed before he could put his policy fully into place. One wonders how he would have fared.

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Caught in an 'abyss of despair'

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

As we remember the six million during Holocaust Education Week, it may be instructive to recall another historic tragedy, occasioned by the Chmielnicki massacres of 1648 to 1658, which is often regarded as a precursor to the Holocaust.

One of the classic texts of Jewish martyrology, Yeven Metzulah (The Abyss of Despair) by Rabbi Nathan Hanover, presents a graphic and gripping account of the horrors that occurred in Ukraine and eastern Poland when Bogdan Chmielnicki led the Cossacks into attack.

Tatars from the Caucaucus region joined the Ukrainians in their nationalistic rebellion against the Polish nobility and their largely Jewish landlords. By conservative estimates, at least 100,000 Jews were slaughtered.

Hanover fled Ostrog with his family as the Cossacks approached, and he became an itinerant preacher. Despite the tempestuous times, he managed to write several books, of which *Yeven Metzulah* is by far the most well known.

So popular did *Yeven Metzulah* become, according to historian William Helmreich, that in some communities of Eastern Europe it was customary to read it annually during the traditional "three weeks" in summer, and new editions often appeared after each new wave of persecution – right up until the Ukrainian pogroms that occurred during and following WWI. (The English translation excerpted below, by Abraham Mesch, was published by Transaction Books in 1983.)

Hanover's graphic and gripping account contains descriptions of individual atrocities on a par with anything the Nazis would later devise. It also relates many tales of Jewish heroism in the face of unspeakable cruelty.

In Tulczyn, the Ukrainians assembled the Jews in an enclosed garden, where several rabbis exhorted the community not to abandon their faith despite the threat of death. Three times, the Cossacks told the Jews, "Whoever wishes to change his faith and remain alive, let him sit under this banner." Not one Jew moved. Eventually, the Cossacks attacked and "approximately 1,500 souls perished by all sorts of terrible deaths."

In some towns, women escaped certain rape by jumping into moats surrounding the fortress-walls; many drowned or were stabbed in the water. Hanover tells of a beautiful maiden from a wealthy family whom a Cossack forced to become his wife.

"But before they lived together she told him with cunning that she possessed a certain magic and that no weapon could harm her. 'If you do not believe me, just test me,' she said. 'Shoot at me with a gun, and you will see that I will not be harmed.' The Cossack, her husband, in his simplicity, thought she was telling the truth. He shot at her with his gun and she fell and died for the sanctification of the name, to avoid being defiled by him, may God avenge her blood."

As the invaders besieged one Jewish village after another (more than 700 in total), the villagers fled. "Whoever had a horse and cart travelled in it. Those who did not possess a horse and cart, even though they had sufficient money to buy them, would not wait, but took wife and children by the hand and fled on foot, casting away all belongings."

Hanover describes roads clogged with horses and carts and refugees on foot, the air charged with wild rumors and panic. "Everyone threw from his cart silver and gold, vessels, books, pillows and bed covers in order to be able to escape more quickly, to save the lives of his family. The field was cluttered with gold, silver and clothes, and no Jew paused to take them."

For centuries before the Chmielnicki massacres, Jews had been moving eastward across Europe from Spain, Alsace and the Rhineland into Poland and Turkey. After 1648, the eastward trend was reversed. Many historians have suggested that the abyss of despair into which the Jews fell after 1648 set the stage for the emergence of the false messiah Shabbetai Tsvi about 1666, and for the revolutionary chassidic movement of the next century.

"The brutality of Chmielnicki made the work of the Nazis that much easier," Helmreich observes. "As we read Hanover's description of the atrocities committed by Chmielnicki and his hordes, it becomes clear that Hitler's torture chambers were only technological refinement – the precedent had already been set."

Naming your Jewish baby

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob.
Arik, Ilan, Yarkon.
Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, Leah.
Shachar, Revital, Raya, Lilach.

Whether you want to give your baby a biblical name or use something a bit less traditional, a wealth of suggestions is waiting for you on the Jewish Highway. Today, I would like to tour some of sites and look at Jewish baby naming customs.

According to tradition, the choice of a Jewish name has great significance. Philadelphia Cantor Mark Kirshblum puts it very well **[http://members.aol.com/cantork/naming.htm]**: "The name of a person describes his or her essence. It provides identity and generational connection. It begins the process of shaping a human being. Choosing a name empowers parents with creativity, just as God empowered Adam when He assigned him the first independent human act, the task of naming the beasts of the field, the birds of the sky and every living thing... A name can be a portent for the future or a wish that the person live up to the potential expressed in the meaning of the name. It is important, therefore, to give much thought to a child's shem kodesh, sacred or Hebrew name."

Although Ashkenazi Jews have traditionally named children after a deceased relative, Sephardim may honor a living family member **[http://www.pop.virtual.co.il/depts/torah/lifecycle/name.htm]**.

Sometimes, the baby may be named after a great rabbi or after an event.

A baby born on Shabbat might be called Shabbatai, or a girl born on Chanukah could be called Meira ("she lights"). Other popular sources are Israeli plant, tree and place names, historical figures and animals **[http://www.ritualr.com/babynames.shtml]**. Dr. Cleveland Evans of the American Name Society warns against going with a faddish name which may not be appropriate a quarter century from now **[http://www.jdl.org/names.html]**.

There are several excellent places to get ideas for names. Babynamer.com isn't a Jewish site, but it does index over 500 Hebrew names **[http://www.babynamer.com/]**. You can even specify the first letter of the name and how many syllables you are looking for. With each name, you are given a definition. For example, Savyon is "the groundsel, a plant with rays of yellow flowers." Liora is "God's gift of light to me."

If you're still stuck for a name, check out BabyCenter **[http://www.babycenter.com/babyname/index.html]** and its Jewish name discussion area **[http://www.babycenter.com/bbs/2057/thread313/index.html]**. The Babies Planet has links to many other baby naming sites **[http://www.thebabiesplanet.com/bbnames.shtml]** .

Finally, some controversial advice from Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson. Many people spend a great deal of effort trying to find a non-Jewish equivalent to a Jewish name. Rabbi Artson urges parents to consider giving their children Hebrew names *only*, particularly when naming a baby after an honored relative **[http://jewishfamily.com/scripts/NewJFL/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=1036]**.

"There are no English equivalents [to Hebrew names]," Rabbi Artson says. "A name is a name, and a translation is no longer the same. It is a matter of Jewish comfort and pride that we no longer have to mask our Jewish identities with a gentile name... So please do seriously consider giving that gift of self-esteem and pride by having your child's Jewish name be the only name."

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

The Jews of Babylon

By SMADAR MEIRI-ORDYNANS

The Jews of Babylon were exiled from the ancient land of Israel in 586 BCE after the destruction of the Temple. About 1,300 years later, when the Muslim Arabs invaded the regions of Mesopotamia and Persia in the first Islamic conquest, Babylonian Jewry numbered over one million.

The Jews welcomed the invasion with financial and military assistance, because during the century before this period, Babylonian Jews had been persecuted by the Zoroastrians of Persia. Much of this is documented in a historical letter known as the Iggereth of Sherira Gaon (656-661 CE). (To put things into perspective, in December 499 CE, the Babylonian Talmud was completed.)

Jews continued to be significantly involved in the development of the region during the Abbassid Empire, the Mongolian invasion, and the Ottoman periods. In fact, the first finance minister in the new Kingdom of Iraq during King Feisal's reign was a Jew.

Over the centuries, Jewish institutions such as yeshivot, synagogues and day schools flourished in great numbers. In Baghdad alone, there were 50 synagogues and four secondary Jewish schools by 1950. The Iraqi Jewish community prospered and contributed to the economic, social and political spectrums, while being given the religious freedom to practise all aspects of Jewish rituals and customs.

For many years now, my father and his contemporaries have argued that essentially, the Iraqi Jewish community led a relatively harmonious life until the conflict in Palestine in the 1930s.

Among the many accounts of life in Iraq and immigration to Israel written by Iraqi Jews is one documented by Shlomo Hillel, who was born in Baghdad and is a former speaker of the Knesset. Hillel wrote a best-selling first-hand account of the Babylonian and Iranian Jewish dramatic escapes in *Operation Babylon* (1988).

But for me, and even closer to home, my father, Avner Meiri, wrote a number of short stories in *Waters of Babylon* (1996), describing the livelihood of the Jewish community in Iraq.

One story which particularly amused me was *Checkmate*. In July 1946, my father and a friend were chosen to attend a high school summer camp where they were the only Jews among 300 Iraqi Arab students. In the story, my father describes the hospitality of the royal family – 11-year-old King Faisal II and his uncle, the Regent Amir Abdul-Ilah, when the camp students were occasional guests at the royal summer palace.

That summer, as a competitor in a chess tournament, my father was fortunate enough to play against the regent in the finals. The regent made a miscalculated move and was most astonished to lose to my father. This is one of the charming anecdotes my father relates; however, sadly, 12 years later, in 1958, the entire Iraqi royal family was killed by the army.

From 1949 to 1952, 130,000 Iraqi Jews immigrated to Israel – the second largest Sephardi immigration after that of Moroccan Jewry. The majority of Iraqi Jews today reside in Israel, the United States, England and Canada. In Israel, there are 250,000 Iraqi Jews, many of whom live in Ramat Gan. There are 50,000 Iraqi Jews in the Diaspora.

There are five Iraqi Jewish members of Knesset, including Yitzhak Mordechai, the minister of defence. In addition, Moshe Levy was a former chief of staff, and Mordechai Ben Porat a former member of Knesset. Ben Porat assisted in founding the museum and cultural centre, the Babylonian Heritage Centre in Or Yehuda, Israel.

Of the 9,000 Jews who remained in Iraq after the establishment of Israel, today there are fewer than 80 Jews, most of whom are elderly. The demise of Babylonian Jewry in Iraq has brought an end to historical eras of glory, tranquillity and oppression for over 2,500 years.

Covenant binds our families

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

This month, we read several chapters that begin to move us through the early generations of our ancestors. As we become acquainted with Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob and Rachel and Leah, the question of the progress made by each generation comes to the forefront.

Are these parallel couples that grapple with the same issues again and again? Is there growth or change that can be observed as the covenant with God is forming? Many times it appears that the same mistakes are made over and over. Each of the couples deals with infertility in one form or another. Each of the couples deals with internal family strife, and problems are never resolved easily.

It has become fashionable of late to focus on the difficulties these families endured. Time and again, I hear people commenting on how "dysfunctional" these early generations were. It has almost become politically incorrect to defend our patriarchs and matriarchs, as those who do open themselves to accusations of close-mindedness.

Of course I am not advocating promoting our ancestors to sainthood, since only quite recently do we ponder the paradox of a Jewish saint. However, I suggest we look closely at these generations, for although their troubles were many and they made their mistakes, there is still tremendous development and learning.

One of the best examples of growth is seen through observing how they deal with one of life's most difficult challenges: infertility.

Abraham and Sarah reach old age and are still unable to have a child together. At one point, Abraham turns to God and asks what good there is in all the wealth and the Divine promises of covenant if he has no children who will inherit. His point is well taken – a covenant with God, an Infinite Being, is unbalanced if we remain finite by nature. A person's connection to immortality is through their children. Abraham points out to God that without children, he is truly mortal and the covenant will end.

Although understandable, the midrash criticizes Abraham for his words. It is not the concept that is objectionable; rather that he pleads only on his own behalf and omits mention of Sarah. His exclusion of Sarah ultimately leads to the misunderstanding that introduces Hagar into the picture. The scenario that results from this is filled with pain and confusion for the family.

One generation later, Isaac and Rebecca find themselves in the same predicament – they are infertile. However, the midrash states that Isaac prays to God and asks that whatever children he will have should come only from his righteous wife Rebecca. Rebecca likewise prays to God and asks that whatever children she will have should come only from her righteous husband Isaac. It is this plea for each other that results in the birth of two babies.

We see through this single example how these early generations grew through previous experience. Abraham and Sarah struggled to fit themselves into covenant individually, and it tore their family apart. Isaac and Rebecca understood that covenant with God is the frame that must bind our families together. Hardly a dysfunctional concept.

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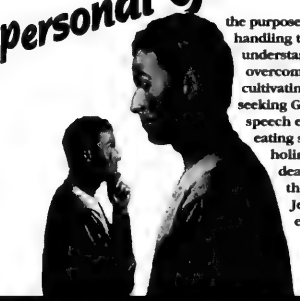
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Guest Voices

Kristallnacht marked start of Holocaust

By ALVIN FINKEL

Sixty years ago, on Nov. 10, 1938, the Nazi party unleashed its worst violence to that point against the Jews of Germany.

While Nazi legislation from 1933 onwards stripped the Jews of their civil rights, it was on the infamous Kristallnacht that the Nazis made plain their intention to gradually eliminate the Jews of Germany altogether.

A distraught Polish Jew had murdered a minor official in the German Embassy in France. In retaliation, the Nazis unleashed a country-wide reign of terror against German Jews. Over 100 were murdered and thousands were beaten as the Nazis destroyed Jewish residential and commercial properties, leaving the trail of broken glass that gave the name Kristallnacht to that horrible day.

It has long been argued that the infamous policies of appeasement followed by Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain of Britain and Prime Minister Edouard Daladier of France emboldened the Nazis to act so flagrantly against the German Jews.

At Munich, on Sept. 29, just six weeks before Kristallnacht, Chamberlain and Daladier had joined with Hitler and Mussolini to sign the infamous Munich Agreement that dismembered Czechoslovakia.

Indeed, a close analysis of the foreign policy document of Britain, France, Germany and the United States reveals just how much store Chamberlain, in particular, placed upon Munich. Much of the British elite had heaved a sigh of collective relief as Hitler took power. They regarded him as a savior of Europe beset by communists and socialists, and made no effort to discourage his furious re-arming of Germany in contravention of the Versailles agreements.

At three meetings in September 1938, of which Munich was the third, Chamberlain and Hitler agreed that Germany could have a "free hand" in central and eastern Europe provided that it left the West alone. Germany would take control of the Soviet Union, and rid the world of Communist menace.

But what was to be the fate of the Jews of eastern Europe as the Nazis asserted their dominance over the eastern half of the continent? Or indeed, of the Jews of Germany? This issue appeared to be of no moment to the leaders of Britain and France, who never raised it before the massive public revulsion in their countries following Kristallnacht forced them to give the issue at least some attention.

Some attention but not much. The British government was made aware of the meaning of Kristallnacht by its officials in Germany. Britain's ambassador to Germany, Sir Nevile Henderson, was pro-Nazi and had made overtly anti-Semitic comments in his dispatches to the secretary for foreign affairs. He was however in Britain on a medical leave and his replacement, Sir G. Ogilvie-Forbes, was left to inform the British government on the significance of Kristallnacht.

He wrote: "I think that the murder of Herr von Rath by a German born Polish Jew has only accelerated the process of elimination of the Jews, which has for long been planned. This project, had it proceeded according to schedule, was cruel enough, but the opportunity offered by Grynszpan's criminal act has let loose forces of medieval barbarism."

Chamberlain however, did not want to be pushed off course from the pact that he had made at Munich. Air Minister Sir Kingsley Wood reported his reaction as: "Oh, what tedious people these Germans can be!...Just when we were beginning to make a little progress."

Chamberlain did hope to get the "tedious" Nazis to make some concessions regarding the Jews, in return for British support of German claims in central and eastern Europe. A few weeks after Kristallnacht, he met with South Africa's minister of defence, who was en route to meetings with the German leaders. The minister was German-born and anti-Semitic. But he agreed to take Chamberlain's proposal to Hitler.

Chamberlain's Sweetner

Briefly, the British prime minister favored an evacuation of German Jews to Madagascar or some other African location. Wealthy Jews abroad would have to pay for the evacuation, and half the property of each German Jew would be left behind. This proposal would have given Hitler a Judenrein (Jew-free) Germany, while allowing the German Jews to live.

Chamberlain's sweetener was that if Hitler co-operated, Britain would support German claims in Danzig and the Polish Corridor. But, while Goering was interested in Chamberlain's proposal, both Hitler and his foreign minister, von Ribbentrop, were not. They told the South African minister to tell the British that the fate of the German Jews was an internal matter, to be decided by the German government alone. But the reality was that they were aware that Chamberlain was not going to fight them over the fate of the Jews. The British were bending over backwards to extend the understanding that Munich had embodied.

Daladier was, if anything, more callous about the fate of the Jews than Chamberlain. Two weeks after Kristallnacht, as he discussed with Chamberlain his plans for a Friendship Agreement with Germany along the lines of a Friendship Agreement Chamberlain and Hitler signed the day after Munich, Daladier indicated that the assassination of the German official in France had set back the date of the signing of the agreement. But he made no reference to Kristallnacht as a setback.

Indeed, the agreement was signed on Dec. 6. Daladier's Radical party had an important anti-Semitic faction and Daladier, though he had never personally made anti-Semitic statements publicly or privately, had never disciplined or even denounced the anti-Semites in his party.

As we remember the horrors of Kristallnacht, it is important to remember as well, the callousness of the response of the heads of Europe's two largest democracies.

Concerned with making Hitler their partner in grand plans to rout Europe's social revolutionaries, the leaders of Britain and France were, if not completely uncaring about the Jews, not very concerned. Before long, they would learn that Hitler was not a dependable ally, and that he was making plans to attack Western countries before he set out to create *lebensraum* for Germany by establishing German control over the eastern half of the continent.

But Hitler's cruelty towards the Jews would play no role in either Britain's or France's eventual decision to go to war with him. Kristallnacht had no discernible importance in unravelling the agreement made at Munich.

Alvin Finkel teaches history at Athabasca University in Alberta.

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Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	4:55 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	4:50 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:45 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:30 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 & 8:00 AM	4:45 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	4:50 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	4:45 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

Greater Toronto Area

Holocaust bill causes stir, but heads to passage

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There will be no committee hearings on Bill 66, which would establish Holocaust Memorial Day in Ontario.

Last Thursday, the legislature unanimously passed a Liberal motion to dispense with committee hearings, and proceed directly to third and final reading, meaning the bill could become law in the coming weeks.

Earlier this month, the bill passed second reading with all-party support [*CJN*, Oct. 15].

If passed in its current form, it would establish Yom Hashoah as it falls on the Jewish calendar, as an official day of remembrance and education in Ontario. The province would become the first jurisdiction in North America to officially mark a day dedicated to the Holocaust and genocide.

Conservatives angry

But prior to the move to dispense with committee hearings, angry Conservatives accused a Liberal colleague of using the legislation as a political football.

They said Annamarie Castrilli delivered a cheap shot with a press release accusing the governing Tories of stalling on Bill 66.

For two weeks, the bill was before the standing committee on social development, which is chaired by Castrilli.

Castrilli, the Liberal member for Downsview, sent out a statement earlier last week saying that since Oct. 8, she had scheduled two meetings of the standing committee, "but the government's lead member on the committee has cancelled on both occasions and refused to send a representative.

"We don't understand the government's reasons for not scheduling committee hearings... I thought the government was interested in moving this bill forward," read her statement, which is headed Government Stalls on Bill 66.

But an irate Ted Chudleigh, the Tory MPP who sponsored the Holocaust bill, denounced Castrilli in the legislature for "political gamesmanship at its worst" and being "sloppy."

He said Bill 66 had not reached the standing committee's agenda, which, as chair, Castrilli controls.

"How can the government be stalling when the chair of the committee does not schedule the bill for discussion?" he asked.

Chudleigh told *The CJN* he was "very confused" by Castrilli's press release. "I don't know what motivated her. I'm pretty upset with her."

Jack Carroll, the lead Tory on the committee, also told *The CJN* that Castrilli had never scheduled Bill 66 for discussion.

"She [Castrilli] sets the agenda, and it has never been a topic of discussion. I'm not sure where she's coming from.

"I don't like playing politics with important things," said Carroll. "I'm just disgusted by it."

Simon Burke, an aide to citizenship minister Isabel Bassett, under whose ministry the bill would fall, called Castrilli's action "kind of a low move, and a bit of a see-through one."

Earlier this year, Castrilli openly defied Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty by announcing she will oppose Monte Kwinter for the Liberal nomination in York Centre in the next election. McGuinty has endorsed Kwinter in the heavily Jewish riding.

But Castrilli defended herself on the Holocaust bill, saying the government could have easily called for it to be placed before the committee.

"The agenda can always be changed," she told *The CJN*. "The government whip could have said, 'Hey, I don't see Bill 66 here.' "

Castrilli fired off a three-page letter to Chudleigh, saying she "could not believe the unwarranted attacks" he made the day before in the legislature, and explaining why the bill was not scheduled for discussion.

Castrilli said she was "quite delighted" with the decision to waive committee hearings on the bill.

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Edith Kursbatt (right) and Susan Fenwick study for their bat mizvahs.

Baycrest's bat mitzvah 'girls' begin studying

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Edith Kursbatt didn't have a bat mitzvah. But then, in London in 1925, no girls did.

"It was not for females to do," says Kursbatt, a spry 85-year-old, in a genteel, upper-class English accent. "We did have inquiring minds, but it didn't help.

"No one had a bat mitzvah in those days. It was thought to emulate the gentiles."

So 73 years later, Kursbatt has joined 10 of her neighbors at the Baycrest Terrace and 11 members of Baycrest's Women's Auxiliary (WA) to study for one big joint bat mitzvah.

Each participating Terrace resident has been paired with a member of the WA for the duration of the project, which will focus on women of the Bible. The classes will be taught by Jewish educator Rachael Turkienicz.

Last week's inaugural session kicked off with a discussion on the nature of God and free will.

Jewishly, there was little free will for Kursbatt when she was growing up in London in the first quarter of this century.

She was raised in an Orthodox home in which a feared "but revered" great-uncle called the religious shots. "Women were to do what they had done for thousands of years," she recalls. "I suppose it was a prejudice.

"But I have a lot of questions about the Bible. I always look for the logic in things," says the great-grandmother of five.

Kursbatt's study buddy is Susan Fenwick, president-elect of the WA.

Fenwick, now 49, remembers that when she was 12, girls in Toronto had bat mitzvahs, both in Reform and Conservative synagogues.

"But I didn't continue with my Hebrew education," she says.

Some of the participating residents are well into their 90s. Some are also Holocaust survivors.

The program will culminate in a bat mitzvah ceremony next April 16 at the Baycrest Terrace synagogue.

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Thursday	November 19	Posluns Centre (Neptune) Senior Kindergarten	at 1:30 p.m.
Monday,	November 16	Kamin Centre (Atkinson)	at 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

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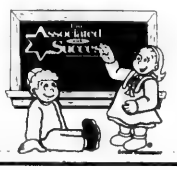

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Community Matters

Record North American UJA Contributions

UJA campaigns across North America are reporting record breaking support following several years of modest growth - and Toronto's community Campaign for Fifty, now in its eighth week, is leading the way. Atlanta, Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Detroit are among U.S. cities outperforming previous years.

All Time Highs

Recent statistics published by UJA Federations of North America show 42 campaigns recording all-time highs. The UJA Federation system in the United States is poised to top $750 million this year - up by $20 million from last year - a new high in U.S. Jewish philanthropy.

Toronto's community Campaign for Fifty has already surpassed $27 million on its way to raising $50 million annually by 2001 - with contribution increases averaging 22%.

Based on an unprecedented process of community consultation, the campaign will allocate $13.5 million in additional funds to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews in danger around the world.

Clear Objectives

Larry Tanenbaum, Co-Chair of the Campaign for Fifty with Brent Belzberg, cites a focused campaign with clear, understandable objectives among the factors contributing to its current success.

In the U.S., UJA National Chair Carole Solomon attributes what she labels "an extraordinary campaign" to a strong economic climate combined with back-to -basics fundraising. "It's about UJA Federation's enduring relevance, scope and effectiveness."

Broader Benefits

"There's a growing realization across North America that gifts to a central UJA Federation campaign can spread more benefits to more Jews than any other donations," says Toronto's Tanenbaum.

"Local Jewish communities across North America have made the statement that our system is the best way of guaranteeing that the most people will be helped by their generosity," adds Richard Wexler, President of UJA in the United States.

The Toronto UJA Federation campaign will soon surpass Los Angeles, ranking it among North America's top three in total giving.

It's Your Call

To ensure the Campaign for Fifty's success and to assist UJA Federation in maintaining and increasing support for beneficiary agencies suffering from severe government cutbacks, a week of Phoning for Fifty telethons is taking place, November 15-19.

"The more people we have making calls to raise money, the closer we are to making sure our agencies can continue to provide vital services to thousands in need," says Marlene Axmith, who is co-chairing the telethons with Cheryl Jackson and Richard Sadowski.

"There are people out there who are ready to make a contribution - they just need to be called," adds Jackson

The last set of Phoning for Fifty telethons in October contributed over $630,000.

Families with three or more generations at the November telethons will be eligible to win a free photo session courtesy of Stephen Epstein at Big Dipper Communications.

For every pledge card completed by a volunteer campaigner, his or her name will be entered into a draw to win a free round trip ticket to Israel, compliments of Air Canada.

To sign up for day or evening Phoning for Fifty telethon shifts, November 15 - 19, please call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

Campaign for Fifty Co-chairs Brent Belzberg (left) and Larry Tanenbaum.

JEWISH toronto

Israeli singer/songwriter Ronit Shachar, winner of the ACUM - Israel's version of the Grammy Award - recently performed for more than 50 UJA Federation volunteers at the home of Howard and Ricki Lichtman, and for over 40 guests at a UJA Federation Israeli Outreach Program at the home of Ruth and Mark Greenwald. While in town, Shachar, who opened for Canadian legend Neil Young during his Israeli tour, also made her local debut at Lee's Palace. "Music has always been part of my life," says Ronit. "I started playing at the age of 10. I knew this is what I wanted to do."

Reaching Out

UJA Federation's Women's Campaign is sponsoring an Outreach Program "Who Said Raising A Mensch Would Be Easy?" with guest speaker Lorraine Sandler, Principal at Holy Blossom Pre-School , **November 9, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.** For more information or to R.S.V.P., call (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

Holocaust Education Week

A project of UJA Federation's Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto, Holocaust Education Week, **October 29 - November 9**, includes nearly 100 programs across the Greater Toronto Area. For more information or for a detailed program brochure, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 301.

March Memories

1996 and 1998 March of the Living participants are being invited to a reunion, **Wednesday, November 18**, 4th Floor, Lipa Green Building. Following dinner, the group will participate in the Phoning for Fifty Telethon, which helps to raise money for programs, such as the March, that strengthen Jewish identity. The UJA Federation Societies Division has established a March of the Living Endowment Fund so that more teenagers can participate.

Seeking Something Higher

The Young Professionals and Young Business Networks of UJA Federation are holding an uplifting program on spirituality and the community, **Monday, November 30, 7:30 p.m.**, Metro Hall. Guest speakers will be Dr. Elliott Melamet and Rabbi Michael Skobac. The cost is $18 in advance; $20 at the door. For reservations, call Silvia (416) 635-2883 ext., 115.

It's on the Web!

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Station apologizes for bumping show

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Viewers who expected to watch a Jewish program last Saturday night on a new Christian-oriented television channel, were instead treated to a kippah-wearing singer praising Jesus Christ.

The mix-up occurred on the new Crossroads channel (CTS – cable 9 in Toronto), which went on the air Sept. 30. Last Saturday, instead of the regularly scheduled program *Passages*, in which Tanach scholar Michael Kigel leads Bible discussions from the Jewish perspective, viewers got Marty Goetz, a well-known performer on the Hebrew-Christian circuit.

In the previously taped show, the kippah-clad Goetz plays piano and sings before a studio audience. But between numbers, he discusses his belief in Jesus.

"It was blatant proselytizing," said Rabbi Michael Skobac, director of education for the counter-missionary group Jews for Judaism.

"We got calls [of protest]," he said. "People were ballistic."

Kigel told *The CJN* he didn't mind being pre-empted, "but this is a question of misrepresentation" because Goetz's show "appropriated all kinds of Jewish symbols," including the Star of David.

Kigel said both Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Jews for Judaism had objected to Goetz's show in earlier meetings with the station's chairman of the board, David Mainse, who is also the founder of the Christian show *100 Huntley Street*.

The station has issued a written apology to Kigel and to Howard Adelman, host of the station's *Israel Today* program, in which it says it made "a serious error" in scheduling the Goetz concert in place of *Passages*.

The letter says the station is "embarking on a serious effort to be balanced and fair, and our respect for the Jewish community is sincere in every way."

CTS will no longer air the Goetz concert, and will not allow members of any religion to use the symbols of another "as a result of this faux pas," the station's general manager, Wendell Wilks, told *The CJN*.

Wilks said Kigel's show, slotted for Saturdays at 10 p.m., was scheduled to be pre-empted the night of Oct. 24.

"But to do it with [Goetz's] show was just insensitive and careless," he conceded. "Viewers were confused and misled, and that's improper."

He said the station has a strict policy against proselytizing.

If the station has to pre-empt a Jewish program in the future, "we'll do it with another Jewish program."

He attributed the foul-up to the new channel's "growing pains."

Messianic Times is back

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Jews for Judaism have received about a dozen protest calls each over the latest edition of the *Messianic Times*, which was again delivered to Jewish neighborhoods in Toronto.

It was the third time in six months that copies of the U.S.-produced messianic paper were distributed locally.

The slick, 32-page publication is filled with Jewish-themed stories. But a closer read reveals its message: that "Yeshua" (Jesus) is the true Jewish messiah.

A front-page article, written by the paper's freelance editor, who lives in Vernon, B.C. alleges that up to 25,000 Jews in Ethiopia have been "abandoned" by Israel.

Other articles focus on messianic activities, but nowhere does the word Jesus appear.

In the past, the paper has been denounced by Jewish organizations as a tool to convert Jews to Christianity.

CJC's Ontario region says the latest issues were dropped off in Bathurst Manor, which has a high concentration of Jewish residents.

About 1,000 copies of the paper's spring edition were delivered to Toronto. Over the summer, some 5,000 copies of the next issue were hand-delivered to Jewish homes in Thornhill, Downsview and Willowdale to spread the group's message.

"People are very upset" at having been targeted by the publication, said Rabbi Michael Skobac. He said the paper was distributed by members of two local messianic congregations: City of David in Thornhill and Congregation Melech Yisrael in Toronto.

The CJN's calls to the paper's editor were referred to Zev Isaacs, who founded the publication in Toronto in 1990, and moved it to Pennsylvania three years ago.

An employee said Isaacs was in Israel "on business." – R.C.

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Martin Goodman (right), a Reena client, looks up his bar mitzvah on ORT Navigating the Bible. Looking on are (from left) Kathleen Crook, president of ORT Canada; Ira Sack, president of Reena Foundation; Gord Berger, president of Toronto ORT; and Mike Abrahams, from World ORT Union.

ORT launches Chumash on CD

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The first complete multimedia version of the Chumash, *Navigating the Bible*, had its Canadian launch recently in Toronto.

The software – contained on a single CD-ROM – includes transliterations of the Hebrew text, blessings on the Torah and Haftorah and audio cantorial chanting with musical scores.

It also includes a complete English translation of *The Living Torah*, edited by Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan, with footnotes and pictures.

The software was developed by World ORT (Organization for educational Resources and Technological Training) Union in London, England.

Among its other features are tutorials on how to read the Torah and Haftorot; a calendar to find the readings for a bar or bat mitzvah (or any weekly reading); a glossary of people, places, plants and animals in the Torah; divrei Torah for each parshah and a search facility to find words in the text.

The launch was hosted by the Reena Foundation at its Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre.

Gord Berger, president of Toronto ORT said, "We're so pleased to finally be able to share the launch of this terrific educational tool with the community – it is a wonderful opportunity for those individuals who have not been able to benefit from these teachings to access them in an open and interactive manner."

To demonstrate the multimedia software, Elaine Todres, president of the Baycrest Centre Foundation served as chazzan, and called on four guests to participate in a symbolic reading of their parshah using the software.

The bnei/bnot mitzvah were: Izzie Light, an orphaned survivor from Prague who attended an ORT school in London, England after the war; survivor Lazar Greisdorf, who came to Canada in 1948 at the age of 12; Martin Goodman, 52, a Reena client who told *The CJN* he would like to learn to read Torah using the software; and Etta Ginsberg-McEwan, an activist for older women and people with disabilities and a retired former director of social work at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Kathleen Crook, president of ORT Canada said *Navigating the Bible* moves ORT into new frontiers in its work for Jewish continuity and Jewish education.

"This is a wonderful tool to educate young and old, particularly good for the smaller isolated Jewish communities." Crook noted that the CD-ROM has been translated into Russian and Spanish and will soon be available in other languages.

At the launch, Toronto ORT presented 20 *Navigating the Bible* CD-ROMs to local Jewish day schools, synagogues and community organizations.

Navigating the Bible is available at selected Judaica shops, or call Edna Levitt, director of development at Toronto ORT 787-0339. The internet web site for Navigating the Bible is [http://bible.ort.org/].

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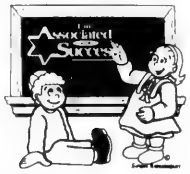
Wednesday,	**November 11**	**Danilack Centre (Leslie St.)**	**at 9:30a.m.**
Thursday,	**November 26**	**Kamin Centre (Atkinson)**	**at 9:30 a.m.**
Monday,	**December 14**	**Posluns Centre (Neptune)**	**at 1:30 p.m.**



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Black Tie Welcome

'God forbid!' says Dr. Ruth about retirement

Dinner to honor six women survivors

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ruth Westheimer, the diminutive, grey-haired sex therapist better known as Dr. Ruth, has recently completed a television documentary and two books on grandparenting.

So what would her own grandparents have thought of her career?

"As German Jews, they wouldn't believe what they were hearing – and then they would be very proud of me," she told *The CJN* recently, her accent and cheerful, brisk speaking manner unmistakable over the phone line from her New York home.

This week, Westheimer is in town as keynote speaker for a Nov. 4 dinner at the Sheraton Centre, sponsored by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem in cooperation with State of Israel Bonds, Women's division. The dinner honors six women Holocaust survivors – Anita Ekstein, Gerda Frieberg, Genia Grossman, Fanny Pillersdorf, Fay Schulman and Rose Ziner – for their contributions to the community.

Westheimer could also be called a Holocaust survivor, although she prefers the term "orphan of the Holocaust." At age 10, she was sent from her Orthodox Jewish home in Frankfurt to a Swiss orphanage, where she spent six years with other Jewish children fleeing the Nazis. She and her parents, who did not survive, corresponded for almost three years.

"I know I was spared some of the horrible experiences that other children had," she said. "First of all, by being alive...the other thing is, I was not in a camp."

Dr. Ruth Westheimer

An only child – now the mother of two grown children – she noted the sacrifice her parents and grandparents made to send her to safety.

At age 16, she moved to Israel where she fought with the Haganah, and was injured by an Arab bomb in 1948.

An early, brief marriage prompted a move to Paris, where she studied at the Sorbonne and taught kindergarten.

She completed her education – an MA in sociology and a doctorate in education – in the United States, where she has lived since 1956. A stint with Planned Parenthood prompted her to focus on human sexuality.

Westheimer didn't "become" Dr. Ruth – as she puts it – until 1980, when she launched the radio program *Sexually Speaking*.

Now an adjunct professor at New York University, Westheimer has become an internationally known personality through her writings (a syndicated column and 15 books to date) and television shows like *Ask Dr. Ruth*. "Even in Australia they recognize me," she said. "It's very nice."

In 1993, she had her own series in Hebrew on Israeli television.

In some ways, being Jewish has made it easier for her to talk about sexuality issues, she said. "For us as Jews, it has never been a sin to teach and talk about sex." She is the co-author of a book called *Heavenly Sex*, which describes sex in the Jewish tradition.

Today, at age 70, Westheimer maintains a private practice about six hours a week and has a number of projects on the go.

Has the thought of retiring crossed her mind? "God forbid!" she exclaimed, adding, however, that one has to respect one's age. She sleeps eight hours a night and has given up waterskiing – but not snow skiing.

Her work has helped her cope with the death of her husband of 36 years, Fred Westheimer. "It definitely helped me a great deal to be so very busy."

She has no intention of giving up sex therapy, despite the new direction some of her work has taken. Her recent grandparenting projects (the documentary *No Missing Link*, to be broadcast on PBS in New York City in December; and the books *Grandparenthood* and *Dr. Ruth Talks About Grandparents: Advice For Kids On Making The Most of a Special Relationship*) came about "because I'm now a grandparent [of three grandchildren, ages 8, 2 and 9 months]." She giggled. "It's very simple."

The memory of her own grandparents was also a factor, she said, turning serious. "They influenced me greatly in terms of Jewishness and values."

She is certain her grandparents would take pride not only in her celebrity, but in her active participation in her synagogue and her membership in a second synagogue. "They need the dues," she said. "And [my grandparents would be proud of my] being, for the sixth year, the president of the local Y [the YMHA of Washington Heights]."

She would advise young Jewish people today to "learn that you have to stand up and be counted if [anything like the Holocaust] happens to Jews or blacks or other groups. You have to do your part in terms of making sure that this does not happen again, and doesn't happen in other places."

Yad Vashem plays an important role, she noted, in keeping tradition and memories alive.

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Bazaar chair Lynda Roth chose a circus theme to bring a new element of fun to the annual event.

"Brand new sweaters!" calls out Brenda Usprech, whose friend recruited her to help.

Sisters Emileigh, 5, and Madison, 7, make change for book customers Lynda and Audrey Zeggil as mom Aileen Kozdas, right, looks on.

Sandra Didomenico, left, buys a hand-knit baby sweater from Martha Weiss, 86, displaying her handiwork.

Sharon Haas, serving a customer, personifies this year's circus theme.

Leanne Campbell, 17, and mom Vicki are longtime bazaar volunteers.

[Frances Kraft photos]

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Betar-Tagar gets new shaliach

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Betar-Tagar is back in business with the arrival in September of shaliach Baruch Liverant.

Technically, the right-wing Zionist youth organization didn't close, but activities wound down after the departure of Liverant's predecessor Pini Ravid last December.

Although Betar-Tagar (the youth wing of Herut-Likud) operates in a handful of cities in the United States, Liverant is the only Betar-Tagar shaliach in North America.

"We felt it was very important that there be a positive activity on the various campuses to counteract some of the anti-Zionism...even anti-Semitism going on on some of the campuses," said Harry Wolle, president of central region, Herut-Likud.

Ravid's stint ended when Israel's Jewish Agency cut funding for his position. Liverant's position is funded locally by Herut-Likud.

Among the new shaliach's first tasks, he explained in a recent interview in Toronto's Herut-Likud office, which houses his own office, is revitalizing the Tagar chapters on local university campuses, beginning with York University and the University of Toronto. Upcoming Betar and Tagar conferences in the United States are on the agenda as well.

He is also focusing strongly on outreach to students in the Thornhill area, and he hopes to organize weekly Betar youth groups for high school students.

Depending on the knowledge level of the students, educational activities may focus on basic information about Judaism and Israel. "There are some [students] who don't even know where the cities in Israel are located."

During Ravid's shlichut, Tagar was involved in several political protests on issues such as Palestinian terrorism. Liverant will continue in that direction if he feels it's necessary, but said the main focus of his work will be educational, focused on establishing strong connections between Israel and the Jewish community here.

Baruch Liverant

Within the Jewish community, he meets regularly with shlichim from youth movements Habonim Dror and Canadian Young Judaea. It is only on "high politics" that they disagree, he noted.

In Israel, a difference of political opinion "doesn't mean both of the parties don't want a big strong country for Israel," he said. "I don't know if people abroad understand that completely."

Liverant, 28, was born in Kishinev and made aliyah as a small child. In 1983, his family and other non-religious settlers moved to Hermesh, outside the Green Line – with the approval of the left-wing Labor government, Liverant pointed out. He grew up in the Betar youth movement, the only one in his settlement.

A graduate of Tel Aviv University (TAU) in archeology and classical studies, Liverant has worked as a tour guide, a winter camp shaliach to the former Soviet Union and a social activities coordinator for American students studying at TAU. He also studied environmental education with the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

The New Ben-Gurion Associates
wish to express sincere sympathy to
Mitchell Oelbaum
on the loss of his beloved father
Ronald Oelbaum ז"ל
May you and your entire family
be comforted "amongst the mourners
of Zion and Jerusalem".

Bruce Bronfman, President, New Ben-Gurion Associates
Claire Horowitz, Executive Director, Ontario Region

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
mourns the passing of
Dr. Ronald Oelbaum ז"ל
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a man of vision, compassion and love for
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We extend our sincere sympathy
to Annette and the Oelbaum family.

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The Canadian Associates of
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
extends heartfelt condolences to
Annette Oelbaum
and the entire Oelbaum family
on the loss of
Ronald Oelbaum ז"ל
Beloved husband, father and grandfather
and a pioneering member of
the Ben-Gurion University family
who did so much to make the desert bloom.
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דער יידישער בוך־יאַריד אין מאָראָנטאָ

פון אַלעק סילווער

איבערפראַזירנדיק אַן אַלטן אויסדרוק, וואָלט מען געקענט באַהויפּטן: זאָג מיר, וואָס דו לייענסט, וועל איך דיר זאָגן ווער דו ביסט. איך מיין דאָ נישט, חלילה וחס, עמיצן צו דערנידעריקן אָדער באַליידיקן, אָבער אַ פאַקט איז, אַז טיילמאָל קען מען דערקענען אַ מענטש דורך דעם, וואָס ער לייענט. אָבער נישט שטענדיק איז דאָס אמת. אָט איז ביי אונדז אין שטעטל אין דער אַלטער היים געווען אַ יונג מיידל, מיינע אַ מיטשילערין, וואָס האָט שטענדיק אונטערן אָרעם געטראָגן דאָס דיקע בוך: „מלחמה און פרידן" פון טאָלסטאָי, אָבער קיינמאָל אין דעם נישט אַריינגעקוקט.

פון דער צווייטער זייט איז היינט צו טאָג אוממעגלעך צו דערקענען דעם אמתן כאַראַקטער פון אַ מענטש לויט זיין לייענען. די עלטער פון מענטש און די באַדינגונגען אין וועלכע ער געפינט זיך, ענדערן אין אַ גרויסער מאָס זיינע געוואוינהייטן אין אַ סך הינזיכטן, און דאָס נעמט אויך אַריין זיין געוואוינהייט צום לייענען. ספּעציעל איז דאָס אָנזעעוודיק ביי עלטערע מענטשן.

טראָץ דעם, וואָס דער עלטערער מענטש האָט אַ ביסל מער צייט ווי דער יונגערער, ווערט אָבער זיין פרייע צייט אויסגענוצט אַנדערש ווי פריער. ער גיט אַוועק מער שעהץ פאַר שלאָפן אָדער כאַפּן אַ דרימל, פאַר פאַרוויילונג, ווי שפּילן אין קאָרטן, אין ביינגאָ, גיין צו די פערד־געיעגן און נאָך אַנדערע אַזעלכע לייכטזיניקע צייט־פאַרטרייבן. ספּעציעל ווערט אַ סך צייט „פאַרטאַכליעוועט" ביי דער טעלעוויזיע, וועלכע גיט דעם עלטערן מענטש שנעלע פאַרוויילונג און ער דאַרף נישט אָנשטרענגען זיין מוח.

פון צייט צו צייט נעמט דער מענטש אַ צייטונג אָדער אַ ביכל אין האַנט אַריין, אָבער פּונקט ווי ביי דער טעלעוויזיע, זוכט מען דאָרט דאָס סענסאַציאָנעלע, דאָס פאַרוויילערישע און. . . אַלץ אין דער ענגלישער שפּראַך. דער ייד לייענט אויך דעם „פאָרווערטס" און דעם „אַלגעמיינער זשורנאַל", אָבער דאָס איז אַ קליינער טראָפּן אין ים פון ליטעראַטור. דער ייד וויל שוין נישט אַריינלייגן צופיל מי אויף זוכן מער מאַטעריאַל אין יידיש. אויב ער איז נאָך אַ פּאַרטיי־מענטש קריגט ער אַריין פון צייט צו צייט אַ פּאַרטייאישע אויסגאַבע אין יידיש. עס זיינען אָבער פאַראַן זייער וויניק אַזעלכע.

דער יידישער בוך־יאַריד קומט איין מאָל אין יאָר צו דערמאָנען דעם ייד, אַלט און יונג, אַז עס זיינען דאָ אַ סך יידישע ביכער, וואָס זיינען ווערט געלייענט צו ווערן. גאַנץ מעגלעך, אַז דער דאָזיקער ייד האָט זיינע אייגענע ביכער, נאָר איז צו פויל צוצוגיין צו די פּאַליצעס און אַרויסנעמען אַ יידיש בוך און עס ווידער לייענען. און אויב ער האָט עס נישט אין זיין היים, געפינען זיך די דאָזיקע ביכער אין אַ ביבליאָטעק, און נישט בלויז אין דער יידישער ביבליאָטעק. ביי אונדז אין קאַנאַדע, ספּעציעל אין די גרעסערע שטעט, האָט כמעט יעדע מוניציפּאַלע ביבליאָטעק אַ יידישע אָפּטיילונג מיט הונדערטער ווערטפולע ביכער, אַלטע און שפּאָגל נייע, וואָס דאַרפן געלייענט ווערן.

אין דער יידישער וועלט ווערט איצט געפייערט דער „חודש פון יידישן בוך". עס וועלן פאָרקומען אויסשטעלונגען, לעקציעס און רעפעראַטן; אַרטיקלען וועלן געשריבן ווערן און אוידיציעס וועלן געהערט ווערן אויף דער ראַדיאָ. דאָס איז אַלץ מיטן צוועק צו באַנייען דעם אינטערעס פון יידישן לייענער צום יידישן בוך. צי וועט דאָס ברענגען די געווינטשטע רעזולטאַטן? שווער צו זאָגן. אָבער אויפהערן מונטערן, וועקן און לערנען טאָר מען נישט. אויב מיר ווילן, אַז מאַמע־לשון זאָל נישט אונטערגיין, מוזן מיר אויסנוצן יעדע געלעגנהייט, יעדעס מיטל צו וועקן דעם יידיש־לייענער, אַז עס קען אַמאָל ווערן צו שפּעט. איצט איז די צייט צו ווערן אַקטיוו אין קאַמף פאַר דער יידישער שפּראַך.

אין די אַמאָליקע יאָרן, ספּעציעל האַרט פאַר דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה, האָבן מיר נישט געהאַט קיין חודש געווידמעט דעם יידישן בוך. עס איז נישט נויטיק געווען. יעדער חודש און אַפילו יעדער טאָג איז געווען אַ בוך־חודש אָדער אַ בוך־טאָג. פאַר דעם יידישן מענטש איז פּשוט געווען אַ מצווה צו לייענען אַ יידיש בוך אָדער אַ יידישע צייטונג. נאָכן לערנען חומש רש"י און גמרא, איז דאָס לערנען שרייבן און לייענען יידיש געווען ווי אַ היילקער געבאָט פאַר דער יידישער מאַמע פון אַמאָל. שווער צו באַשרייבן דעם פאַרגעניגן פון אַ יידישן טאַטן, אין אַ שבת נאָכמיטאָג, ווען ער האָט געלייענט דאָס יידישע „בלאַט" אין דער שטיל פאַר זיך, אָדער אויפן קול פאַר זיין בני־בית.

אָבער דאָס איז געווען אַמאָל. די היינטיקע ווידקלעכקייט שטעלט פאַר די יידיש־אַקטיוויסטן נייע אויפגאַבעס מיטן זעלבן ציל. יידן זאָלן פאַרהיטן די צוקונפט פון מאַמע־לשון. וואָס שנעלער איז בעסער. דער יידישער בוך־יאַריד העלפט באַדייטנדיק אין דער דאָזיקער היילקער אויפגאַבע.

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Quebec provincial election pivotal for Jewish community

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

The Quebec provincial election just 25 days away will again be a pivotal one for the almost monolithically federalist Jewish community, a community that does not want to see the Parti Québécois (PQ) elected for a second term.

Commentary

Another PQ win Nov. 30 would mean at least four more years of dread over another possible referendum on Quebec secession – the province's third – even though Premier Lucien Bouchard has promised one only under "winning conditions."

Even if there is no referendum, a renewed PQ mandate would still mean, for the vast majority of weary Jewish Quebecers, more years of continued political uncertainty, more younger Jews leaving Quebec, more nationalist rhetoric on a regular basis, more time for the economy to suffer.

This uncertainty would linger, at a time when other issues – such as health and social services and the economy – rank much higher in the public mind than Quebec sovereignty.

Still, for the Jewish community, sovereignty remains the dominant issue.

Even if the community preferred the PQ's handling of the economy or its social policies, it would still vote Liberal, since the Liberals are federalists.

Popular vote split

At the time of this writing, most polls showed the Liberals under leader Jean Charest and Bouchard's PQ running in a virtual dead-heat in the popular vote – which would translate into a PQ victory because of the concentration of the Liberal vote in and around Montreal. The Liberals will need to lead by four or five percentage points to have a chance to form the next government.

A Liberal victory would also possibly produce a place in the cabinet for D'Arcy McGee incumbent Lawrence Bergman, who is a shoo-in in his riding. The last member of the Jewish community to serve there was Herbert Marx, also a D'Arcy McGee Liberal MNA, who was justice minister under premier Robert Bourassa.

Meanwhile, the organized Jewish community is galvanizing for election day – in fact it began doing so weeks before the election was actually called.

Unlike the 1995 referendum campaign, when it explicitly worked to keep Canada together and to get out the No vote, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) in Quebec, as its mandate dictates, will not endorse a specific political party.

Yet it is hardly a secret where its sympathies lie. As one source within CJC told *The CJN*, perhaps stating the obvious, the "spectre" of the PQ winning again, "makes the Jewish community more insecure than if the Liberals win."

The CJC in Quebec will not be advising people for whom to vote (not that it would even if it could) and everyone knows the Liberals will win in the usual stronghold ridings with significant Jewish populations like D'Arcy McGee. But the CJC in Quebec will be doing all it can to ensure that every member of the community – including snowbirds – votes, that the vote is informed, and that candidates from all parties in all ridings know where the Jewish community stands on several issues of relevance to it.

What that will mean in more concrete terms is that every candidate in Quebec will receive a bilingual copy of its *Political Action Guide*, which covers such issues as national unity, as well as the economy, education, health and social services, intercultural and inter-racial relations, immigration, anti-Semitism and racism, and human rights.

Representatives from Congress, including political action committee chairs Rita Tenenbaum and David Shapiro, will also be meeting with candidates from eight to 10 ridings with a so-called significant number of Jewish constituents – such as D'Arcy McGee, St. Laurent, Mont-Royal, Westmount, and Robert-Baldwin.

The Jewish community as a whole, however, will likely be more intrigued by two planned public events during the election campaign being coordinated between CJC-Q and FEDERATION CJA.

The first event, planned tentatively for a downtown location, will be geared for young people and take the form of a debate involving candidates or officials from from the Liberals, PQ and the Parti Action Democratique.

The second event, likely to be held in a venue like the Saidye Bronfman Centre, will also take the form of a debate on relevant election issues and feature candidates from the different parties.

Such events, Tenenbaum suggested at a recent meeting of the CJC-Q executive, have proven highly effective in getting the Jewish community more directly involved in the issues of the election campaign.

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CLARIFICATION

An article in last week's *CJN* about the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre's embarking on a $3 million fundraising campaign to expand its services and facilities contained some inaccuracies. The centre is not a beneficiary agency of United Jewish Appeal, but rather a department of UJA Federation. As such, the federation pays the salaries of the centre's 2 ½ staff people, as well as other resources at the centre's disposal. The centre's annual programming budget is closer to $50,000, rather than the figure stated in the article, which was supplied by the centre. As well, the fundraising drive is being conducted through UJA Federation's Legacy Campaign.

From coast to coast

Abortion MDs targeted

Continued from page 1

A fifth, unidentified U.S. doctor was shot in Richmond, N.Y. in 1997. Other abortion doctors have also been killed or wounded in bombing or shooting attacks in Pensacola, Florida, Boston and Birmingham, Ala.

Police and U.S. marshalls in Amherst stepped up security around a physician providing abortion services after an anti-abortion zealot called the Hamilton *Spectator* offices to say the Buffalo-area doctor was on a sniper's hit list. Earlier, a flyer with a picture of Slepian was left in the Hamilton police washroom. Slepian's face was crossed out with an X and the words "killer, Jew, Nazi" were written on it.

While not all abortion doctors singled out for attack were Jewish, the shootings of Slepian, Fainman, Romalis and Short share common elements: they were all shot through a window in their homes within a few days of Nov. 11, Canada's Remembrance Day.

Dr. Henry Morgantaler believes it's more than a coincidence that three of the doctors are Jewish.

"I have noticed it," Morgantaler said. "I don't rule out the possibility that the perpetrator is anti-woman and also anti-Semitic. The anti-Semitic part is nothing new to me. I've been insulted many time for being a Jew."

Morgantaler, who pioneered a woman's right to an abortion in Canada, said he doesn't believe Jewish doctors are providing abortion services out of proportion to their numbers in the general population of physicians. "But the people against abortion try to make an issue out of it. It's like a modern blood libel, blaming Jewish doctors for killing Christian children."

Mark Weintraub, national chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' community relations committee, adopted a more cautious approach.

"To date, we simply do not have any information available that would suggest that anti-Semitism is an additional motivating factor in the attacks on our doctors," he said. Nevertheless, he added, "we don't want to ignore the possibility of such a linkage."

Weintraub said Congress' staff "will be discussing this with police...Those are members of our community who have been attacked."

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, was also cautious in attributing anti-Semitic motivation to the shootings. But he urged police to follow up that angle. "If they fail to take it into consideration, they're failing to do their duty," he said.

Littman pointed out that right-wing extremists often link Jews to issues they oppose, whether it is farm foreclosures or abortion.

"The radical anti-abortion movement people could see Jews as perpetrators, and act against them," he suggested.

Staff-Sgt. Bill Vandergraaf, a member of a task force set up to investigate the shootings, said police were aware that three of the victims are Jewish. But "there's nothing in our investigation to suggest that is a motivation. We're not investigating it as a hate crime."

Speaking from the task force headquarters in Winnipeg, Vandergraaf said police are not convinced the poster left in the Hamilton police headquarters was connected to the shootings. It might have been left by radical elements that are not connected to the killings, he suggested.

Phil Baum, executive director of the American Jewish Congress (AJC), also dismissed suggestions someone was specifically targeting Jewish doctors. "I know of no police effort to identify Jewish doctors. I think the anger and outrage is directed at doctors doing abortion. I know of no reason to believe the motive [in the Slepian shooting] was anti-Semitism...I think it was coincidental that he was Jewish."

An AJC news release condemned "those who, in the name of 'a demonic religious belief' provide encouragement for the murderers even if not specifically calling for murder."

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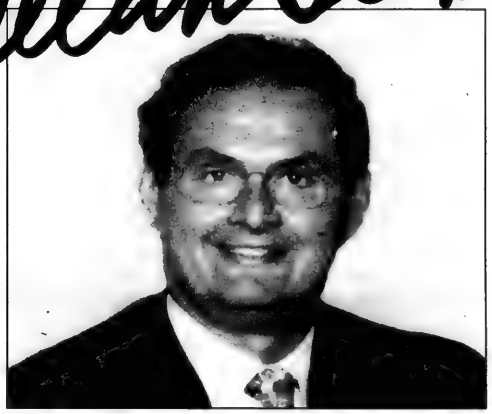

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From coast to coast

UBC scholarship created in name of female coach

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The recent creation of the Sandy Silver Endowment Volleyball Award marks the first time a scholarship fund has been established in the name of a woman coach, according to organizers.

A native of North York, Silver is former head coach of the University of British Columbia (UBC) women's volleyball team; she also coached the York University women's volleyball team in the late 1970s.

The fund is expected to provide two annual scholarships for outstanding women volleyball players enrolled at the university.

Erminia Russo, current head coach of the UBC women's volleyball team, said fundraising began in May 1998. The amount to be raised will be matched by UBC, Russo told *The CJN*. "The total should be enough for two $1,500 scholarships."

Fundraisers are about one-third of the way toward their goal, Russo said. The scholarships will be awarded to female volleyball players with outstanding ability who are good students and can demonstrate financial need.

The organizers hope the first scholarships will be awarded in September 1999, she added.

Russo explained why UBC chose to honor Silver: "Not only was Sandy the head coach of the UBC women's volleyball team, she has been involved in volleyball for many years. Sandy is a recognizable name in the sport, and she's still a big contributor."

Silver said UBC Athletics asked her about two years ago to let her name stand for the award. She was somewhat perplexed by the request. "It was a great honor, but I was also surprised, because scholarships are usually named for people who are dead," she explained. "And I am very much alive."

Silver said UBC decided to set up the scholarships because government support for athletics is expected to gradually disappear. "Financial assistance for university students who play competitive sports is necessary," she said. "They're trying to achieve excellence athletically and academically. That's a considerable burden. When they're not studying, they're training, and there's no time left for a job to earn money. The purpose of the scholarships is to give a few of them a boost."

Now living on the west side of Vancouver not far from UBC, Silver grew up in a Jewish neighborhood in North York and attended William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate. Her volleyball career began when she played on the Toronto Blues women's team in the late 1960s and early 1970s. She graduated from York University in the early 1970s with a degree in physical education.

After a short stint as a correctional officer, Silver went to Seneca College in North York as a full-time women's volleyball coach. Although she had never coached before, she enjoyed the job and her team had a good season.

In 1979, after four years as a part-time coach at York, Silver was offered a full-time position as head coach of the UBC women's volleyball team, becoming the only woman west of Ontario to hold a full-time volleyball coaching job.

In October 1983, Silver was diagnosed with leukemia, which forced her into premature retirement. Thanks to a bone marrow transplant from her sister, however, she managed to beat the disease. Although she no longer plays or coaches, Silver is still active in volleyball, sitting on boards and committees of B.C. and national organizations.

She also acts as an informal mentor to young people. "It's important for women who have been there to offer their advice to up-and-coming women, both on volleyball and on life," she said.

Silver goes back to Toronto "once or twice a year, to see my family and to go shopping." Her mother, Grace Minsk, brother Murray Silver and sister Linda Anderson all live in North York.

For information about the Sandy Silver Endowment Volleyball Award fund, contact Russo at 604-822-4646 or at [erusso@interchange.ubc.ca].

APPLE PICKING

Senior kindergarten students at Bathurst campus of United Synagogue Day School recently went apple picking. Seen (from left) Cortney Kideckel, Diandra Budd and Aleeza Freedman. Behind them is teacher Liat Silberstein-Ospalak.

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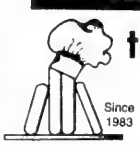

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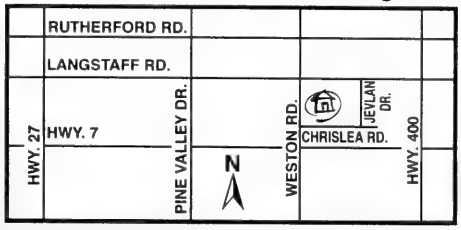

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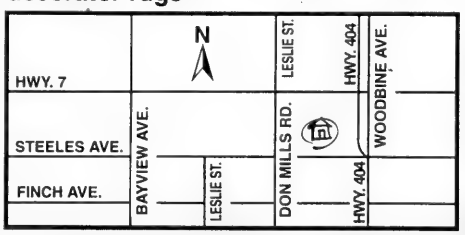

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Rabbi charged with smuggling drugs

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A Montreal rabbi has been released without bail after being criminally charged in New York state with smuggling illegal drugs into a prison where he serves as chaplain.

Rabbi Eli Gottesman, 73, pleaded not guilty in a U.S. federal court in Albany to the charge of attempting to provide contraband, a small quantity of cocaine and marijuana, to inmates of the medium-security Federal Correctional Institute in Ray Brook, in the Adirondacks.

Rabbi Gottesman, however, has not been indicted on this felony yet, said his lawyer Brian Premo. The U.S. District Attorney will have to decide if there is a strong enough case against him to take it to a grand jury for indictment, Premo said. He could not say when such a decision might be made.

Rabbi Gottesman has been commuting each week from Montreal to New York state for about 18 years to serve as chaplain to Jewish prisoners in several jails, as well as hospitals and nursing homes, and to serve the Anshe Zophen Synagogue in Ogdensburg, just over the border from Prescott, Ont.

At the time of his arrest, he was responsible for four state and one federal prison, and a psychiatric institution over a wide region of the northwestern part of the state. He had been working for the Ray Brook facility since 1991.

Reached by *The CJN* at his home in Ogdensburg, Rabbi Gottesman maintained he did not know he was carrying drugs. "My conscience is clear. God knows I have done nothing wrong. If I had known I had contraband I would never have touched it, not for a billion dollars."

Rabbi Gottesman was making a Sukkot visit at Ray Brook when he was arrested Oct. 7. In addition to the traditional lulav and etrog, Rabbi Gottesman brought with him a number of articles for various inmates, among them a bottle of shampoo.

In that bottle, a special agent of the U.S. Justice Department found the illicit drugs in balloons. "When he opened it and found the stuff, it was a shock to me," Rabbi Gottesman said.

Rabbi Gottesman told *The CJN* a certain prisoner had told him that he was losing his hair and needed a special shampoo. Rabbi Gottesman said the inmate told him his wife would send the shampoo to him to bring in.

Rabbi Gottesman said the package came to his home in Ogdensburg (a house belonging to the synagogue) apparently from the wife and he took it to Correctional Institute

At the same time, he also was delivering some inexpensive watches and non-prescription pills for stomach ailments that had been requested by other inmates. Rabbi Gottesman said he has regularly brought in items for the prisoners, particularly Jewish-style foods from Montreal, like bagels and hummus and holiday specialities, which he said he has paid for out of his own pocket.

"The only thing they told me is not to bring the bagels with black seeds," he said, because poppy may show up as heroin in drug tests. "Otherwise, I've never had any problem at any of the prisons."

Rabbi Gottesman was reportedly under investigation for several months by prison officials, as well as the Justice Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation and state police.

Rabbi Gottesman, who has dual citizenship, has no prior convictions, his lawyer confirmed. He faces a maximum of 20 years in prison and a $250,000 fine.

Probably best known as the compiler of the *Who's Who in Canadian Jewry* last published in 1965, Rabbi Gottesman continues to maintain in Montreal the Canadian Jewish Literary Foundation, although it is no longer active.

He has gained recognition for his work among Jewish prisoners in New York state, and was named chaplain of the year by the New York Board of Rabbis in 1988, the first Canadian so honored. His innovative projects to instil Judaism among the prisoners, such as Passover seders and building a sukkah, earned him local press coverage. The adult bar mitzvah of a group of prisoners about 10 years ago made national Canadian television.

Rabbi Gottesman believes his troubles are an "act of God," a sign that the Lord wants him to "slow down" because "my work is done."

About two months before his arrest, he said he was in a serious car accident that demolished his car, but left him unhurt. Then, on the Friday before Sukkot, he was in another accident.

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From coast to coast

Scholarship to unite Israelis, Arabs, Canadians

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Funds raised in Canada during a visit here by Leah Rabin soon after her husband's assassination have established an annual scholarship program that will bring together a Jewish Israeli, an Arab from the Middle East and a Canadian of any background to study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for a year.

They will be known as the Rabin Scholars and be based at the Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace.

Leah Rabin spoke in Montreal and Toronto in 1996, raising $1.7 million through the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, with a view to creating a project in memory of her husband.

"I think this is the most important project I have ever touched," said Rabin scholarship chair Clara Balinsky, a Hebrew University governor, and veteran fundraiser and community activist.

Candidates for the scholarship must demonstrate "superior academic abilities as well as individual initiative and leadership skills." They must have at least a bachelor of arts degree from a Canadian, American or Middle Eastern university, completed in the last two years.

The Canadian scholar will be selected by a blue-ribbon committee of academics from across Canada, chaired by former Université de Montréal rector Rene Simard. A similar committee in Israel will pick the Middle East scholars.

The scholars will be enrolled in a specially designed visiting graduate program at the Rothberg International School. They may come from a variety of disciplines relating to the pursuit of peace, including political science, international relations, Middle East studies, economics or law.

Courses will be given in such topics as democracy and leadership and conflict resolution, as they relate to the Middle East situation and the objective of peace worldwide.

They will attend for a full academic year starting in October 1999, through to April. (The scholarship includes dormitory accommodation in Jerusalem, plus airfare for those coming from abroad.) Those who require it may start with a summer Hebrew ulpan (included in the scholarship). Course work will be in English and Hebrew.

The scholars will also take part in meetings with public figures and special events in the country.

Each will be expected to undertake a major project in their area of specialization, under tutorship of a senior Hebrew University professor. Each will be asked to write an article on their experience, which will be published in Canada and Israel, and to speak on behalf of the Rabin scholarship program in their own country.

Students to undertake major project

The program also foresees the appointed of a Rabin Distinguished Fellow, who will be chosen each year on the basis of outstanding research or involvement in the study of peace. He or she will spend three weeks to two months at the Hebrew University, and give guidance to the Rabin Scholars.

Balinsky said the committee is looking at some well-known Canadians, not necessarily associated with Middle East affairs, but highly respected for their public service or intellect. "They will bring attention and additional prestige to the Rabin scholarship program," she said.

Literature on the scholarship program will be distributed shortly in English, Hebrew and Arabic, to universities throughout North America and the Middle East.

For more information, contact Canadian Friends of Hebrew University. Feb. 15, 1999 will be the deadline for applications. The scholars are to be announced April 23.

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Professor Martin Lockshin,
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CMDA honors Herb Gray with mobile medical unit

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — A mobile intensive care unit was recently donated by Canadian Magen David Adom (CMDA) in honor of Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray.

At a recent ceremony held at Congregation Machzikei Hadas, Arthur Levitt, immediate past president of CMDA, spoke of his pride that Gray is a member of [the Ottawa Jewish] community.

Miriam Lang, CMDA president, said that the organization provides the only free ambulance service in Israel. One hundred percent of the blood supplied to the Israel Defence Forces and 92 percent of the blood supply in the entire country comes from Magen David Adom, she said.

Sam Litwack, Ottawa representative of CMDA, said that when an ambulance in Israel is being used to transport a pregnant woman to hospital, the drivers put a picture of a stork on the ambulance. He expressed the wish that Gray's ambulance always be covered with stork pictures.

Greetings were extended on behalf of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'ir by vice-president Shlomo Mayman. As the dedication took place just a few days after Simchat Torah, Mayman compared the continuous cycle of reading and re-reading the Torah to the constant need for new ambulances to replace the old ones.

Keys to ambulance

National ambulance chair and past president of CMDA, Irwin Beutel, presented the Pikuach Nefesh award to Gray, together with the keys to the new ambulance.

Rabbi Reuven Bulka, said he was delighted that Gray is a member of Congregation Machzikei Hadas. "In [Gray's] life in Canada, he has been a life enhancer, and now in Israel he will be known as a life saver."

Gray spoke of the importance of pikuach nefesh, the saving of a soul, and of his pleasure in being associated with an organization devoted to saving lives.

He noted with pride that this mobile intensive care unit would be used to save the lives of Jews and Arabs alike in Israel.

Gray presented the ambulance keys to David Sultan, ambassador of Israel to Canada, who called Gray "a man of prominence, distinction and integrity."

Following the speeches, Rabbi Bulka sprinkled a few drops of wine on the ambulance to officially "launch" it. "I hope that every trip it takes will be a trip to generate a l'chaim," he said.

Cantor Pinchas Levinson led the singing of O Canada and Hatikvah. Joel Taller, vice-president of Machzikei Hadas, led in the recitation of prayers for Canada and Israel.

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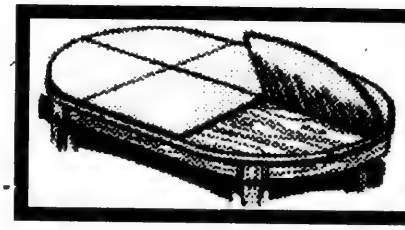

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Israelis help in breakthrough in treating leukemia

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — A team of Israeli and Italian researchers has developed a technique that expands the donor pool for leukemia patients in need of bone marrow transplants.

Developed by scientists at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel and Perugia University in Italy, the method for obtaining and treating bone marrow eliminates the need to find a close donor-recipient match.

Leukemia – a group of cancer-like diseases of the blood cells affecting bone marrow and blood-forming tissues and organs – is generally treated with strong chemical and radiation therapies. Bone marrow transplantation, a painful procedure with a limited survival rate, is considered a last resort for terminal cases.

Until now, patients eligible for the radical therapy required a donor whose immune system matched theirs for six genetic markers – three from the father and three from the mother – to avoid rejection and other complications.

Bone marrow transplants

These restrictions meant that patients had to find matching donors among their siblings or among the general population, where a match is very rarely found.

Global registries have increased the odds of finding a match, but Jews and members of some other ethnic groups often have a difficult time finding suitable matches among the millions of names in the databases.

Since most patients have relatives who do not match on all six of the markers, but who can serve as bone marrow donors using the new technique, "advances in this area will greatly increase the availability of transplants as curative therapy," professors Yair Reisner of the Weizmann Institute and Massimo Martelli of Perugia University conclude in the Oct. 22 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

As a result of their work, patients can receive bone marrow transplants from donors matched along only three immunological markers, a partial match shared by parents and children.

Between siblings, there is a 75 percent chance of finding the vital correlation – and finding a partially compatible donor is also possible among extended family members, according to the Weizmann Institute.

Reisner sees big advantages with "mismatched" bone marrow transplants.

"When you don't have a donor, we can offer you something. You're not lost," he said in a telephone interview from Tel Aviv.

And for those waiting to locate an unrelated donor through a registry, he said, "we should be able to offer a solution immediately."

Bone marrow from unmatched donors carries the danger of triggering residual immunity in the recipient's blood that may reject the "foreign" marrow.

In other cases, the transplanted marrow works against its host in a reverse-rejection.

The Reisner-Martelli method attempts to overcome this problem through "megadoses" of donated stem cells, which are obtained by injecting the donor with special hormones and collected through a process called leukapheresis.

Those cells are "cleaned" of their immune-system agents, giving them a decent chance of being accepted.

The new technique is already being implemented in hospitals in Israel, the United States, Germany and Austria.

Martelli and Reisner, whose collaboration dates back to 1985, tracked the progress of 43 patients with acute forms of leukemia who received unmatched transplants between 1995 and 1997.

At the end of the study, the Israeli-Italian team reported results comparable to the outcomes from perfectly matched transplants.

Sixteen of the patients – none of whom had responded to other therapies – were free of the disease.

The remaining patients either relapsed or died of the disease or complications from the treatment.

"It's not a home run," said Claudio Anasetti, the director of the Unrelated Donor Marrow Transplant Program at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Centre in Seattle, one of the world's foremost facilities. "But it's a big step towards how to get a transplant without too much toxicity."

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I find that when I order pasta in a restaurant, they always bring a huge portion. What is an appropriate portion size for a main course pasta?

A. I would suggest approximately 1½ to 2 cups of pasta is an appropriate portion size for a main course. You are right. Many times in restaurants the portion can be twice that size. Try ordering an appetizer portion or sharing.

Q. What is the recommended amount of fat to eat per day for men and women?

A. This depends on whether you are trying to lose weight, gain weight or maintain weight; it also depends on individual health factors, such as your cholesterol level. However, the average recommendation for women maintaining weight is approximately 60-65 grams per day, and it is approximately 90 grams per day for men maintaining their weight.

Q. Is it true that when you are pregnant you are supposed to be "eating for two"?

A. No. My advice is that you may want to try to eat twice as healthy, but definitely not twice as much. This is going to vary considerably, however, from woman to woman. Some women experience much greater levels of hunger than others, and many women suffer with the opposite problem of nausea. In general, you only need a maximum of a few hundred additional calories per day.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 9, is deadline for Nov. 19 issue, and Monday, Nov. 16, is deadline for Nov. 26. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Nov. 7

YOUTH CLUB BOWLING

Chabad Youth Club bowling night for kids 8-12, 7 p.m., Newtonbrook Bowlerama, 5837 Yonge St. Reserve. 905-886-0420.

Sunday, Nov. 8

FEMINISM & JUDAISM

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, Jewish Book Fair and Key Porter Books celebrate the publication of *ReVisions: Seeing Torah Through a Feminist Lens* by **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein**. Patrons reception 6:30 p.m. Rabbi Goldstein and guest, journalist **Michelle Landsburg** speak at 8 p.m. on How Feminism Saved Judaism. 905-709-1900, ext. 222. Sign language interpreted.

DIABETES RESEARCHERS

Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University lecture, Diabetes…From the Laboratory Bench to the Bedside, with **Prof. Sanford Sampson**, Bar-Ilan, and **Dr. Efrat Wertheimer**, Tel Aviv University. 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. 905-660-3563.

OPEN HOUSE

Downtown Jewish Day School Open House, 3:30 p.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre. **Peter Geffen**, founder of the original Heschel School in New York City, speaks on Integrated Curriculum. Babysitting available. RSVP to **Doris** 924-6211. Registering now for 1999-2000 for senior kindergarten, grades 1,2, and 3.

TAY-SACHS SCREENING

Tay-Sachs Screening Clinic conducted free of charge by Hospital for Sick Children and Jewish Women International, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

FUGITIVE PLACES

Fugitive Places and the Site of Memory. **Prof. Shelley Hornstein** examines the connection between the place where history unfolds and our personal memories. Lecture with slides. 8 p.m. Congregation Darchei Noam, 15 Hove St.

THE LEADERS AMONG US

Rachael Turkienicz lecture series, The Leaders Among Us, continues with Judith and Judah Hamaccabee, 8 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave.

AUCTION AND GIFT SALE

Silent auction and gift sale, 1-5 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. Come listen, come tell. 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

Monday, Nov. 9

GRANDMOTHER'S STORIES

Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'Arim Hebrew day School's Jewish Book Fair presentation of My Grandmother's Stories – *The Market of Miseries*, *The Faces of the Czar* and *The Tablecloth*, three plays adopted from the book by **Adèle Geras**, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Suitable for kindergarten to Grade 8. Information 633-8247, tickets **Helen** 636-1880, ext. 281.

ADULT EDUCATION

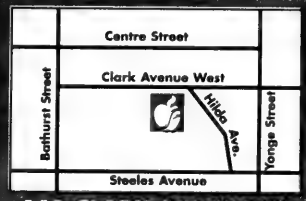
In commemoration of Kristallnacht, **Prof. Derek Penslar**, University of Toronto, speaks on The Holocaust and the Foundation of Israel, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

BIBLICAL CONUNDRUMS

Biblical Conundrums series with **Carl Ehrlich** continues with Dancing Around the Golden Calf: The Politics of "Sin" (Exodus 32, Leviticus 10, Kings 11-15), 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation.

Continued on page 33

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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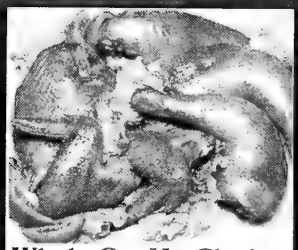
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What's New

Continued from page 32

JEWISH PERSONALITIES

Jewish Personalities of the 20th Century series focuses on Ze'ev Jabotinsky, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

THE JEWISH FUTURE

Beth Tzedec Congregation in cooperation with York University Centre for Jewish Studies celebrate the launching of *Creating the Jewish Future* by **Michael Brown** and **Bernard Lightman**. Opening remarks: **Bernard Ghert**, conference sponsor. Panelists **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**, Beth Tzedec; **Prof. Morton Weinfeld**, McGill University; **Elizabeth Wolfe** community volunteer. Moderator **Prof. Martin Lockshin**, York University. 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec.

Thursday, Nov. 12

ABOUT CHANUKAH

Rachael Turkienicz shares insights about Chanukah, 2 p.m. at Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

INAUGURAL WEEKEND

Beth Tzedec Congregation's inaugural weekend of the Jack and Libby Orenstein Institute for Adult Education, Nov. 7 and 8, with **Jack Wertheimer**, Jewish Theological Seminary.

Saturday, Nov. 7: from the pulpit, Judaism Without Limits: Why the Jewish Community Needs Boundaries; study luncheon, Studying Conservative Jews – What We Have Learned About Ourselves.

Sunday, Nov. 8: Men's Club breakfast, Is the Well Running Dry? Challenges and Opportunities in Jewish Philanthropy.

QUEST FOR LOST TRIBES

Premiere screening of **Simcha Jacobovici's** documentary, *Quest for the Lost Tribes of Israel*, Dessert reception, Sunday, Nov. 22, John Bassett Theatre, Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Proceeds go to purchase medical equipment for the Woman and Infant Centre at Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem. 781-3584.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, 83 Green Lane, Thornhill. 905-886-0420.

Judaism with a touch of mysticism lectures with **Rabbi Avraham Plotkin,** 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 10 The Sabbath; Nov. 17 Jewish Observance; Nov. 24 Sexuality.

Beginners Hebrew course for adults with **Rabbi Meir Gitlin** Wednesdays 8-9 p.m. Register.

Women's Institute of Torah Study classes, Tuesdays. Rambam's Principles of Jewish Faith with Rabbi Plotkin 10 a.m. and Understanding Our Prayers with **Rebbitzen Esther Gitlin** 1 p.m.

THE PSI FACTOR

Riverdale Jewish Community Centre Tuesday classes on The PSI Factor: Prophecy in the book of Samuel and the People of Israel, instructor **Rena Schochet**, 8-9:30 p.m., 179 Danforth Ave. 465- 2395.

THEATRE NIGHT

Na'amat club Aviva presents *Ladies Night*, A Live Full Monty, Saturday, Nov. 21, New Yorker Theatre. 8 p.m. Reception with cast after the show. Limited tickets. **Doris** 905-771-7988.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish? Lesbian? Gay? Not sure? Check out the weekly support and social group, supported by Jewish Family & Child Service and Coalition of Jewish Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Students. Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m. Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 212. **Nurit** 961-9344

BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM

Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz one-year program for girls approaching the age of bat mitzvah. Bi-monthly sessions and special events – speakers, communal service, art project and dance, culminating in group event. First session Nov. 15, 4:30-6 p.m. **Hymie Guttman** 630-9924 or **Anita Bromberg** 635-5096.

NCSY CARLEBACH MINYAN

National Conference of Synagogue Youth Carlebach Minyan Friday night services with tunes composed by the late Shlomo Carlebach, singing, dancing. Friday, Nov. 13, 4:35 p.m. at NCSY Centre, 7000 Bathurst St. Open to all ages. 905-761-6279, ext. 23.

KIDS' YIDDISH CLASSES

Free Yiddish classes for junior kindergarten to Grade 8, Sundays, 9 :30 a.m. to noon, Associated Hebrew School, 6100 Leslie St. Sponsored by Toronto District and York Region School Boards and committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation. **Naomi** 635-2883, ext. 150.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Discovery: Hear the Real Story Behind the Hidden Codes, Saturday, Nov. 7, 8 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Register.

SINGLES SCENE

Singles events. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441. Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Mon. Nov. 9, meeting for 25-35 group. Trivia Nite, Saturday, Nov. 14, 8 p.m., at Beth Emeth.

CASINO RAMA

Jewish Women International, Orah chapter trip to Casino Rama Sunday, Nov. 15. Bus leaves Promenade Shopping Mall 9:30 a.m., departs Casino Rama 4 p.m. $6 includes lunch. Reserve. **Rhonda** 905-889-0432 or **Gloria** 739-6595.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

THURSDAY, NOV. 5

Documentary film, *Not In Our Town*, highlighting the efforts of Billings, Mont. residents to combat hate crimes, presented by Generation to Generation Committee of Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, 7:30 p.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Panelists: former police chief of Billings **Wayne Inman**; detective **Dino Doria,** Hate Crimes Unit of Greater Toronto Area; **Salome Bey**, People Against Racism.

SATURDAY, NOV. 7

Hitler's Willing Executioners: How Ordinary People Become Mass Murderers, lecture by **Daniel Goldhagen**, author of *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust* , 8 p.m. Adath Israel Congregation. Sponsored by Adath Israel with UJA Federation's Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre.

In the film, *Those Days in Terezin*, German filmmaker **Sibylle Schonemann** travels to Theresienstadt to retrace the life of one of its victims (English subtitles), 7:30 p.m., Innis College, University of Toronto, 2 Sussex Ave. Schonemann will attend. Presented by Goethe-Institut Toronto, Cinema Studies at U of T, and Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre.

SUNDAY, NOV. 8

Jewish Book Fair and Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre present Beth Tzedec **Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum,** author of *The Man in Stripes: The Story of Auschwitz Prisoner #88* about **Zygmund Sobelewski**, who was imprisoned in Auschwitz. Rabbi Tanenbaum reads from his new book, followed by discussion with Sobelewski. 1:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Sponsored by Beth Tzedec Congregation.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 11

Address Unknown – Return to Sender. A Holocaust researcher lectures about the system and political role of German concentration camp mail and related philately. Illustrated. 7 p.m., Lipa Green Building. Sponsored by Canadian Association Association for Israel Philately.

Seniors! Last chance to get in on the JNF CAARI Tour to Israel. Information meeting Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2 p.m., Lipa Green Building, Room212. **Esther** or **Lil** at JNF 638-7200.

FOR SENIORS

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami Trip 1999, **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Nov. 10, Shaw Festival,*The Shop at Sly Corner* ; Nov. 11, Casino Rama; Nov. 22-25, Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel; Dec. 31, New Year's eve dinner dance. Membership open $12. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 12, games; Nov. 19, bingo; Nov. 26, video; Dec. 19, Chanukah dance (reserve, call **Malka Colla** 630-5771). **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

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Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

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Out of Country Insurance Seminar with insurance broker **Geoff Burman, Dan Donelly** and **Leah Zinberg**, Monday, Nov. 9; 1:15 p.m.

Therapeutic Touch Treatments with nurse **Florence Baum,** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Hearing aid checkup with **Barry Katz**, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 12:15 p.m.

Parkinson's Support Group, Sharing and Caring – A Rap Session, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 1:15 p.m.

Can a Community Occupational Therapist Help You? **Nadine Crafton** Thursday, Nov. 12, 1:15.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo dances. Nov. 10 is a lecture. **Anna**.

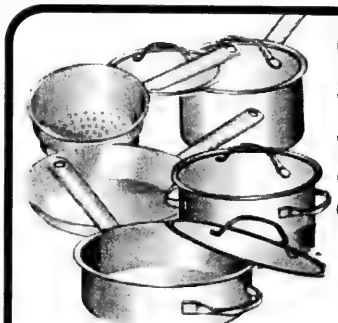
BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Toronto Jewish Film Society screening of *The White Rose*, a film about the fates of resistance fighters **Hans** and **Sophie Scholl** at the hands of the Nazis, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8, Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario. Co-presented by Goethe-Institut Toronto, Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, and Cinema Studies, University of Toronto. For information, call Bloor JCC.

Good health for people 50 and over is the topic for the free November Wednesday Wellness Night health talks. Nov. 11 deals with Arthritis. 7 p.m. Reserve.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 24



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Fanatics pose danger of new killings: Weizman

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — President Ezer Weizman warned last weekend of recent indications that another high-profile political murder in Israel – like the killing of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin – is not impossible.

"There is within our midst a small, fanatical, violent and dangerous nucleus, which scorns the laws of the state, and places above them its twisted understanding of religious injunctions," Weizman said during a memorial ceremony at his official Jerusalem residence.

On the third anniversary of his assassination by Yigal Amir, Rabin was mourned by several of the more prominent men with whom he had worked. Former Israel Defence Forces chief of staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak spoke at a noontime memorial ceremony on the Hebrew University's Mount Scopus campus, while letters to the widowed Leah Rabin from Jordan's King Hussein and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat were read at the Weizman ceremony.

"Leah, my dear sister," wrote Hussein, "only distance and the state of my health prevent me from being with you on this sad day. The legacy left by my friend and partner, Yitzhak Rabin the lofty peacemaker, will live with us forever... He was a great man, and his absence is deeply felt."

The king closed his letter with an expression of his belief that Rabin's legacy would survive the journey from vision to reality. "Although Yitzhak is no longer with us," he wrote, "he remains in our hearts always. He is not the memory of the past, but the promise of the future."

Arafat called Rabin "my true partner in making the peace, the hard peace, the peace of the brave," giving Rabin, Weizman and Shimon Peres the credit for breaking through "the wall of hostility and hatred" that he said had separated the Israeli and Palestinian people for years.

Arafat said the peace camp was growing larger every day, and that the two nations would see their negotiations lead to peace and security for both sides. He also cited the recently-signed Wye Memorandum as a new chapter of the process begun by Yitzhak Rabin and himself.

The ceremony at Weizman's residence was well-attended – Labor Chair Ehud Barak was there, along with Peres, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz, MK Rechavam Ze'evi (Moledet), and other Knesset members - but no cabinet ministers were present.

Leah Rabin said she was not bothered by that fact – "I didn't notice anyone missing their presence," she said.

The cabinet held its own memorial ceremony, as did the Knesset, and numerous cabinet members attended the Mount Herzl ceremony. Several also attended Saturday night's mass gathering in Tel Aviv's Yitzhak Rabin Square.

Also present at Weizman's home were the parents of a Jordanian child named Yitzhak Rabin. The family is currently living in Israel.

In his own speech, Weizman said that three years after the assassination, "I have no doubt that [Rabin's] vision was not murdered along with him, and that it will live eternally. Peace was Yitzhak's will, and I commit myself to fight with all my power to help actualize this will."

Leah Rabin said it was difficult for her to be at the president's home without her late husband, with whom she had attended so many ceremonies there. She also said she hoped the lighting of the memorial candle there would become an annual ceremony.

Lipkin-Shahak called on the university students he addressed to neutralize what he called "the social time bomb" of which Rabin's assassination was symptomatic. The general called on the students to muster the energy they were devoting to their strike to fighting the divisions within Israel. "Take care of this country," he said, "because we don't have any other land, and you are its future."

Shahak was approached after his speech by several students who called on him "to enter politics and save Israel. You are our last hope," some told him.

Shahak reminded his supporters, "I have not yet taken off my military uniform."

Prayer and study tents set up in the city to commemorate Rabin were visited by many Jerusalem mourners.

Police to crack down

By GIDEON ALON
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Attorney general Elyakim Rubinstein and state prosecutor Edna Arbel decided last week, following urgent consultations, to instruct the police to step up enforcement of laws against inciting, threatening and insulting civil servants.

At a meeting with senior police officers, senior officials in the state prosecutor's office, and other security officials, intelligence assessments were presented that suggest that incitement is likely to increase as the peace process progresses and the Wye agreement is implemented.

Sources at the meeting said that the calls of "traitor" lobbed at Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by right-wing extremists must be met with decisive action.

One possibility raised at the meeting was the issue of administrative detention orders against extremist right-wing activists, but no decision was taken on the issue. A decision was made, however, to accelerate investigation and indictment against individuals suspected of incitement.

Rubinstein called on leaders from all political parties to work to cool down the atmosphere. He said that law enforcement authorities will play a role in monitoring activities, and will do everything necessary to enforce the law while preserving a balance between freedom of expression and deflecting the potential for violence.

The attorney general emphasized that the bitter experience of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin mandates extra caution for addressing calls of "traitor," which could be interpreted as a call to violence.

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University students on strike in Israel

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

JERUSALEM — The new academic year at universities throughout the country officially began two weeks ago, but the classrooms have remained empty.

About 175,000 university students from the Technion in Haifa, to Hebrew University in Jerusalem, to Ben-Gurion University in Beersheva have been on strike since Oct. 23.

The students are demanding a 50 percent cut in their tuition, which is now approximately NIS 10,000 ($3,600 Cdn) per year.

The students, who put their studies on hold because of their mandatory army duty, think the tuition, coupled with living costs, makes higher education less accessible to the masses.

"I think the strike is good," said 24-year-old Tali, who is working to save enough money for university. "I just hope they can accomplish something."

"I agree with the cause of the strike," said Lee Lamdan, a fourth year computer sciences student at the Technion in Haifa. "I think university is too expensive."

Lamdan, like others, also questioned the government's stance on paying yeshiva students to study, even though most of them do not serve in the army. "We should get what Haredim get," she said.

Adina Bercovich, a fourth year English and international relations student at Hebrew University agreed. "Why shouldn't I get the [haredi] accomodations?" Bercovich, asked. "I have to work part time and that still isn't enough money."

Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman has repeatedly rejected the students' demands, saying they are trying to break an agreement they themselves signed that set student tuition through the year 2001. Ne'eman said the students' demands would cost NIS 800 million ($290 million) and instead they should be assisted on an individual basis.

But Lior Rotbert, chair of the National Students Union, blamed Ne'eman for what is happening. "He is unaware of the students' difficulties and the seriousness of the situation," Rotbert said.

One year of university – including tuition, books, housing and cost of living – runs the average student NIS 40,000 ($14,500).

The strike has become a sort of political arena for politicians. Jerusalem mayoral candidate Shimon Shetreet used the strike to promote his election campaign with the younger voters.

"Your strike is real, justified, and right, and I want you to continue with more students. You deserve respect for asking them to reduce tuition by only 50 percent," Shetreet was quoted as saying in the *Jerusalem Post*.

Labor party leader Ehud Barak told students that "the state of Israel has no natural resource except the brains in your heads. The lowering of tuition is only the first step in the campaign which must end in every boy and girl... being able to take advantage of a university education, for the future of all of us."

Police drag away a screaming student demonstrator.
[Israel photo]

Referring to the existing agreement, Education Minister Yitzhak Levy said, "It's better to reconsider an agreement signed five years ago if things have changed economically and academically...We can talk about possibly establishing a new commitee to review the matter."

Meanwhile, the strike turned ugly early on as police and students clashed outside the universities. Photographs of students being clubbed and put in headlocks by police have received wide coverage in the Israeli papers.

"I think everyone is saddened to see such things," *Ha'aretz* quoted President Ezer Weizman as saying about the confrontations.

Student leader Rotbert maintained that the police were acting violently without provocation. "They hunt us down like animals," he said.

Students and police accuse each other

Police, on the other hand, have accused students of deliberately inciting violence in order to capture headlines.

Police Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk said the students have a right to demonstrate, but added that they had ignored the requirement to obtain permits for demonstrations.

Lamdan sided with the police on the violence issue. "Some students do some things that should be stopped... some things are out of line," she said. "The roadblocks are okay, but the violence is too much."

The police, however, think even the roadblocks are too much of a disturbance. Drivers who honk their horns to identify with the strikers have found themselves the target of police action, as officers have handed out scores of tickets.

In addition, more than 100 students across the country have been arrested and detained by the police on a range of charges. The three student leaders of the strikes were charged last week with illegal assembly and incitement.

Another strike, this time by the professors, is already scheduled to take place.

"The only people who are suffering are us," said Lamdan. "We're already late... we'll be the ones paying for it."

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The Week in Israel

Oct. 26

• An Israeli security guard at a power station was killed in the Israeli-controlled portion of Hebron. Army officers said Danny Vargas, a 29-year-old father of two, was shot at close range before his body was dumped on a roadside from a speeding car.

Oct. 27

• Palestinian security officials said they arrested two suspects in Monday's slaying of Vargas. While in custody, the suspects confessed to the murder near Jerusalem two weeks ago of another Israeli, Itamar Doron.

• Israeli leaders appealed to the public to refrain from political incitement against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

• Security officials said they were making progress in finding those responsible for Monday's slaying of Mohammed Zalmouk, 72, who was beaten to death near the West Bank community of Itamar.

Oct. 28

• The long-awaited conversion institute involving Orthodox, Conservative and Reform perspectives will open its doors in three cities next February, according to Benjamin Ish-Shalom, chair of the board of the new institute, which will be known as the Institute for Jewish Studies.

Oct. 29

• There will be no progress in implementing the Wye Memorandum unless the Palestinian Authority (PA) is "fully mobilized to combat terrorism," Netanyahu said during a telephone call to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat. Netanyahu made the call after 19-year-old Sgt. Alexei Neykov was killed preventing a suicide bomber from attacking a busload of schoolchildren in the Gaza Strip. Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack.

Oct. 30

• The PA conducted a police sweep throughout Gaza, arresting dozens of Hamas leaders and activists. Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin was placed under house arrest.

• Neykov, whose heroism saved the lives of the schoolchildren attacked by a Hamas suicide bomber, was laid to rest.

Files from the JTA and Ha'aretz

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and U.S. President Bill Clinton conferring on the shores of the Wye River. [RNS/Reuters photo]

A Wye compromise

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

The Wye Memorandum, signed by Israel and the Palestine Authority (PA) on Oct. 23 after nine days of tortuous negotiations, is basically an exercise in compromise.

It's clear that the agreement, designed to fulfil the unkept promises of the 1995 Oslo 2 accord, could not have been cobbled together unless both sides had relented on such key issues as the size of Israel's redeployment and security arrangements.

Under the accord, which broke a bitter 19-month impasse in negotiations, Israel agreed to give up a further 13 percent of the West Bank over a 12-week period in exchange for Palestinian security cooperation and a promise to conduct a systematic and sustained campaign against terrorism.

When the United States originally presented its plan in January to resuscitate the dying Oslo peace process, the Israeli government was less than enthusiastic about it. The cabinet, describing it as "unacceptable," claimed that a 13 percent withdrawal would endanger Israel's security. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu offered about nine percent.

Israel embraced the American proposal only after the PA agreed that three percent of the territory to be relinquished would be turned into a nature preserve in the Judean Desert under Israel's overriding security responsibility. By contrast, the Palestinians almost immediately embraced the American plan. But for the PA, it was still a bitter pill to swallow. It had expected Israel to vacate 90 percent in the interim period.

If the Wye Memorandum is implemented, 60 percent of the West Bank will be under Israel's full control and 18.2 percent will be fully controlled by the Palestinians. Another 21.8 percent is to be jointly administered. The 40 percent due to fall under the total or partial authority of the PA contains more than 95 percent of the Arab population, but is virtually non-contiguous, a source of discontent in Palestinian circles. On a map, the land to be under Palestinian suzerainty resembles nothing less than an archipelago, all the easier for Israel to regulate.

As of now, the question of the third redeployment remains unresolved. The PA wanted it rolled into the first and second pullbacks, which are integrated into the Wye Memorandum, but Israel balked. A joint committee will study the contentious issue. The PA expects a substantial withdrawal, but will have to settle for less than two percent.

On security cooperation, the Palestinians made the bulk of the concessions, pledging yet again to uphold a policy of "zero tolerance" toward terrorism. But in a notable concession, Netanyahu dropped his demand that Arab terrorists in Palestinian self-rule areas be extradited to Israel.

The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency is supposed to play a major role in monitoring and validating Palestinian compliance. But does that mean that the United States will be the final arbiter in security matters? This could cause tension in the future.

One of Israel's demands was that the PA should reduce its police forces from about 40,000 to 30,000. But all Israel got from last month's accord was an innocuous paragraph that the Palestinians would provide "a list of its policemen...in conformity with the prior agreements."

After three years of delay, the Palestinians will finally be allowed to open an airport in the Gaza Strip. But the PA is still waiting for permission to build a port in Gaza, a matter that hinges on the successful completion of additional bilateral talks.

As for the release of Palestinian prisoners, the PA asked for 3,000 but got only 700.

The spirit of compromise was also evident in negotiations regarding the PLO's national covenant. Netanyahu insisted that the Palestinian National Council (PNC) be recalled to nullify all articles in the charter calling on Israel's destruction (a process which actually occurred in April 1996). But in the end, he backed down and accepted a meeting of "the members" of the PNC to deal with that recurring problem.

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AT EL AL, EVERYONE'S A WINNER

El Al Airlines recently presented nine lucky people with two return tickets to Israel. A Grand Prize winner also received full land accommodation. The nine were selected out of 200,000 ballots in a draw held at the Israel at 50 pavilion at the Canadian National Exhibition. Seen here are (top row, from left): Eli Abitbol, president Gateways International (provider of all land accommodation), Julia Koschitzky, chair of Israel at 50, Moshe Shamai, general manager of El Al, Freda Isenberg, Daniel Zimansky, Ken Hoole, Ester Timbo. Bottom row (from left): Esther Levy, Jerry Katz, Marisol Poulimenos, mother of Grand Prize winner Julie Poulimenos, Annabel Bassin and Hannah Brown.

מזל טוב

Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Why the tears? Oct. 14 was special – Sierra and Alex Bisgould's first birthday and their parents Monique and Howard's wedding anniversary. Mazel tov.

Mazel tov to Damian, son of Linda & Jerome Karp, on his bar mitzvah. Love from your grandparents Morris & Dawn Dorfan from South Africa.

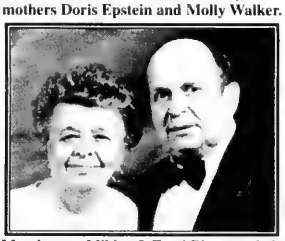
Gabriel Nicolau graduated from Dublin Middle School gifted program. Congratulations from parents Doris & Harry, sister Inna and Grandma Anna in Israel.

Adam Epstein celebrated his bar mitzvah Sept. 5 with parents Cindy & Michael, brothers Jordan and Robbie and grandmothers Doris Epstein and Molly Walker.

Mazel tov to Rebecca Laiken who did a marvelous job at her bat mitzvah May 17. Love, Mom, Dad, Rosalyn, and Grandma Irene.

Family and friends wish newlyweds Stephen & Gayle Kertzman (née Naiman) mazel tov on their Aug. 16 wedding.

Mazel tov to Irene & Eugene Karniol on your 50th wedding anniversary. Love and best wishes, Rachel, Yoram, Karen and Orren.



Mazel tov to Miklos & Erzsi Blum on their 50th wedding anniversary, Sept. 19. Love Kathy, Tom, Andrea, Aliza, Anna, Robert and Jessica.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

***The CJN* announces its fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest.**

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family. There are three age categories for entrants: 1. Twelve years old and under, 2. Thirteen to 18 years old, 3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah. They cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, 1998.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50. Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 4, 1998.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec, 10, 1998. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Do you need a journal or day timer? Besides Filofax and Letts of London, Essence du Papier now carries the PTM line, with its large selection of options to help plan your daily life.

Old-world sealing wax and signets from French Corner add a special touch to menus, announcements and invitations. And if this helps make your ceremonies and parties unique, think what it adds to a billet doux, or letter to a special friend.

Essence du Papier imports products from around the world, many of them hand-made. Many, you'll find at no other Toronto store. Some — like the fine leather photo albums from Italy, or the desk accessories made in France from Canadian maple — you won't find anywhere else in Canada.

Many products feature Jewish themes, including greeting cards for weddings, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, and stationery with Jewish motifs.

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Sutton Group Admiral: a smart choice for serious real estate professionals

Toronto real estate Brokers extraordinaire, Sol & Murray Goldkind, are early risers. Their days are generally filled with meetings and interviews — many with top agents interested in joining their rapidly growing real estate company.

As real estate brokers, the Goldkinds learned early in their management career that success would come as a result of hard work and dedication to their agents. "What an agent really wants most is to affiliate with the right company, sell as much real estate as they can with the fewest headaches possible," says Murray. "Every top agent we talk to is interested in one primary thing: making more money. But they also want their independence," notes Sol. According to the Goldkinds, the real estate industry is in a massive transition with agents segregating themselves into definable groups. Top agents no longer are looking for the highly structured management styles popular in the 70's and 80's. Now, the top agents are moving to more service-oriented, less structured environments — exactly the kind of productive atmosphere the Goldkinds see themselves providing.

Murray Goldkind

Sol Goldkind

Many of the changes occurring in real estate today are directly attributable to two factors: advancements in technology, and the availability of agent-oriented marketing resources. The technological advancements over the past decade equate to more freedom for the smart agent. Many of the Goldkinds' staff also maintain home offices and are able to be fully functional from their home environment. Through computer link-ups, and the Sutton Group Admiral website (www.sutton.ml.org), information that once was available only by going to the office is now available anywhere and at any time.

Many agents like the idea of being productive without having to be in the office every day. When they *are* in the office, agents with Sutton Group Admiral all have access to the latest computer facilities, and enjoy full use of the latest in personal marketing and career management software. Sutton Group Admiral uses a "fee-for-service" concept, which lets agents pick and choose the services they want. In this way there are never any hidden costs passed on to an agent, nor are agents ever penalized by waste generated by others. In other words, each agent, acting as his or her own businessperson, enjoys the benefit of controlling their income *and* their expenses. "In the old days, top agents concentrated nearly exclusively on their income, but today the smart agents are looking just as strongly at their bottom line," says Murray.

The Sutton Group Admiral advantage offers a serious real estate agent the best of all worlds. More money in their pocket, freedom to operate at their own level, flexibility in business planning, and access to tools and services. Says Sol, "timing isn't everything, it's just 98%, and as timing goes we are comfortable that we have the concept agents are looking for both now and in the future."

Judging by the phenomenal growth of their 70+ person office, the Goldkinds' success story is one of the very few Cinderella stories in the hard-nosed real estate industry.

Sol and Murray Goldkind, owners of Sutton Group Admiral Realty Inc., are very pleased to announce the recent appointment of

Heather Sherman

as Associate Manager and Sales Representative. Since 1978 Heather has consistently been a Sales Performance Leader while providing the community with the utmost in service, professionalism and integrity.

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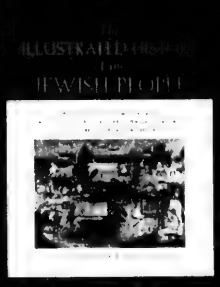

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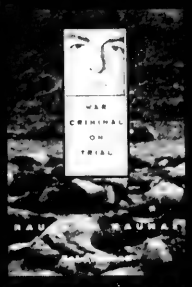

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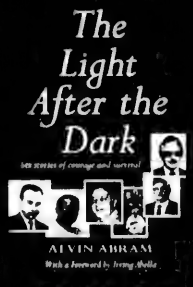

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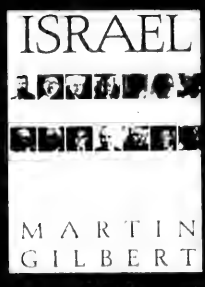

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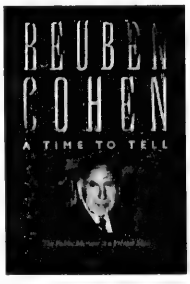

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KEY PORTER BOOKS

Travel, Arts & Business

Israel concerned over unfair airline competition

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian and Israeli negotiators are attempting to hammer out a new agreement over air traffic between the two countries.

Representatives of the transport ministries of both countries are focusing on a temporary agreement to take the two parties through the winter season and pave the way for talks on a broader agreement, said Moshe Shamai, general manager of El Al operations in Canada. An interim agreement is expected at any time.

Shamai said El Al is unhappy at the current bilateral agreement, which was signed in 1985 and which has become obsolete. That agreement was concluded at a time when no Canadian airline was interested in flying the Canada-Israel route. Under the agreement, El Al is forced to balance its departures to Israel between Toronto and Montreal, even though Toronto has developed into a much bigger market.

In addition, El Al is prevented from originating its flights in the larger United States market and simply topping them up with Canadian passengers. Air Canada, which also flies to Israel, is not bound by those terms, Shamai said.

"Air Canada is using Toronto and Montreal as 'hubs.' We don't have the same advantage. We have no rights to take Americans to Israel," Shamai said.

"Israel," he continued, "is concerned over unfair competition. Any agreement has to reflect equal opportunity." Under the current agreement, El Al must make specific requests from Canada to exclude being bound by its terms, he added.

According to a report in *Ha'aretz*, Israel gave Canada notice that it was terminating the aviation agreement after Air Canada announced it was adding two flights per week to Israel during the winter season, bringing to five the number of weekly flights to the Jewish state.

El Al flies to Israel three days a week during the winter season.

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Show revives Terezin children's songs

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The accidental discovery of poems and songs written by children in the Terezin ghetto has led to the first North American production in Toronto of *The Flower Horse*.

The whimsical pieces were heard in Prague by John Freund of Toronto, a survivor, who brought a small cassette recording of the pieces to Helena Fine, producer of Magical Basket Productions.

Fine researched the Terezin material, which was written in the ghetto, and first performed there by the children. The purpose of *The Flower Horse*, written by Norbert Fryd and Karel Reiner, both survivors of Auschwitz and Dachau, was to give hope to the children that a better day was coming.

Fine is so entranced with *The Flower Horse* that she thinks it will rival the popularity of the opera *Brundibar*, also based on material from Terezin, which was seen by 10,000 children in Toronto.

About 1,200 children from Hebrew day schools and public schools are expected to attend the 45-minute performance of *The Flower Horse*.

Twenty children, mostly Jewish, have been rehearsing for three months to present the show. They come from all over the GTA, "and some have even learned to sing the songs in Czech," said Fine.

The poems, which repeat the themes of the songs, are translated into English, and the story of how *The Flower Horse* came to be, is told in English by Czech actor Tomas Nasek.

The author's brother, Jan Fryd, an aspiring medical student, died at the hands of the Nazis in 1942. Close friends of the Fryds named their newborn son, Jan, in his memory. The writer's gift to the new baby was a plain home-made toy, the flower horse. The title is taken from the name of the small cloth horse with a flower pattern.

The Flower Horse is being presented at the Jewish Book Fair in the Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, Nov. 8 to 12 at various times.

Although primarily for children, adults are invited to the Sunday, Nov. 8 performance at 1:00 p.m., though there may also be adult seats available for an earlier show at 10 a.m. Admission is $10 for adults.

The play will also be presented at Holy Blossom Temple, Nov. 15 at 10 a.m., followed by a free screening of the PBS documentary *Voices of the Children*. Its producer, Zuzana Justman, of New York, who was in the Terezin ghetto as a child, will be on hand to answer questions.

Prices for this performance are $10 adults and $5 children, with everyone invited to the free video screening at 11 a.m.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

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BETH TZEDEC CONCERT HONORS ISRAEL AT 50

Beth Tzedec Synagogue presents The Jewish Soul Through Its Music, which it describes as "the largest concert of its kind ever undertaken by a synagogue in Canada."

A cast of world-renowned singers present a variety of works by Jewish composers such as **Bernstein**, **Gershwin**, **Saint-Saens**, **Offenbach**, **Lerner & Lowe**, **Kern** and **Schonberg**.

Paul Kowarsky

Performers include Canadian conductor **Boris Brott**, leading the Night of a Lifetime Symphony Orchestra; baritone **Louis Quilico** of the Metropolitan Opera; tenor **Mark DuBois**; soprano **Anna Shafajinskaia**; mezzo soprano **Linda Maguire**; and Beth Tzedec Cantor **Paul Kowarsky**.

Proceeds will benefit two programs – Auditory-Verbal of Israel and the Shaarei Zedek Hospital's program for hearing-impaired children. Tickets $18-$36, friends $100 (two tickets). Donor, patron, sponsor and benefactor tickets also available; tax receipts issued. 1700 Bathurst St. Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m. 781-3511.

* * *

Agit-Prop Play: *This* magazine presents *Eight Men Speak*, a dramatic reading of the controversial Agit-prop classic written by four Torontonians in 1933. Directed by **Brian Quirt** and **Jason Sherman**. Tarragon, 30 Bridgman Ave. Nov. 16, 8 p.m. Jazz trio to follow. $15. 979-9429.

* * *

Children's Music: Children's music duo **Greg & Steve** of Los Angeles, who have sold more than two million recordings, are giving three concerts in the Toronto area. Presented by Camp Robin Hood and Youngheart Records, the concerts are Nov. 15, 1:30 p.m. and Nov. 16 at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. $8. City Playhouse, 1000 New Westminster Dr., Thornhill. 416-736-4443.

* * *

Waterloo Theatre: The Waterloo County Holocaust Education Committee presents *The Waltonsteins*, a play by **Frannie Sheridan** and **Lynna Goldhar-Smith**, performed by Sheridan, about a Canadian family's attempt to hide their Jewish roots after converting to Catholicism.

One performance only, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. Humanities Theatre, University of Waterloo. Adults $12. 519-888-4908.

* * *

Arts Briefs:

• Lifelong Learning Institute of Bernard Betel Centre presents a Literary Luncheon with **Jack Gelman**, author of *Yiddish, A Two-Way Street*. Nov. 4, at noon. 1003 Steeles Ave. W. at Bathurst. Includes lunch. Members $10, non-members $12. Bookie Kwart, 225-2112.

• Paintings by Dubi Arie are on view at the Uptown Gallery, 43 Martin Ross Ave., Unit 1, Downsview, through Nov. 18. 739-1929.

• David and Ed Mirvish present the North American premiere of *Fame: The Musical* for six weeks beginning Nov. 9 at the Royal Alexandra Theatre. $86.50-$26.50. 872-1212.

• *Barrymore*, a play by **William Luce**, directed by **Gene Saks** and starring **Christopher Plummer**, opens Nov. 10, 8 p.m. at the Ford Centre, North York.

• *The Fishing Trip*, a Canadian film written by **M.A. Lovretta**, directed by **Amnon Buchbinder**, with music by klezmer king **David Buchbinder**, "tells a story of lost childhood and possible redemption through the eyes and experiences of three young women." Opens Nov. 13 at Carlton and Canada Square cinemas.

* * *

Film Series: The Goethe-Institut Toronto's upcoming film series, Film and Memory, includes the following screenings and events:

• *Those Days in Terezin* (1997, subtitles), about three women retracing the footsteps of "the Chaplin of Theresienstadt." Admission is free to this film, which is screened as part of Holocaust Education Week. Director **Sibylle Schonemann** in attendance. Innis College, 2 Sussex Ave. (corner St. George). Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.

• *The White Rose* (1982, subtitles). This World War II-era story of a group of young people in Munich who lead an underground rebellion against Hitler is based on true events. Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), Jackman Hall. Nov. 8, 6 p.m. and again at 8:30 p.m. Admission $7, AGO members $6. Part of Holocaust Education Week.

• *Locked Up Time* (1990, subtitles). Another film by East German filmmaker Schonemann, who will be in attendance; the film focuses on her 1984 arrest and expulsion from her native country. Innis College, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m. Admission free.

• *Images of the World and The Inscription of War* (1989, subtitles). A study of Auschwitz as seen in prisoner drawings and in photographs taken by the Nazis and Allied pilots from their reconnaissance planes. Director **Harun Farocki** will be present for the screening, which is free. Nov. 14, 8:45 p.m. AGO, Jackman Hall.

• Symposium on Film, Time and Memory with Farocki, Schonemann, **Kaja Silverman**, **Michael Verhoeven**. Admission free. Goethe-Institut, 163 King St. W. Sun. Nov. 15, 2 to 4 p.m.

• *My Mother's Courage* (1992). Director Verhoeven's film version of Hungarian author **George Tabori's** autobiographical play and novel. Director in attendance. AGO, Jackman Hall, Nov. 15, 5 p.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. Admission $7, AGO members, $6. A Post-Holocaust Education Week program.

• *The Nasty Girl* (1990, subtitles). Verhoeven's film about a schoolgirl from Bavaria who endeavors to uncover the truth about her town from the Nazi era. AGO, Jackman Hall, Nov. 22, 5 p.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. $7, AGO members $6.

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Relaxing on a Mediterranean cruise

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

THE RIVIERA — Imagine being pampered aboard a floating spa, where calm blue waters and exotic ports of call soothe the mind, body and soul.

Windsurf, Windstar Cruises' newest luxury ship, boasts a spa that offers a broad selection of treatments, including facials, body wraps, massage, water therapy, hair and nail care, and exercise programs.

After an aromatherapy massage on the shores of the Italian Riviera, one can have a makeover in Monaco – perfect for those wanting to look fabulous at The Casino at Monte Carlo.

Enjoying a spa bath on Wind Surf. [Windstar Cruises]

The day after, winners and losers alike can indulge in a facial, overlooking the beautiful beaches of the South of France.

Other offerings onboard the five-mast, 612-ft. *Windsurf*, catering to 312 guests, include two restaurants, a cafe, bar, lounge, fitness and aerobics centre, watersports platform, two pools, two hot tubs, casino, library and an open bridge, from which guests can observe the vessel sailing.

The 125 state-of-the-art cabins and 31 deluxe suites, all with outside views, are equipped with color television, VCR, CD player, safe, mini- bar and refrigerator, and full bathroom amenities.

Each cabin has an international direct-dial telephone. However, unless you break the bank at Monte Carlo, at $16 (US) per minute, you may want to call the folks at home, at port.

The *Windsurf* summers in the Mediterranean, and winters in the Caribbean. Well informed staff can organize affordable port excursions or offer valuable tips for those who prefer to explore on their own.

During its inaugural season, the *Windsurf* sailed once a week from Nice, France. Many of the ship's guests spend time before or after the cruise in Nice.

An easy way to discover Nice, is on the Little Tourist Train. This 45-minute guided tour, costing 30 FF (3.6 FF per Cdn. $), departs from the sea front. The tour includes a visit to Old Town, the market and the Castle Hill. Nice has 300 hectares of parks, gardens and woods. This historic city, once governed under Italy, is known for its museums such as The Fine Arts Museum and The National Marc Chagall Museum.

Another *Windsurf* port is Portofino, on the Italian Gulf of Tigullio, 36 km east of Genoa. This tiny town is nestled between the cliff and the sea, and has 2,000 residents. In the summer the population swells to 30,000.

Along the water's edge, the homes of former fishermen have been transformed into picturesque real estate investments for the wealthy.

Hikers will love the panoramic view of the opulent yachts from Mount Portofino. Ferries will take you to San Fruttuosos's beaches or the quaint resort of Santa Margherita Ligure.

Potoferraio, a charming town on the island of Elba, was the place of exile of Napoleon Bonaparte. History buffs should check out the emperor's two forts, Forte Falcone and Port Stella, and his official residence, Villa Dei Molini.

From Portovenere, an excursion is offered to Florence. Your day begins with a leisurely 2½- hour drive through the rolling Tuscany countryside. This cultural city, divided by the Arno River, was the birthplace of Léonardo di Vinci and Michelangelo. Sights to see include the Uffizi Gallery, Duomo, Pitti Palace and the Ponte Vecchio.

Attractions in Monaco include the Exotic Garden, Oceanographic Museum and National Museum, and the daily changing of the guard. Although you never need to dress up onboard, many don their finest for an evening at The Casino.

Cannes, home of the famous film festival, offers a host of places to stroll among the "stars" including The Palais de Festival, the palm-shaded Boulevard de la Croisette and the morning flower market in the rue Felix-Faure.

St. Tropez, a former fishing village, is now a glamorous retreat where the very rich show off their luxury yachts.

A *Windsurf* Mediterranean cruise starts from $4565 (US), not including airfare. The *Windstar* Advance Savings Advantage Program offers substantial savings. *Windsurf's* Windspa packages can be booked through a travel agent.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Travel, Arts & Business

Former Torontonian scores many hits

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Word went out among professional songwriters in Los Angeles that Barbra Streisand was looking for a particular type of song. So it was precisely that type of song that former Torontonian John Capek was busy writing when *The CJN* contacted him recently in Los Angeles.

A professional songwriter, Capek intended to send his song to Streisand's recording company to see if it might get beyond Streisand's gatekeepers to the star herself.

"Every time I write a song, it's like buying a lottery ticket," he said. "There are no guarantees in this business. It's an incredibly insecure profession."

Nonetheless, Capek has scored some huge successes over the years. His song, *Rhythm of My Heart* became a hit for Rod Stewart, and he has composed hits for Joe Cocker, Chicago, Cher and Olivia Newton-John.

"Songwriting is a respectable living like any other profession. I work as hard as a doctor or lawyer – it's at that level. Only it's insecure because you may have success for a few years, and then nothing."

A former musician in the Canadian band Rough Trade, Capek estimates he has composed more than a thousand songs. He does not write lyrics. For a song he wrote for Newton-John, the lyrics were composed by Toronto singer-composer Amy Sky. For the past 20 years, Capek's usual songwriting partner has been Sky's husband, Toronto-based musician-composer Marc Jordan.

"There is a Canadian sense of lyrics that is quite different than American," Capek said. "The Canadian lyrics come out of the folk music tradition and out of poetry – for example, Leonard Cohen and Joni Mitchell. Ninety-five percent of the time I find myself writing with Canadians, even when I'm living here, just because they seem to write better words."

There are a preponderance of Jews in the songwriting industry in Los Angeles, Capek said. "In Los Angeles we come from a tradition that was established by Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern and a whole string of others who were the pioneers of American popular music."

His own reasons for choosing a musical path emerged from his Jewish upbringing, he said. "My parents are Holocaust survivors and they were in Auschwitz…So I sort of rejected the straight and narrow path in life and chose music as a way of dealing with the dark aspects of humanity."

Capek was born in Prague but grew up in Australia, where he received a strong education in classical music. He lived in Toronto from 1973 to 1981 and is still a frequent visitor here. His Toronto friends include the folksinger Batsheva.

"Timing is everything in the songwriting business. In my case, I'm writing songs that are a little bit ahead of the fashion, so they may get picked up in a year or two.

"There are a lot of songs being written today that I would describe as 'corporate' – such as the songs that Celine Dion records. They seem to be written to a formula without great inspiration. There's an art to writing that formula which I don't have. I wish I did."

At the opposite end of the popular musical spectrum, he says, are "songs written for extremely young people. These are the songs that my 10-year-old daughter listens to – the Spice Girls and urban black music, things like that. There's very little traditional popular music being written at the moment."

The tunes that professional songwriters call "copyright songs" are few and far between, according to Capek. These are numbers that make an immediate impact and are remembered for years.

"When I listen to the radio there aren't a lot of songs I hear that I know I'll feel nostalgic about in five years. It goes in cycles and we're currently in a dry period."

Capek has hopes, however, that Streisand will record his composition and give him a "copyright song" that he and the rest of the world will remember for a long, long time to come.

Canada-Israel Fund yields high returns

The Canada-Israel Opportunity Fund was established in 1995 when a group of Canadian investors led by Paul Morton raised $7.5 million to invest in Israeli private and public equity funds.

In 1998, a follow-up fund was created, bringing the value of the funds up to approximately $15 million.

The funds are managed in Israel by Dorvat, Shem, Israel's leading independent investment and merchant banking group.

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FILM AND MEMORY

Presented by Goethe-Institut Toronto; Toronto Jewish Film Society; Cinema Studies Program, University of Toronto; Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre for Holocaust Education Week; and Cinematheque Ontario
All films with English subtitles

Sat. Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. **THOSE DAYS IN TEREZIN** documentary film by and with Sibylle Schönemann
Victoria, a singer from Israel, the Jewish writer Lena and the German documentary filmmaker Sibylle set out together on a journey to Theresienstadt to retrace the life of Karel Svenk, known as "The Chaplin of Theresienstadt". **Innis College, 2 Sussex Ave., admission free**

Sun. Nov. 8, 6 & 8:30 p.m. **THE WHITE ROSE** feature film by Michael Verhoeven
The story of Sophie and Hans Scholl, members of the student resistance movement "The White Rose", and their courageous struggle against the Nazi regime. **Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. West, McCaul St. entrance, admission $7**

Tues. Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m. **LOCKED UP TIME** documentary film by and with Sibylle Schönemann
The East German filmmaker Sibylle Schöenmann, arrested and expelled from East Germany in 1984, returns to her homeland after the fall of the Wall to take up the trail of her denunciation and persecution. **Innis College, 2 Sussex Ave., admission free**

Sat. Nov. 14, 8:45 p.m. **IMAGES OF THE WORLD AND THE INSCRIPTION OF WAR** essayistic film by and with Harun Farocki
In this filmic masterpiece Farocki delineates with great moral and intellectual force the complicity of the camera in acts of destruction. At the centre of the film is the Nazi deathcamp Auschwitz as seen in photographs taken by the Nazis and the Allies from their reconnaissance planes. **Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. West, McCaul St. entrance, admission free**

Sun. Nov. 15, 2:00 p.m. **THEMES OF TIME AND MEMORY IN FILM** Keynote lecture by Professor Kaja Silverman, University of California, and a panel discussion with filmmakers Harun Farocki, Sibylle Schönemann and Michael Verhoeven. Moderator: Professor Caryl Flinn, University of Toronto. **Goethe-Institut Toronto, 163 King Street West, admission free**

Sun. Nov. 15, 5 & 7:30 p.m. **MY MOTHER'S COURAGE** feature film by and with Michael Verhoeven
Based on the play and novel by renowned Hungarian author George Tabori, this satirical film recreates the escape of a naive Budapest housewife (Tabori's mother) from deportation and certain death at the hands of the Nazis through a mixture of courage, cunning and insubordination. **Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. West, McCaul St. entrance, admission $7**

Sun. Nov. 22, 5 & 7:30 p.m. **THE NASTY GIRL** feature film by Michael Verhoeven
This award winning film centers around the story of a Bavarian school girl who researches the history of her hometown during the Nazi regime and experiences first hand the aggressive suppression of the historical truth. **Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. West, McCaul St. entrance, admission $7**

REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST IN NORTH AMERICA, ISRAEL AND GERMANY
Panel discussion with three of the world's most renowned architects: James Ingo Freed (United States Holocaust Museum, Washington); Daniel Libeskind (Berlin Jewish Museum); and Moshe Safdie (Yad Vashem Museum, Jerusalem).
Sunday, December 6, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Design Exchange, 234 Bay Street, admission: $25, DX members $20, students & seniors $15, for tickets call: (416) 216-2160

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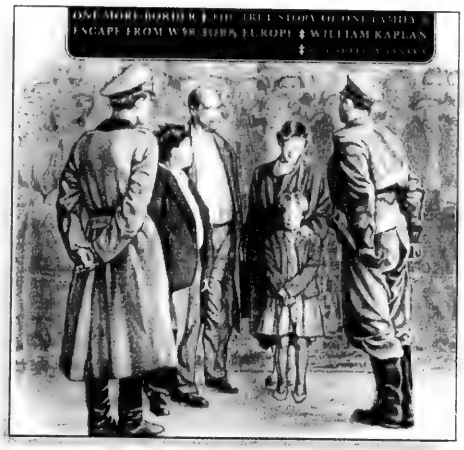
A true story of escape from the Holocaust to Canada

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor



Terrible things happened to Jews during World War II in Europe.

The leader of Nazi Germany was Adolf Hitler, who wanted to rid the world of Jews.

At the start of World War II, in 1939, Igor was a young boy – a preteen – living with his little sister Nomi and his parents in Lithuania, a small country close to Russia.

After Germany invaded Poland, Igor's father Bernard, knew that the Nazis would also invade Lithuania. If that happened, Igor's family – like that of all the Jews – would quickly be rounded up and sent to a concentration camp.

Igor's father decided to escape the advancing Nazis and go to Canada where Igor's Oma and Opa (grandfather and grandmother) lived.

William Kaplan's book *One More Border* (Groundwood Book) tells the true story of the author's father (Igor) and his family's escape from the Germans.

It was not easy. First Igor's father had to get emigration visas to leave Lithuania. They then had to travel across the vast width of Russia from Moscow to Vladivostok by train – a trip that lasted 10 days.

It was a dangerous journey. Each time the Russian police asked to check the visas, Igor's father worried that they would not be allowed to continue their journey. The Communists who ruled Russia at the time were also not very friendly to the Jews.

Finally they made it to a seaport in Vladivostok, which is on the far side of Russia on the Pacific Ocean.

But their journey was not yet over. Igor's mother had to sell all her possessions including her wedding ring in order to take a ship from Russia to Japan.

From Japan, Igor's family hoped they could board another ship, this one to Vancouver and from there another very long train ride to Ontario where Opa and Oma lived.

One of the nice things about this book is there is a map you can use to follow Igor's trek from Lithuania to Ontario.

Also, in addition to many beautiful drawings by Stephen Taylor, there are many photographs and sidebars.

These sidebars help you understand the story by telling you about all the places Igor travelled to, the animals he saw and types of people he would have met. There are also photographs of Igor and his family.

Another neat thing is you won't have to bother your parents with any words you don't understand. A glossary at the back of the book explains the meanings of some words you may not have read before.

Putting all the pieces together

TORONTO — Kubim building bricks, children's locking bricks that are the size of real bricks, are making their world debut here.

What sets Kubim – manufactured by IPU Industries Ltd. in Israel – apart from all others is a special plyurethane formula that make the bricks soft, pliable, lightweight, yet strong.

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Kubim building bricks come in three sets of 32, 64 or 96 pieces. As well, a 32-piece accessory set of angled bricks is available.

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CHUBBY + HOTDOG By: Alyssa Guttman

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Students of the Associated Hebrew Schools raised more than $17,000 for cancer research last month by running, for the seventh year in a row, in the Terry Fox Cancer Research run.

DISCOVERY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM at the Bathurst Jewish Centre

My Jewish Discovery Place Children's Museum at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, opened its doors to the public last month on October 18. All children and their parents are invited to drop in and take a look. For information call 636.1880 ext. 456.

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See page 39 for rules and regulations
The Canadian Jewish news

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Business Profile

Leslie Greenberg:

Communications company provides total solution

By ANITA SZABADI-GOTTESMAN
Special to The CJN

Leslie Greenberg, president of Multinet Communications, whose office is in the company's Canadian headquarters in St-Laurent, Que., knows the business from the ground up.

Greenberg, 41, has always been good with his hands and started the business with his younger brother Nelson in 1986 working as a "techie" on the road. While still holding a seat on the board of directors, Nelson has since moved on to other business ventures, leaving Greenberg to run what has now become the largest privately held interconnect company in Canada.

Multinet's mission is to provide their clients with a total solution for their telecommunication requirements. Multinet Communications sells, services and installs telephone hardware, software, voice processing systems and peripheral software packages, and most recently, video conferencing, all to enhance productivity.

The company offers a complete line of voice processing solutions. Multinet's technical expertise will apply solutions tailor-made to each individual customer's needs through complete Interactive Telephone Information Systems including electronic receptionist, voice mail, Audiotex, call processing and voice recognition. They have just been appointed as an authorized dealer of Sony Video Conferencing equipment.

"Our market is anyone in business who needs a phone system," says Greenberg. From offices located in Quebec City, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary and from its head office in Montreal, Multinet has over 6,000 clients from coast to coast.

The Multinet Group consists of the following companies: Multinet Communications Inc., Astro, Telefficite and LANimation Inc.

When a new customer calls, Greenberg dispatches one of his staff of 100 to do a complete assessment of the client's needs. Each system is configured individually and tailor-made for the customer. Multinet handles the sales, installation and employee training. Their industry hallmark is after-sales service and maintenance with a 24-hour, 365-day service line. All technical services are in-house, enabling Multinet to provide the fastest response times and highest quality of service.

Leslie Greenberg

Greenberg takes the long view. "We want to establish an on-going relationship with our customers. We strive to provide solutions for them to help their growth and of course hopefully as they grow, they will grow with us." He is proud that his company services any and all organizations that need phone systems. There is no standard Multinet customer. Clients may require two to 2,000 telephone sets or two to 5,000 voice mail boxes. Two of Multinet's largest national accounts are Zellers and Forzani Group (sports experts).

To those who say they are tired of answering machines and automated processing systems, Greenberg says, "Our studies show us that 60 to 70 percent of calls businesses receive are non-revenue generating, such as for general inquiries or personal calls. Being put on hold or being left open-ended by a human being is not providing better service. Having the facility to leave a detailed message will provide closure for your customers."

Multinet's goal is to enable their clients to achieve maximum efficiency. By developing effective phone systems, Greenberg encourages his clients to save their employees time for direct customer service, thereby creating more opportunities to generate greater revenues leading to increased profitability.

Multinet is proud to be a truly Canadian company. It supports Canadian manufacturers and is recognized by both Nortel and Mitel as their largest distributors in the eastern region, as well as by Vox, a leading Canadian voice mail system manufacturer. Direct competition for Multinet Communications comes from Bell. But Greenberg is convinced that he and his team provide better service, better prices and better technical support.

"I am a solution provider," says Greenberg, "and I am always accessible. My clients can call and speak directly to the president."

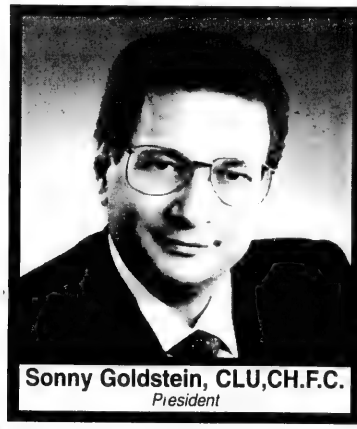
Technology is changing quickly in the communications industry. Multinet has responded by creating a separate research and development laboratory at its head office, to ensure that customers benefit from the latest in telecommunications technology. Greenberg is excited by the newest breakthrough, called convergence, when computers and telephones come together.

"More and more we are seeing a shift to PC-based products," says Greenberg.

Multinet is looking to the future to continue providing the highest quality equipment and service to its growing list of customers. Multinet Communications recently opened its newest office in Laval, Que.

A priority for Greenberg is making time to give something back to the community that has supported his company's growth. "It is important to give non-profit organizations a break."

A diabetic, Greenberg actively supports the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Within the Jewish community, he is involved with both the Westbury and West Island Ys and B'nai Brith. A Dollard-des-Ormeaux resident, he and his wife Gail have two young sons, Adam and Jake.



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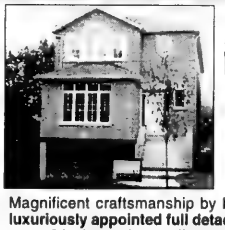
Spacious 3+2 bdrm. bungalow, huge family room addition, fireplace, built-in bookcases, sep. entry to in-law suite, thermo windows, fab. location East of Bathurst. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / WILSON — NEW LISTING
Spacious & charming! 3 + 2 bdrm. bungalow, shows a 10+! Family size kitchen, sep. entry to in-law suite, knotty pine panelling in rec. room, gorgeous 44 x 153 ft. lot, fabulous location, asking $289,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.



NEW LISTING!
10 CUSTOM HOMES AT BATHURST & GLENCAIRN

Magnificent craftsmanship by New Century Homes! **10 luxuriously appointed full detached homes.** Each 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom home offers options galore. Choose your finishes now and take advantage of **PRE-CONSTRUCTION PRICES** starting at $459,000. Model homes available for viewing now. **Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.**

AVENUE ROAD / GLENCAIRN — DEEP CORNER LOT!

Charming 3 bedroom home on gorgeous 175-foot-deep corner lot. Hot location! New carpets, gleaming hardwood floors, and much more! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712. SOLD

NEAR CASA LOMA — REDUCED $50,000 FOR IMMEDIATE SALE!
Det. 3 storey home facing park! Original charm: leaded glass, gumwood +++, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, large principal rooms, fireplaces, hardwood floors, $399,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT AVE.
3 bdrms., 2 storey, renovated kitchen, baths, centre hall plan, w/o to patio from living room, rare 50 x 140 ft. south lot. **ACT NOW!** Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — TOTAL RENOVATION / ADDITION
8 years new! 4 + 1 bdrms., fam. room, library, bird's-eye maple kit., loaded with upgrades, $599,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN AT FOREST WOOD
Spacious 54 x 138 ft. building lot in desirable location, close to all amenities. Asking $479,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK AREA — SPACIOUS 3 BDRM. BUNGALOW!
Gleaming hardwood floors, family size kitchen, finished basement, asking $339,900. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

A PRIVATE PARADISE
NESTLED ON ON 1.93 ACRES

Woodland Acres, magnificent Georgian estate; sumptuous master wing, wrap around customized kitchen, tranquil solarium with FI ceiling windows. ROYAL LEPAGE $1,298,000. Please call Lucy Rosenthal, assoc. broker or Gary Roach, sales rep.(905) 889-9330.

Gideon Waichenberg
Sales Representative
(416) 520-5700
Re/Max Realtron Realty Inc.

Primrose Condo – Bathurst & Steeles!!! $174,900 – Luxury, 2 br., Hardwd. firs., balcony. 2-Prkgs.!
Bathurst & Antibes – Renovated Townhouse!!! $189,900 – 3 bdrm., renovated kitchen & bath, fin. bsmt.!!
Bathurst & Steeles – Luxury Townhouse!!! $219,900 – Plaza Del-Sol, 3-storey, 3-bdrms., 3 baths.!
Bathurst & Steeles – 3 Bedrm. Detached!!! $234,000 – Main flr. fam. rm. W/fireplace, ensuite in mstr.
Townsgate Condo – Bathurst & Steeles!!! $285,000 – Luxury, approx. 1520 sf., balcony, hardwood!
North York – Yonge & Steeles Bungalow!!! $307,000 – Renovated 3+1 bdrms., 50x132 lot, inlaw suite!
North York – 5 Bdrms., Approx. 3590 sf!!! $519,900 – Custom built, circular drive, finished basement!
North York – Custom, Approx. 6300 sf!!! $999,000 – Elevator, 4 F/places, walk-out basement, 3 kit.!!!
'Helping people get what they want'
Buying or Selling . . . Call Gideon!

ESSIE SHER
Sutton Group Realty Specialists Inc.
(416) 256-7000

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS $999,000
Act Now! New Construction, choose your own finishes, 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 10 ft. ceilings + much more.

LESLIE/YORK MILLS $499,900
Unusual layout, 4 bedrooms, + family room, large principal rooms & pool.

CLARK/YONGE–$332,900
4 bedrooms + family room, many upgrades, spacious, demand neighbourhood.

BAYVIEW/JOHN $169,900
Value, affordable, 3 bedroom townhouse with a huge kitchen.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Armour Heights - 4 + 1 bdrm., 4 bth., 55' x 174' lot, $450K. Private, no agents. 416-943-5527.

Bath./Lawrence - 1 1/2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bth., new kit., new bsmnt., hrdwd. flr., priv. drive. Must sell! $249K. 416-789-0728

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

BATHURST-GLENCAIRN-CONDO
$239,000 Fab. 2+1 bdrms., 1,400 sq. ft., 6 appliances, 2 pkg. Spots, ensuite laundry, locker, fabulous layout, min. to shuls, T.T.C. & shops.
EVELYN KENDALL,
Associate Broker
Royal Lepage Real Estate Services Ltd.
(416) 487-4311

131 Torrsedale Ave. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., washer/dryer off kit., private, no agents. 416-449-0413.

Marlee/Ridelle - 2 bdrm., PH, near subway & shops, A1 cond., private. $140K. 785-6602

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SANTEE REALTY INC. (416) 441-2003

SKYMARK
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
SKYMARK CLASSIC' Unique open concept 2 bdrm + family (approx. 2,325 sq. ft.) plus 2 terraces, 2 pkg + bsmnt. large locker.
SKYMARK 2' An exquisite 2 bdrm + family PENT-HOUSE (approx. 2,000 sq. ft.) with a huge wraparound balcony (approx. 430 sq. ft.) Numerous opulent features.
For our updated inventory, contact
Santee Leung, E.R.I. Skymark Specialist (416) 441-2003
THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

BATHURST-STEELES CONDO-TOWNHOUSE
$219,000 Immaculate 3 bdrm. & den. Fabulous 3rd flr. master retreat. Very quiet location with cute garden, 5 appliances, cac, parking.
ELLIE BURNS
Royal Lepage Real Estate Services Ltd.
(416) 487-4311

80 ANTIBES DRIVE 3 bdrms., 2 baths, all appliances, high floor, immediately! Call **Saul Goldkind,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **416-739-7200.**

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 BATHURST
Spacious, furn. 1 bdrm. + solarium, eat-in kit., 24-hr. security, $1,300/mo., incl. util. pkg. Shows like model suite.
RUTH RYBAK
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 787-7151

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath/Steeles, 2 bdr furn apt. to share,n/smkr,$440/m 665-9967

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

Room & Board in Toronto in exchange for p/t driver/nanny, afternoons & evenings. Call Heather at 416-340-4491.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bathurst/Sheppard - Sunny, bright, 2 bdrm., underground. pkg. Call 416-635-5031.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, furn. 2 bdrm, 2 bth, 2 pkg, rec. centre, Dec. 1-Mar. 31 (flexible). 905-889-4382.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

N Miami Bch condo, mint 2B, 2B. Sr complex, over 55. $40K US.Call Norman, 305-945-2151

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

HOLLYWOOD/ HALLANDALE CONDOS
Top beach location. Call for best selection. From $60's U.S.
Call Brenda
Century 21 Dynasty
Ocean & Luxury Realty
1-800-238-1759

South Palm Beach, on ocean, 1 bdrm. conv., 2 bth., S/E exp. newly decorated. 416-322-6471

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

SPEND THIS WINTER IN WEST PALM BEACH
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
Luxury Condo Rentals
Overlooking Golf Course
1, 2, and 3 bedrooms available with or without Golf. 3 Month Minimum.
Call or write for further information.
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

HOLLYWOOD/ HALLANDALE CONDOS
Top beach location. Call for best selection. 3 month minimum. From $1,500 U.S.
Call David
Century 21 Dynasty
Ocean & Luxury Realty
1-800-238-1759

Delray Beach Villas, beautiful villa, 2 bdr., 2 bth., screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, close to shul. Million $$ Club. $1400/mo. 905-886-4930.

Ft. Lauderdale, Plantation, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth., close to shopping, min 3 mos.905-886-3575.

Hallandale, Diplomat Parkway, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath condo, balc., canal view, $1,150/mo. U.S.+ util. Avail. Dec. 1- April 15. Season pref. 416-924-2020

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on ocean, 1 bdr conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. from January. 488-9819.

Lauderdale Lakes - Somerset 1+1condo w/encl., Florida rm. Newly reno'd. Fully furnished. 2nd flr. Elev. Pool. Clubhouse. Asking $1200/mo. U.S. 3 mo. min. Call Shelly, 905-737-9937

MIAMI BEACH - Burleigh House 71st & Collins Ave. on ocean. 1 bdrm.+ Florida room, 1 1/2 bth., liv./din. area + kit. All amen. $1300 US/mo + util. Avail. immed. Full seas. pref. Call Neil 905-738-0754 ext. 222

Miami Beach, Mimosa Bldg., 2 bdrm., 2 bth., new decor., close to shul, Shabbos elevator, all season. Call 416-635-1569.

Miami, lux. 1 bdrm., kosher condo, nr. THE SHUL & Bal Harbour shops, 3 mos. (Jan.-Mar.) 416-783-9173,reasonable

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

163 & Collins, opp. bch, 2 br., 2 bath,sec.,tennis,pool,clubhse, $65 US/dy. Min 2 mo. 252-2521

Boca Raton, lakeside villa at Whisper Walk, 1 lvl., furn., 2 bdr, 2 bth, pool, clubhse, seas. $2500/mo US. 201-265-9166.

Boca, Century Village, 3rd flr., 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bth., furn., elev., beside lake, avail. Jan. - Apr. 416-665-2735.

N. Miami Bch 2 bdrm., Jan. 15, $1200 US/mo. 905-882-5474.

North Miami Beach, Coastal Towers, 2 bdrm., 2 baths apt. Avail. immediately, $1300/mo. U.S. 416-223-7147.

Pompano Beach - Beautiful, reno'd furn apt., 2 bdrm., 2 bth. Avail. Jan, Mar, Apr. 781-9784

Pompano Beach, Oceanfront, spotless 2 bdr., 2 bth., close to shopping & golf, all amen., for the season. Serious only. $2400/mo. U.S. 416-443-8909.

SINGER ISLAND - Mid. Jan Lovely 2 bdrm., 3 bth. Immac. ocean front. Min. 3 mos. $3000 US per mo. or longer term negotiable. Owner 403-486-5577.

Surfside Bal Harbour on the Ocean, luxury 2 bdrm, 2 bth, min. 4 mos., beautifully furn., $2,200/ mo. U.S., walking dist. to Bal Harbour and Houses of Worship. Call 954-458-0913.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE
"The Paradise of So. Florida"
Some seasonal rentals still available. Play tennis on our new cushioned courts, enjoy our new outdoor putting green. Workout in our first class fitness center. Swim in our beautiful indoor/outdoor pools. You'll love our magnificent lifestyle, and the nicest people you will meet anywhere!!!
Visit our web site at:
www.internationalvillage.com
Call Cheryl Toll Free:
1-877-884-4663

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(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

Boca Raton, Century Village - 2 bdrm., 11/2 bth., furn., avail. Dec. - Apr. 416-781-7020.

Miami, Hallandale - 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bths., ocean view, $1700/ mo. U.S. 416-638-7257.

136 FURN. FLOR. PROP. FOR SALE/RENT

WILLIAMS ISLAND. Mediterranean Village
Beautiful 2 bdr., 2 bth., decorator furn. condo in low rise villa style bldg. Gorgeous view of private pool/yacht club, 2 balc., concierge/valet, 24hr. sec., priv. pkg., close to restaurants, shopping etc. Avail. for sale or rental on mo./seas/yrly basis or rent to own. Call 416-587-4899.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Hollywood/Hallandale/Pembroke Pines - 2 br./den., 2 bth. condo, fully furn, clean, modern. Mid Jan. - mid Mar. 226-2145.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Hallandale Beach, nice sr. lady wishes to share with same, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth apt. Doorman bldg, choice loc., Nov.- April (or partial), nominal fee/light duties. 416-498-7221.

North Miami, 2 bdrm. condo to share w/female senior. Fully equipped, reas. 416-248-2054.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

PALM SPRINGS
VACATION RENTALS
We have 1-2-3 bedroom condos Nicely furnished in super location From $850 - $3500 per month
CHOPSY SAMUELSON REALTY
(760) 327-8429

Lux. 2 bdrm condo in **Palm Springs, Calif.**, avail for rental, lots of amen, gated. 665-7636.

192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, CA, 2 bdr., 2 bth condo, winter season, 2 pools, tennis, etc., near downtown, $1250 US/mo. 818-591-7978.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This is a small ad with a **BIG OPPORTUNITY.** Call Susan 416-410-1715/905-826-9949

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Jewish communal agency requires clerk, typist. Experience with microsoft word, use of dictaphone transcribing and general office experience. fax resume to 416-635-7678.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Avail. to run all personal errands for family or individual. Incl. groceries, cleaners, carpools etc. Refs. 416-783-3635.

247 DAY CARE

Daycare by exp. ECE teacher. Bath/Elgin Mills. 905-737-3534.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
APPLE
DOMESTICS
(416) 730-0127

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in and live-out Caregivers.
Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-1435, 665-4229

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

City of Vaughan
The City Above Toronto

Located in the Greater Toronto Area, the Municipality of Vaughan is one of Canada's fastest growing urban communities, with a population of 140,000

Clerk Typist "A"

This position is responsible for providing clerical support services to the Records Management Division. This will entail, answering telephones, reception, keyboarding, data entry, filing, and processing of requests for records. Proficient keyboarding skills and a working knowledge of database and word-processing applications will enable you to provide information processing services using database software. Collects, delivers and transfers records from Civic Centre and other City owned facilities as requested.

Your minimum of 2 years' records management experience, preferably in a municipal environment, is coupled with a high school diploma, and good communication/organizational skills. Knowledge of filing systems and methodologies for both hard copy and electronic records. Ability to deal effectively with the public and staff. Valid Ontairo Class "G" drivers licence. Abilty to remove records storage boxes weighing up to 20 kg from heights up to 4 metres high using a personal lift device when necessary.

To be considered for this role, please forward your resume, quoting **File #98-125N**, by **November 12, 1998**, to **City of Vaughan, Human Resources Department, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, Ontario, L6A 1T1. Fax: (905) 832-8575** *We thank all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.*

We offer a smoke-free environment.

General Studies TEACHERS.
Positions available in Jewish Day School for qualified & experienced teachers. Call 905-764-6633.

Help Wanted - Teacher for Grade 1. Sunday A.M. Religious School - Temple Sinai Fax resume for interview Attention: Dr. Ira Schweitzer 416-487-5499

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will clean your house/apt, any day of the week. Call 638-9654.

Ladies avail. for **cleaning/nanny.** Joan or Ruth, 416-256-1246

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NOW!!!
Experienced live-in Filipino Caregivers available from Israel
ACT FAST!
ELLA'S DOMESTICS
Nannies Housekeepers Companions
Live-in/Live-out
(416) 221-5114

DOMESTIC SEARCH

Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?

CALL (416) 630-3773

Caregiver/companion avail. to work for elderly. Good refs. Full-time or Part-time. 416-783-8514

Cleaning lady avail. weekdays for homes & apts. 398-2918.

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
905-475-2518 416-759-4333

Exp. cleaning lady avail. Mon. - Sun. Reas rates,refs.588-0658

Exp. cleaning lady has openings. Good rates, honest. References avail. Call 416-785-7509

Exp. house cleaner available. Refs avail. Call 416-495-8918.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

A complete cleaning service for homes, offices. Refs., ins. & bonded. Sylvia, 416-740-3034.

Lady avail. to live-in Mon-Fri, for elderly. Refs. 416-265-1913.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

Polish cleaning lady w/exp. for apts. & houses. 416-693-0279.

Seeking reliable care? RN's, RPN's, HCA's, live in/out companions. Please call **A Plus Care & Services Inc. 499-6493**

Stasia cleans home/office. Mississauga area. 905-542-3602.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Babysitter needed for weekends. Mature and enthusiastic w/kids. Exp. w/2 yr. old necessary. Fluent English & n/smkr. Bathurst/Glen Cairn. 785-4845.

259 SENIORS

Alina's Hair Design. Specializing in colour, cuts & styles. We provide service in your home at your convenience. 225-8740.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H
SOULMATES wants to wish a "Mazel Tov to all of our newly weds in 5758."
SOULMATES WORLDWIDE
JEWISH MATCHMAKERS Inc.
Call **905-709-3868**
www.soulmates.net

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together. The highest rated service in Ontario. Ruth Friedman 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1650 registered. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Irving & Eva Nightingale are delighted to announce the birth of a grandson, **Jonathan Simon**, born Monday, Sept., 14, 1998. Parents, **Rabbi Tzvi & Karen Nightingale**. Grandparents Benny & Sarah Aminoff of London, England. Great grandparents Sam & Toby Kalchman.

MARTY & BETTY SHAW are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter **MARNI** to **GLENN**, son of **JERRY & LINDA HEFNER.**

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

We met at Brookdale/Ave. Rd. Canada Trust, Wed. Oct. 21 @ 3pm. We spoke about my bond. I've been told that I'm attractive, you caught me on a bad day - I was sick. Would love to continue our conversation. 487-9397.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Seeking soulmate: Female 42, tall, warm, intelligent, attractive, curvaceous, with strong Jewish identity seeks communicative, healthy counter-mensch imbued with strength, integrity, accomplishments. CJN Box # 7047.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

DJF, 50, European background, petite, slim, strong family values, great humour, caring, romantic, fun loving, various interests, seeks gentleman, 50-58 w/similar qualities for serious relationship. CJN Box # 7012.

SJM active, prof., 30's, seeks a down to earth, SJF, 30's. Call 416- 633-1273.

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Fun loving, attractive **SJF** early 30's, brown/blonde hair, brown eyes, 5'1". I am a teacher & enjoy aerobics, movies, dining out, theatre, reading & traveling. Seeking SJM, 30-45 w/similar interests. CJN Box # 7113.

In Praise of older men. I am looking for a woman in her 40's or 50's who wants a close friendship with a retired senior male. We can arrange a meeting. CJN Box # 7114.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to the following winners in **NISHMA'S** Fourth Annual "Thirst for Knowledge" Lottery: 1st Prize - R. Mandel; 2nd Prize - P. Krauss; 3rd Prizes - G. Weinberger, A. Greenwood; Early Bird Draws - D. Rothberg, R. Zauderer, D. Klein; Consolation Prizes - S. DeRosa, D. Diena, R. Ekove, M. Steinberg, M. Hart, S. Steiner, I. Diamond, G. Weinberger, D. Rothberg, M. Mandelbaum, Y. Cohen, L. Lightstone, B. Gropper, I. Walfish, R. Debow, E. Manoim, T. Herzig, H. Saunders, H. Baker, S Mozes, D. Aharon, I. Diamond, B. Traurig, M. Halpern, D. Bistricer, D. Mason, F. Goldsteen, M. Hart, D. Friedberg, A. Schiff, M. Posner, Y. Zlotnick, D. Brown, C. Rutman, D. Anseli, G. Adam, J. Parshan, A. Boxer, D. Cohen, A. Hecht.

Silent Auction & Gift Sale
Sunday, Nov. 8, 1 - 5 pm.
Pride of Israel Sisterhood.
59 Lissom Crescent

315 CARS FOR SALE

Turn you old car into renewed hope. Donate your used car to benefit Jewish special education and receive maximum tax credit.Free towing.787-1101

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE CJN CLASSIFIEDS
CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1836
FOR ADVERTISING RATES
CJN Classifieds Really Work!
$

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

The Meeting Place

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads **call 1-900-451-4552 *Ext.#* 65**
The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute
To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 *Ext.#* 65**
OR call 1-888-400-3283 *Ext.#* 65

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Slim female, warm, self employed, wonderful, sensual, enjoy movies, music, informal dining. Seeking s slim male, 38-48, 5'8"+, with similar interests AD#1632

SPONTANEOUS
Tall, pretty female, early 30's, brown hair & eyes, easy going, good sense of humour, spontaneous, enjoy music, long walks, watching films. Seeking a male with similar interests AD#1630

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish female, unique, charming, honest, kind, caring, young in mind, body & spirit, enjoy outdoor activities, sports. Seeking a male who lives life to the fullest AD#1652

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single female, young looking, teacher, 47, spirited, loves to laugh, 5'3", 118lbs, kind, has 2 teenage children Seeking a male, kind, non-smoker, honest, successful, emotionally stable, 40-55 AD#1607

LOVES TO LAUGH
Single mother, 47, slim, attractive, professional, youthful, spirited. Seeking an emotionally and financially secure male, non-smoker for friendship, possible relationship AD#1611

SPEAKS RUSSIAN
Single Jewish female, attractive, intelligent, kind, honest, non-smoker, good cook Seeking a Jewish male, that speaks Russian and is in tha similar age group AD#1626

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, attractive, intelligent, kind, caring, many varied interests Seeking a male, 68+, educated, honest, caring, sincere. AD#1599

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, down to earth, professional, enjoy movies, theater, music, reading, travelling, walks, bowling, keeping fit seeking a single Jewish male, 31-43, with similar interests & values AD#1596

NIFTY 50'S
Single female, 50's, 5'1", slim, warm, sincere, charming, down to earth, good sense of humour, no dependents, variety of interests Seeking a well groomed, non-smoker, easy going, emotionally mature, canng male from the Toronto vicinity AD#1591

OUTGOING
divorced female, 36, fit, attractive, sincere, witty, outgoing Seeking a male, 35-40, with no dependents, beautiful on the inside and outside with similar qualities AD#1579

EMOTIONALLY OPEN
Single female, attractive, affectionate, creative, curious, enjoy folk dancing, hiking, cross country skiing, music Seeking a caring, warm, fun loving male, that is open to new experiences, emotionally open and expressive AD#1583

BEST FRIEND, LOVER, PARTNER
Single Jewish lady, 47, 5', auburn hair, blue eyes, sparkling smile, bright, pretty, playful, romantic, non-smoker, loves kids, pets Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, open, honest, handsome, for long term relationship AD#1571

BEAUTY INSIDE AND OUT
Divorced Jewish female, 36, attractive, fit, witty, outgoing Seeking a Jewish male, 34-40, with no dependents and similar qualities. AD#1587

KNOW HOW TO TREAT A LADY?
Single Jewish female, slim, green eyes, dark hair, attractive Seeking a Jewish male, 49+, 5'9"+, someone who will pamper and spoil me. AD#1672

SPICE UP MY LIFE
Single female, pretty, trim, affectionate cheerful, Seeking a male, 50+, wise, witty, content with his accomplishments in life AD#1563

WARM MY NIGHTS
Single Jewish lady, slim, bright green eyes, romantic, varied interests Seeking a Jewish male, 49+, 5'9"+, intelligent, kind, caring. AD#1570

FAMILY VALUES
Single female, enjoy entertaining, theater, travelling Seeking a male, honest, thoughtful, respectful, with similar interests AD# 1575

VIVA LAS VEGAS
Single Jewish female, very stylish, dark hair, green eyes, enjoy dining & dancing, comedy clubs, movies, music, trips to Las Vegas Seeking a single male, handsome, 31-43, with similar interests and outlook AD#1572

FRIENDSHIP AND MORE
Single professional Jewish female, non-traditional, 29, well travelled, has cultural interests Seeking a stimulating, intelligent Jewish male, with good sense of humour, bold, 25-35. AD#1589

SOULMATE NEEDED
Single female, 41, long red hair, vibrant, attractive, a dreamer, teacher & a writer Seeking a handsome, intellectual male, a soulmate to rome the universe with AD#1542

ENGLISH ROSE
Single female, 45, red hair, blue eyes, outgoing personality, non-smoker, enjoy opera, ballet, music, theater, travelling, especially europe, fine dining. Seeking a tall, bright, established male, kind, clean shaven, under 60 AD#1549

ENERGETIC
Single female, professional, 40, slim, attractive, athletic, enjoy golfing, travelling dining out, fine wines. Seeking a male with a sense of humour, enjoys the finer things in life, similar interests. AD#1552

Men seeking Women

GOOD TIMES
Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship. AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING
Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator. Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate AD#1625

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single male, 36, 5'6", handsome, fit, well-established, non-smoker. Seeking a slim, stylish, attractive, lady, no children, non-smoker, with traditional Jewish values, 28-33 AD#1634

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

CLASS OF '98
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit AD#1584

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NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, satire & Jewish values AD#1595

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel. Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and children in the future. AD#1597

SEEKING A COMPANION
Single male, 31, 5'10", medium build, brown eyes, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, outdoor activities, quiet evening at home Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities AD#1615

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives. Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests AD#1616

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family. AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times AD#1539

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group AD#1547

LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing. Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests. AD#1527

NO HEAD GAMES
single male, 40, originally from Montreal, handsome, sincere, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hardworking Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour AD#1543

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38 Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship. AD#1523

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male, late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded AD#1534

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-faceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tete-a tetes, lots of T.L.C. to give. Seeking a slim, elegant, non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre" AD#1504

330 OBITUARIES

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CULNER, Betty - on Oct. 18, 1998, late of 880 Lawrence Ave. E.

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

VOLOW, Anita - on Oct. 14, 1998, late of 4847 Fred Gladstone Memorial D.
GORN, Sarah - on Oct. 16, 1998, late of 100 Antibes Dr., #207.
MORRIS, Gary - on Oct. 16, 1998, late of 27 Laurelcrest Ave.
ADELMAN, William - on Oct. 17, 1998, late of 38 Ontario St. N., Box 748.
GILMORE, Terri - on Oct. 17, 1998, late of 250 Heath St. W., #1603.
SHAPIRO, Harry - on Oct. 17, 1998, late of 150 Heath St. W., #501.
BERNHOLTZ, Ted - on Oct. 18, 1998, late of 25 Robinter Dr.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BELA FULOP ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Nov. 8th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom
Community Section EE
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SIMA BERCOVICI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Nov. 8th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom
(Dufferin Street north of Major Mackenzie)
Beth Tikvah Section
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NEWMAN, Herman - on Oct. 18, 1998, late of 10 Torresdale Ave., PH #7.
SNIDER, Sam - on Oct. 18, 1998, late of 3805 Bathurst St., #213.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

KOSKIE, Bella - on Oct. 22, 1998.
RICH, Sollie - on Oct. 22, 1998, late of 215 Honiton St.
CHARNEY, Morris - on Oct. 23, 1998, late of 4266 Bathurst St.
NILEVSKY, Feiga - on Oct. 23, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
BENHAIM, Joseph - on Oct. 24, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GOODMAN, Sidney - on Oct. 25, 1998, late of 204 Brighton Ave.
ISRAELSON, Dora - on Oct. 25, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
HAITMAN, Abraham - on Oct. 26, 1998.
SHUSTERMAN, Eleanora - on Oct. 26, 1998, late of 256 Charlton Ave.
LIGHTMAN, Harry - on Oct. 27, 1998, late of 51 Ikley Rd.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Palestinian Authority police chief orders crackdown on Hamas

By GIDEON LEVY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Authority police chief Ghazi Jibali has denounced the Hamas, and ordered officers under his command to shoot "in the leg" any Hamas member who gets close to them.

Jibali spoke to *Ha'aretz* after a statement published by Iz a Din al Kassam, the military wing of Hamas, threatened the Palestinian Authority.

The Palestinian general, speaking in his Gaza office, sounded determined and angry at Hamas, calling its activities a betrayal of the Palestinian people. "We are not afraid of anyone, and what Hamas did in its last [terror] attack is a betrayal and the ruination of the peace process. If the attack in Gush Katif had succeeded, we would have been depicted in the world as murderers of children," Jibali said.

"I want to thank the soldiers in the jeep who prevented a huge tragedy and express my condolences to the family of the soldier who was killed. I told my police officers that that soldier is a huge hero."

Jibali said that the suicide bomber was Suhayb Timraz, 19, a college student and Jibalya resident who was not known as a Hamas activist. He said he handed over some of the man's body parts to Israel for DNA testing to verify his identity.

Jibali showed *Ha'aretz* the letter that Timraz left behind: "Forgive me my brother for going up to heaven without saying goodbye. In heaven I will meet God and the Prophet."

"He forgot," Jibali said, "that God doesn't permit the killing of children. That young man isn't going heavenward and won't go to paradise because he tried to kill innocent children. We won't let that happen."

"I personally am willing to be in the patrol that guards the settlers' buses because our role is to protect them," Jibali added.

Jibali said that some 300 Hamas activists had been arrested in the Gaza Strip, including 30 to 40 from the organization's military wing.

Meanwhile, friends and family of Timraz gathered at the family's home in the Jibalya refugee camp yesterday. Jibali said the PA police will not permit a mourners' tent to be erected. Timraz's relatives refused to speak to reporters yesterday, and said they are not convinced that their missing son is indeed the suicide bomber.

Meanwhile, Lebanon's Hezbollah called on the Palestinians to kill PA chair Yasser Arafat for signing the Wye agreement last month. Speaking at a mass rally to denounce the Wye Memorandum, the group's leader, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, branded Arafat a traitor, and told the Palestinians to attack Israelis to foil the accord.

Israel, U.S. sign strategic agreement

Continued from page 1

The MOA, which comes on the heels of the Wye agreement, was discussed quietly between the two leaders at the summit, as well as in meetings earlier this year. U.S. Embassy spokesperson Larry Schwartz said the pact was not a guarantee of U.S. military assistance in the event of ballistic missile attacks targeting Israel.

"It is a rock-solid commitment to Israel's security, not a defence treaty which would require us to do something in the event of an attack," Schwartz said.

A team of experts and the heads of the defence establishment will help determine the details of the various plans that fall under the umbrella of the strategic memorandum. Israel Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's upcoming trip to Washington is aimed in part at addressing this.

The move was seen in Washington as an attempt to give Netanyahu political support if he goes ahead with implementation of the Wye accord, including a withdrawal from the West Bank.

The political support will be backed by general defence aid. Clinton specifically said that aid to Israel may not be used for military investment in the territories. Israel has already made a $1.2-billion request for aid.

Meanwhile, several hundred million dollars in emergency funds from the United States are being set aside to aid the Palestinian Authority.

Emergency funds set aside for PA

The missile threat from Iran forms the background of the new strategic agreement. After Israel and the United States failed to prevent Russia and China from offering aid to the Iranian missile program, Israeli and U.S. intelligence began drafting – independently – new approaches to the problem.

U.S. intelligence came to the conclusion that despite domestic political change in Iran, Tehran is conducting an energetic effort to develop long-range missile capabilities.

Yet there is a consensus among U.S. intelligence authorities that Iran won't be satisfied with long-range missile capacities, but also seeks a nonconventional payload.

The United States is concerned about its failure to persuade Moscow to halt military aid to Iran. Changes in the Russian government and the rise of Victor Primakov to the premiership have created a new situation. American sources say that senior officials with whom they had been in discussion in Moscow are no longer in office, and that effectively, they have nobody to talk to there.

The effort to prevent the development of long-range missiles by Iran has been deemed a failure. Lately there have been intelligence reports that the Primakov government authorized the extension of nuclear aid to Iran. At the heart of the memo is a framework for future planning around long-range missiles and nonconventional weapons in Iran – and, after the lifting of sanctions, in Iraq.

Vatican symposium looks at Inquisition

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican recently convened a three-day symposium on the Inquisition as part of its official policy of reflection on its past failings.

More than two dozen world experts and scholars on the Inquisition took part in last week's closed-door sessions.

Their purpose, Cardinal Roger Etchegaray told the meeting's first session, was to expound "the results of their research, with the aim of allowing us to reach a greater knowledge and a better comprehension" of the brutal persecutions that many consider one of the darkest chapters of Roman Catholic history.

"The church is not afraid to submit its past to the judgment of history," said Cardinal Etchegaray, who heads the Vatican's commission for the grand Jubilee, which oversees events planned for the millennium.

Some scholars will present the results of their investigations on the Inquisition, made since Vatican archives were officially opened for research on the topic in January.

The Inquisition, which lasted from the 13th to the early 19th centuries, was a permanent tribunal of the church aimed at investigating, rooting out and combating heresy. Its methods were often brutal, encompassing the torture, interrogation and burning at the stake of many thousands of people.

"The church cannot cross the threshold of the new millennium without pressing its children to purify themselves in repentance for their errors, infidelity, incoherence and slowness," Cardinal Etchegaray said.

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Archer takes aim at future Olympic Games

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Tom Brodie has heard all the jokes before. The ones about William Tell and Robin Hood. The one about shooting an apple off of somebody's head. Mostly, kids who don't know much about the sport of archery tell those jokes.

Joking aside, for Brodie, archery is a serious business. It has taken him to Cuba and Sweden for international competitions. It has led the Israeli national coach to try to recruit him. It has led his family to shell out tens of thousands of dollars for top-of-the-line equipment and for travel expenses. It has led Brodie, at age 16, to dream a not-so-impossible dream, that he will represent Canada at the 2004 and 2008 Olympic Games.

For Brodie, archery is a serious sport, not something that should be relegated to medieval days or old black and white adventure films. It's a sport that requires strength, skill, determination and concentration, all elements he possesses in abundant supply.

Start with the strength part. At six-foot-two, 203 lbs., he's big enough to play defence in the NHL or box as a heavyweight. In his sport, Brodie uses his strength to repeatedly pull back on the heavy- gauge nylon bowstrings that are tightened with a tension-inducing camshaft system. He does so, sometimes 200 times a day. In addition, he has to raise the 10-lb. bow with his extended left arm, hold it rock steady and take careful aim through the viewpiece before letting the arrow fly.

Having excelled at the technical aspects of the sport, he's also mastered its mental elements. He's able to hold his concentration and not fade under pressure, as is the wont of other archers in tight competition.

Capping it all off is his willingness to spend lots of time honing his craft, often spending 20 to 25 hours a week on the target range.

Earlier this year, Brodie's hard work began to pay off – big time. In Windsor in February, he vaulted out of the high school and club archery scene to win the gold medal as the Canadian Indoor Junior Champion. He followed that up with a second place finish in all divisions in the 1998 Golden Arrow Championship, and then a first place finish in the 1998 Ontario High School Archery Championship in May.

Not bad, but it was just a warmup.

Named to the Canadian National Archery Team, Brodie represented Canada at the 14th Championship of the Americas in Havana in June, winning the gold medal as Champion of the Western Hemisphere.

A month later, in Sunne, Sweden, Brodie again represented the True North in the 5th Junior World Archery Championships, while in September, he took home the gold medal from the Canadian Outdoor Junior Championships in Caledon.

Impressed? And that's only a partial record of his achievements in 1998 – a real breakthrough year for him.

As with most endeavors, it took a lot of hard work to become an overnight success. Brodie got his start in archery only five years ago, thanks to a neighbor already involved in the sport. He enjoyed it and became a casual archer, practicing at the Caledon Club. Two years ago, he ratcheted his interest into high gear, acquired a very good bow, and started practicing more frequently.

"I wanted to be more competitive... I wanted to be good," he said.

Enrolled in the High Performance Athlete (HPA) program at Thornhill Secondary School, Brodie received the time he needed to devote to the sport.

With plenty of practice, he was able to get his score up to 55x out of 60x, closing in on perfection. (The x is the centre of the target. Fifty-five x means he hit the bullseye 55 times out of 60 tries. Archers also receive a point score for getting close to the centre of the target.)

At 55x, many archers come up against a formidable psychological roadblock, Brodie said. But his coach, Mike Weiler of the Colby Shooting Club in Waterloo, has helped him overcome it. "He changed everything," Brodie said, "my bow, my stance, my mental approach."

His training paid off handsomely in Cuba at the Championship of the Americas. The outdoor competition drew participants from 19 countries, including three Canadian juniors. Brodie launched 200 arrows in the week-long event, and scored 1305 points out of 1440, shooting at distances of 30-, 50-, 70- and 90 metres.

When it came down to the crunch, Brodie faced a Brazilian for the gold.

By that time, he'd created quite a stir among the competitors and their coaches, who'd never before seen the big Canadian kid. Unlike the polite audience response in golf or tennis, archery fans scream and shout as if they were at a hockey game, so when it came time to decide the gold medallists, the fans were pretty noisy, Brodie said. Their cheers didn't bother him, however.

"When it comes down to elimination rounds, I'm intimidating," he said. "I don't talk. I let my shooting do the talking for me."

Getting into a "Zen-like" zone, Brodie fought off any jitters.

"I just relax," he said. "I liked it. I was just tanning out in the sun."

Victory was his.

A month later, at the World Championships in Sweden, Brodie had to battle not only the other archers, but the environment as well. In the midst of the competition, Brodie suffered a severe allergy attack brought on by pollen. His eyes puffed up so he could barely see. The yellow bullseye became just a blur for him.

Needing help just to get to the shooting line, Brodie performed as if on autopilot. He shot an impressive 1255 out of 1440. The 1305 he scored in Cuba would have put him in the top 10 in the world.

Following that difficult trip, Brodie took time off to relax and recover. Next on his agenda is a tournament in Las Vegas in March, followed by the U.S. national championship in Tulsa.

Tom Brodie

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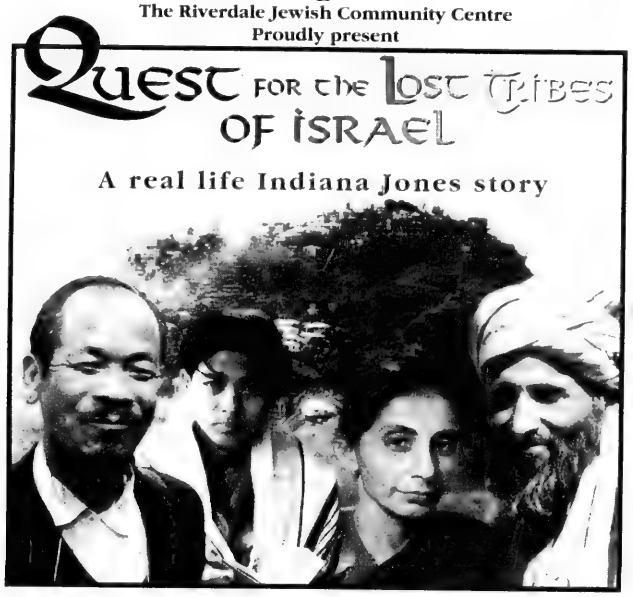

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

העולה שירד לחיי, סיפורי אפרים קישון והסיפור מאחוריהם מאת שרה קישון, הוצאת נוונים, 1998

מאז אפרים קישון, לא היה הומוריסטן ישראלי כמותו, בעל הומור מופתי, חדות ראיה ותזות פנים מהולה ברוך ועדנה תמיד ידענו שהוא מפנה את חיצו ההומוריסטי לבני האדם "הקטנים" בחברה הישראלית, לשעבר חלוצית ועתה מודרנית. הוא עזר לנו לנתח את האיוולת שבמצבנו, כאזרחים התלויים במעגנן בירוקרטי מסורבל, מעשה ידי יהודים שהקימו לעצמם מדינה. ההומור היה בוטה, אך אף-פעם לא מעליב. את המסר הגיש בעטיפה של אהבה.

היום, בשנת החמישים למדינה, כשאנו מובלבלים וחיים בצלו של חזון שהיה וחשים כיותמים, ללא מנהיגות וללא השראה, ולנוכח הפילוג האיום בשורות הלאום, כה מתגעגע הנשמה לאפרים קישון והנה, ממש בזמן הנכון, יוצא לאור ספרה של אשתו, שרה קישון והברכה על ראשה. העולה שירד לחיי יעלה בנו נשכחות מתוקות.

את הספר קראתי בהנאה מוחלטת על-אף מעט פגמים. שרה עשתה נפלאות בליקוט כתבות פרי עטו של אפרים ועיטור כל אחת בהקדמה ביוגרפית. בהקדמות מבהירה שרה את הרקע האמיתי לפרטי יצירתו של בעלה. כאשר הדברים כאובים במקצת, אין היא ממתיקה את הגלולה. אנו חשים באהבתה הגדולה לבעלה אף שברור לנו שלא קל לחיות עם ההומוריסטן הנערץ שהצחיק את תושבי ישראל. לא אהבתי את שימוש היתר של שרה במלים באנגלית ובגרמנית וכן, לא תמיד מצאתי קשר הדוק בין ההקדמה הביוגרפית למונולוג ששרה בחרה להדגים. למרות הפגמים, שרה קישון הצליחה היטב במשימתה מתן הסבר אישי לתופעת אפרים קישון ותוך כדי כך, הנצחתו.

הספר מומלץ ביותר ויכולה אני להבטיח לכל אוהדי קישון, כמותי, שאהבתכם אליו תגדל ותתעצם עם הבנת הרקע האישי לכתיבתו.

אנו למדים שניבור ספריו של אפרים, ארנינקא הנוכל, בעל האינטואיציה לחולשות האדם, נולד בעצם בנעוריו של אפרים בתנאי ההישרדות בתופת הנאצית. הוא הגיע לארץ ב- 1949, כשהוא משאיר מאחוריו, בהונגריה, הרס נעוריו. הניצול שלא ידע מילה בעברית, הצליח במרוצת הזמן לעזור לישראלים להשלים עם רצונם להיות לא רק גיבורים-חלוצים אלא גם אנשים שרוצים "לרמות את מס ההכנסה, להתעשר בבורסה ולקנות הרבה מכשירי חשמל".

אפרים שנא רעש. גם בשנתו היה אוטם את אוזניו, את עבודתו היה חייב לעשות בתנאי דממה מוחלטת את רגישותו לרעש הסביר אפרים ב"ימי החושך" כאשר צעדים כבדים במדרגות או דפיקה בדלת בישרה דין מוות או בריחה מבוהלת מהנאצים ולמקרא המונולוג ששרה בחרה בהקשר זה. "תולדות המזגן השקט", צחקתי כל-כך שבתי, נטע, חשבה שקרה אסון שכן פני זלגו בדמעות של צחוק מהדהד.)

הוא אהב ספרות אך היה מאוהב בתיאטרון את הקרקס שנא וטען שאינו רוצה לראות חיות שנוהגות כבני אדם. די לו שראה בני-אדם שנהגו פחיות רעות. בטעם אוכל לא הבין הרבה ופעם, כשנשאל, בבעל תואר דוקטור-כבוד לפילוסופיה אודות "הטוב האופטימלי" של קאנט, השיב שהטוב המקסימלי בעולמנו הוא הסלאמי ההונגרי

על מנת לשפר את העברית היה משנן כל בוקר, בזמן הגילוח, משפטי תנ"ך ותלמוד ולמד בעל-פה מילון עברי מכבד עברית, אפרים לימד עצמו גם אנגלית וגרמנית תמיד הצטער שלא למד צרפתית והיה מסיף "לצערי במחנות הריכוז לא לימדו צרפתית". הוא סבל מדכאונות פתאומיים אך היה נלחם במצבי רוח קודרים חשכה העציבה אותו תל-כן היה מאיר כל מקום בו נמצא

בסיום הספר מביע אפרים קישון את תודתו לאשתו ולא בהכרח עבור הספר אלא בשל שנים ארוכות, ומן הסתם, לא קלות, לצידו. תודתו אל שרה מתוונה אך משכנעת. "מאשה נרועה נפרדים בשירה עליזה. וחוזרים בלי קושי לרוטות המבורכת. אפס משרה אי-אפשר להיפרד מפני שהיא אשה טובה מאוד, לכל הרוחות."

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5 tblsp. soya sauce	5 cloves garlic, minced
5 tblsp. honey	1 tsp. ground ginger
2 tblsp. sugar	1/4 tsp. salt

Mix ingredients for sauce in a bowl. Marinate chicken pieces in sauce for 2-3 hours. Lay chicken pieces in pan and pour sauce over them. Bake 425°F for 10 minutes, then lower the temperature to 350°F and bake for an additional 40 minutes or until brown.

About families

Dear Susan,

My 8-year-old daughter took an art project to school recently and was shocked to find it had been deliberately tampered with. What words of comfort can I offer my daughter? How shall I broach the issue with her teacher?

Dear Reader,

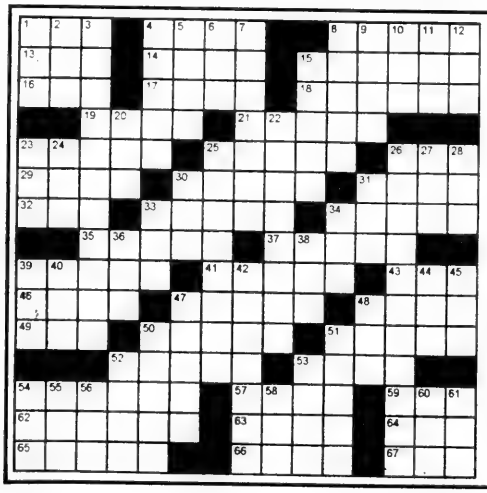
I am sorry to hear that someone deliberately set out to sabotage your daughter's project. Your first order of business is to reassure your daughter, as she will likely view this event as a personal violation. It is important for you to emphasize that it is not right for someone to destroy someone else's project. She must understand that this illustrates an inappropriate and unacceptable lack of respect.

Be sure to encourage your daughter to express her feelings. Part of the job of parents is to shield their children from the cruelties and inequities of the world until their children are ready to accept and confront these bitter realities. As time goes on, those realities are brought home by events such as the one your daughter was forced to contend with. The key thing is to ensure that she understands the fundamental reality of what has happened to her, while at the same time retaining a balance and sense of perspective that will ensure that this event does not come to dominate her world view.

You have also broached the possibility of speaking to your daughter's teacher. While your daughter must learn to understand and accept what has happened to her, it is critical that she perceives that justice has been served. At her age, it is important that she retain some faith in a just and balanced world. The teacher should raise this problem with the class and make it very clear that this type of behavior will *not* be tolerated. Your daughter will likely have seen this violation of her property as a very personal threat. The teacher must reassure her that he or she will set appropriate limits with the class, in order to ensure that your daughter retains a sense of personal security and safety.

I hope your daughter comes away feeling empowered and not victimized as a result of both her parents and teacher appreciating the seriousness of the event and taking speedy and sensitive steps to address it.

Susan Leventhal is a psychotherapist with 20 years of experience.



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Yiddish disdain
4. Writer Irving
8. Plague?
13. Before
14. Methuselah
15. Anakim giant
16. Generation (Heb.)
17. Developed
18. Marrano language
19. Hillel
21. Moses' bush
23. Son of Gad
25. Imitated Mauri Rose
26. Gideon's best men
29. Ache
30. Kol __
31. Make the bagels
32. Not on Pesach?
33. Western Israeli border
34. Mount of tablets
35. Mezuzot sites
37. Solomon's tenure
39. Rosen's base
41. Beg
43. Bialik specialty
46. Seder manner
47. Prepare Seder bone
48. Isaac on Mt. Moriah?
49. Last degree
50. Shofarot
51. Betim in Spain
52. Israelite
53. "Purim" or cast __
54. Talmud component
57. King of Israel
59. Eat (Yid..)
62. Retail great
63. Circumcision
64. "Lands of the Covenant"
65. Exists
66. Prophesized
67. Edom people

Down

1. Rage
2. Freud invention
3. Maror
4. Gad's son
5. Goliath
6. K'Tonton
7. Teller and Koch
8. Tzedakah
9. Zaftig (Eng.)
10. "Friend" to Wiesel
11. Copeland on track
12. Alphabet run
15. Breathing
20. Shikker's choice?
22. Jericho
23. Egyptian snake
24. Lox starters
28. Out of Israel
26. Food Maven
27. American Mossad?
28. 151
30. __'easter
31. Gadol (Eng.)
33. Kosher fish
34. Sheldon or Luckman
36. Solomon's find
38. Nosh (Eng.)
39. Plagues
40. Yarmulke
42. Dear Abby's sister
44. Synthesized by Kornberg
45. Cantor and Goldman
47. Herod the Great
48. __ Mitzvah
50. Dances
51. Priestly name
52. Item on Schindler's list
53. Deceased
54. Olympiad Friedman
55. Wallach
56. Cable TV
58. Break the ninth
60. Ashdod to Be'er Sheva (dir.)
61. Tisha B'Av mood

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. (Last week's answers are on page 44.)

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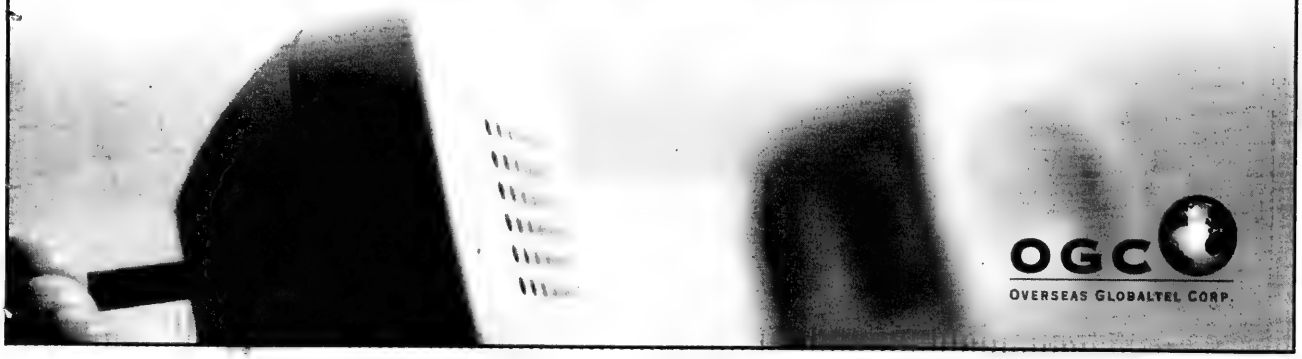

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

National

Young Jews urged to preserve the memory of Holocaust survivors. *Page 3*

JF&CS takes steps to get homeless off the street. *Page 5*

Historian examines Pope's response to Shoah. *Page 24*

On Campus

Kedma serves needs of Orthodox students. *Page 34*

Winter Fashion

The Pros and cons of buying underwear for women. *Page 40*

Sports

Canada and Israel sign interim aviation agreement. *Page 44*

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Candlelighting: 4:38
Cheshvan 24, 5759
Havdalah: 5:42

www.cjnews.com

RAISING THE COLORS IN REMEMBRANCE

Canadian war veterans took part in the War Veterans Memorial last week in Toronto. They marched from Earl Bales Park in North York, with full colors, to the Beth Radom Synagogue where the services were held. *[Dave Gordon photo]*

Islamic Jihad sent bombers

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Israeli and Palestinian investigators have concluded that the two terrorists who were killed in last Friday's attack in Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda market were sent by a local branch of Islamic Jihad operating out of Jenin.

The town is located within Area A, which is under the control of the Palestinian Authority, though both men lived in villages in Area B, under Israeli security control.

A search is now under way for a senior Islamic Jihad official in the Jenin area who is suspected of involvement in the attack.

The Palestinian security authorities arrested five Islamic Jihad activists in Jenin and three in the Bethlehem area, while the Israeli security forces arrested seven men from the village where the second terrorist in the bombing lived.

Two things were clear from the outcome of the blast: the operation was botched, and the current operational level of the Islamic terrorist organizations in the West Bank makes it difficult for them to carry out massive showcase attacks.

The two terrorists were known to the security establishment as Islamic Jihad activists, and had served terms in an Israeli prison for security-related offences until they were recently released.

Security sources said the bombs were of a "very low professional level, almost primitive." The series of explosions that preceded the large explosion indicates that their operating mechanism may have malfunctioned.

Almost immediately after news broke of the bomb blast at Machane Yehuda, calls of "death to the Arabs" were heard throughout the Jerusalem market. As in previous incidents, a

Continued on page 37

National unity main focus

By JACK JEDWAB

Election Commentary

The Nov. 30 Quebec election has been described by some observers as the most important political contest the province has witnessed in several decades. It is a battle between two political giants, as Premier Lucien Bouchard faces provincial Liberal leader Jean Charest, the person deemed best able to defeat the leader of the sovereigntist forces.

When Charest first appeared on the Quebec political scene early in the year, federalists felt a new sense of optimism about the prospect of reacquiring power and putting a stop to the threat of another referendum.

Enthusiasm amongst federalists was supported by public opinion polls that gave the Charest-led Liberals a commanding lead over

Continued on page 25

INSIDE

See our ideas for Winter Fashion.

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Anti-semitism in the Russian parliament — please see page 36

The News in Brief

CANADA

Pamphlets Cause Stir

CALGARY — The Calgary Jewish Community Council and local police have fielded several complaints about a pamphlet entitled *The Silver Bullet*, which was distributed in downtown Calgary. Ethnic groups allege the pamphlets contain anti-Semitic and anti-Asian remarks.

Pachter Mourned

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Canada is mourning the death of Harry Pachter, a former national president of the organization. Pachter was instrumental in forming District 22. Through the travel agency he helped found, he organized numerous trips and missions to Israel.

ISRAEL

Israel Denies Passport Story

JERUSALEM — There is "no basis" to last week's CTV *W5* report that Israel is continuing to use Canadian passports in spy operations, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's media advisor said in a statement last week. "The Mossad does not use Canadian passports," the terse statement said.

W5 reported that Israel is still using Canadian passports in spy missions, despite its pledge a year ago to stop the practice. The show reported that at least two Canadian expatriates in Israel allegedly gave up their passports in response to requests from the Mossad, and that one of them later retrieved the document.

Israel pledged to stop using Canadian passports in spy missions following last autumn's botched bid by Mossad agents to assassinate a Hamas leader in Jordan. The agents were found to be carrying fake Canadian passports. Also last week, Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy said one of the former Canadian's claims were investigated and dismissed.

Holocaust Conference

JERUSALEM — Two Canadian experts are addressing a conference here this week on providing emotional support and treatment for Holocaust survivors. Dr. Robert Krell, a Vancouver psychiatrist, is speaking on working with survivors and their families, while Paula David, a social worker at the Baycrest Centre, is addressing working with aging survivors. The two-day conference is sponsored by Amcha, which provides support services for survivors in Israel.

PM Releases Letters

JERUSALEM — Hoping to win further backing for the Wye accord, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week released four U.S. letters of guarantees to Israel. In one, the U.S. ambassador to Israel reiterated Washington's opposition to a unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood. Palestinian negotiators said the Palestinian Authority is not "governed by letters of guarantee, but by the agreements signed."

WORLD

Canadian Rabbis Honored

NEW YORK — Two Canadian rabbis received honorary degrees from the Jewish Theological Seminary at its fall convocation. Rabbi Charles Feinberg of Vancouver and Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum of Toronto received honorary degrees for their service to the Jewish community and the Conservative movement.

Mitch Destroys Shul

TEGUCIGALPA — Hurricane Mitch has destroyed the Honduran capital's lone synagogue. Earlier this year, the 30 or so family members of Communidad Evreya B'Tegucigalpa made the final payments on the small shul, bought prayer books and installed a bimah.

The storm destroyed everything, save for one of the two Torahs brought to Honduras by immigrants from Germany shortly before World War II.

Jews in Congress

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Senate will have a record number of Jews – 11 – after Rep. Chuck Schumer defeated high-profile incumbent Senator Alfonse D'Amato in a New York senate race.

The new Congress will have 23 Jewish members, down from 25 in the previous one. There will be three Jewish newcomers in the House of Representatives. Jewish voters across the United States overwhelmingly voted for Democratic candidates by a 78 percent to 21 percent margin.

Arafat Criticized

TEHRAN — Iran's supreme leader has condemned the latest Israeli-Palestinian peace deal and branded Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat a "lackey" of Israel.

Speaking to Muslim worshippers and dignitaries at Tehran University, Ayatollah Ali Khameini said the peace deal is doomed to fail, and he challenged Arafat's legitimacy as leader of the Palestinian people. His comments prompted speculation that he will authorize additional funding to militant groups in the Palestinian self-rule areas.

Advisory: Numbers in Ads for U.S. Citizens Only

TORONTO — Recent advertisements in some Jewish media outlets, other than *The CJN*, have incorrectly listed toll-free telephone numbers for inquiries into how to obtain money from funds established by Swiss banks.

Holocaust survivors and their heirs should be advised that the 1-800 numbers listed in these ads are for U.S. citizens only.

There were two toll-free numbers advertised, one for registering for the Swiss dormant account fund, and another for inquiries into the special humanitarian fund for needy survivors. Both are for Americans only.

In Canada, Rabbi Gunther Plaut is heading a committee that will disburse $2.5 million allotted by Swiss banks to needy survivors.

Rabbi Plaut says he is considering setting up a toll-free line in Canada, similar to the one in the United States.

Canada has yet to set up an apparatus to deal with the dormant account fund.

The CJN will print updates as events warrant.

Win two free return tickets to Israel via El Al Airlines courtesy JNF. Details on pg. 25

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Vol. XXVIII, No. 44 (1,371)*

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Young Jews urged to preserve survivors' memory

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Inaugurating Holocaust Education Week at the Leah Posluns Theatre late last month, an Auschwitz concentration camp survivor urged Jews to perpetuate the past.

Holocaust Education Week

See pages 22, 23 & 24 for more coverage

"Remember and never forget," intoned Ernest Michel, a 75-year-old American who witnessed Kristallnacht in Mannheim, Germany, on Nov. 9, 1938.

The younger generation, he said, is duty bound to preserve the memory of the survivors, not only for the sake of the six million victims of the Holocaust but for the benefit of future generations.

Michel, who had a 52-year career with the UJA Federation in New York City, said that Jews live in an entirely different world today.

Rather than being weak and silent as in the 1930s and 1940s, Jews today are strong and stand up for their rights, and Israel has developed into a vibrant Jewish homeland.

Decrying the phenomenon of Holocaust denial, he called on survivors to tell their stories. But he advised them not to debate the deniers. "It's a no brainer," he declared.

Michel described the deportation of 15,000 Polish Jews from Germany in October 1938 as the "first step" in the Holocaust.

It was followed by Kristallnacht, the night of broken glass, a nation-wide pogrom touched off by the assassination of a German diplomat in Paris by Herschel Grynspan, a young man whose parents were among those who had been deported from Germany.

Accusing the Gestapo of having masterminded Kristallnacht, Michel said that the sight of a burning synagogue in his hometown will always be engraved in his mind.

In cataloguing the horrors of Kristallnacht, he said that 1,400 synagogues were destroyed and 300 Jews were murdered. In addition, 30,000 Jews were arrested.

He saw his parents for the last time in Mannheim's train station on Sept. 4, 1939. Three years later, they perished in Auschwitz, a camp to which he was eventually sent.

During the war, Michel endured six years in Nazi camps as well as a death march. He returned to Mannheim in June 1945, finding a shattered city. After working for the U.S. army, he covered the Nuremberg war crimes trial for a German news agency. In July 1946, he arrived in the United States as a displaced person.

Michel, whose autobiography, *Promises to Keep*, was published in 1993, joined the UJA after being a copy boy on a newspaper in Port Huron, Michigan.

In 1981, he initiated and organized the World Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors in Israel. Today, as a motivational speaker, he delivers lectures about the Holocaust throughout North America.

Disaster relief fund

CJC helps hurricane victims

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has set up a relief fund to assist Central American communities stricken by Hurricane Mitch.

Cheques should be made payable to: Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee, and mailed to Hurricane Mitch Disaster Relief Fund, c/o CJC, 1590 Docteur Penfield Ave., Montreal, Que. H3G 1C5.

B'nai Brith International is also accepting donations earmarked for Hurricane Mitch survivors. Contributions may be made via a secure online server located at [www. bnaibrith.org].

Last week, a Toronto woman, Goldie Moldaver, telephoned *The CJN* to say that her brother, Moises Starkman, is the first Jewish member of the Honduran cabinet and was that country's first ambassador to Israel. He is fielding offers of aid, and can be reached at 011-504-990-9458.

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for the Canada-Israel Committee

JF&CS takes steps to get homeless Jews off streets

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS) is taking the first steps toward getting homeless Jews off the streets of Toronto.

The agency's newly struck committee on Jewish homeless met for the first time last week, but already, there seems to be a conflict between it and the social worker it has entrusted to search for Jews on the streets.

Lillian Freedman, a freelance social worker who has, to date, located five homeless Jews, wants a one-stop, community-wide agency that is more crisis-oriented than the approach JF&CS envisions.

As well, Freedman says she is shouldering personal expenses in her street search, and wonders what will happen to homeless Jews when her two-month mandate expires at the end of this month.

JF&CS is developing a program to deal with Jewish homelessness, "but there aren't the funds or the need to create a whole separate agency for this," executive director Gordon Wolfe told *The CJN*. "I don't believe there should be Jews out on the streets, but we have to incorporate this into our own services."

Those services include paying the first and last months' rent on housing, as well as topping up welfare payments, and keeping an eye on the formerly homeless, who can lapse back into transience.

"I guess we see the problem from a different perspective," a resigned Freedman told *The CJN* following last week's inaugural meeting of the committee. "That's fair enough. But I'm worried about people who don't fall into JF&CS's guidelines."

While Freedman has located five homeless Jews, JF&CS estimates there are as many as 12 in the downtown core.

Plan of action

Two of the five homeless Freedman has found are young men, both 20, who are now sharing an apartment. Both received temporary assistance from JF&CS.

Freedman speculates that JF&CS is worried that helping them will "open the floodgates" for other young people who leave their parents' home, to apply for help.

Freedman came to her task quite by accident. She found a homeless Jewish woman downtown, and approached JF&CS, which agreed to help [*CJN*, Oct. 22]. Freedman was given the agency's authority – and a float of $200 – to find homeless Jews and put them up in a hotel until more lasting arrangements could be made.

In addition to the two 20-year-olds, Freedman has found a 22-year-old woman of Yemenite background; a Russian and Yiddish-speaking 66-year-old woman who sleeps in a park on Bathurst Street at Antibes; and "Rachel," a 50-ish woman for whom she found an apartment and who helped launch Freedman's mission.

The Yemenite woman has been placed with a foster family and is employed. While Freedman knows of the 66-year-old woman, she has been unable to find her. And Rachel recently fled her downtown apartment after a scare from a neighbor. She spends days on the streets and returns home only at night.

At last week's meeting, Freedman presented her plan of action. She proposed a coordinated service for the Jewish homeless, funded by UJA Federation and private efforts, as a pilot project for the year 1999.

She would like a full-time coordinator for the project, two half-time staffers and volunteers, as well as a small office, telephone and cell phone.

But those are not likely to materialize, given JF&CS's position that the needs of the Jewish homeless can be folded into existing services.

"Nobody can convince me there's not a need for this," Freedman said. "A program has to be developed and funded in cooperation with the entire community, and not as something [JF&CS] can do behind closed doors."

Although Freedman is receiving a small salary for her efforts, she said she's been personally burdened by expenses she's incurred, and for which she's not being reimbursed.

The JF&CS committee won't meet again until Dec. 12, well after cold nights grip city streets. And Freedman's mandate expires Nov. 30.

"What happens after that?" she asked.

Irwin Igra

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From the editor's desk

Will Return

Israel's Jubilee 50 — *from the archives*

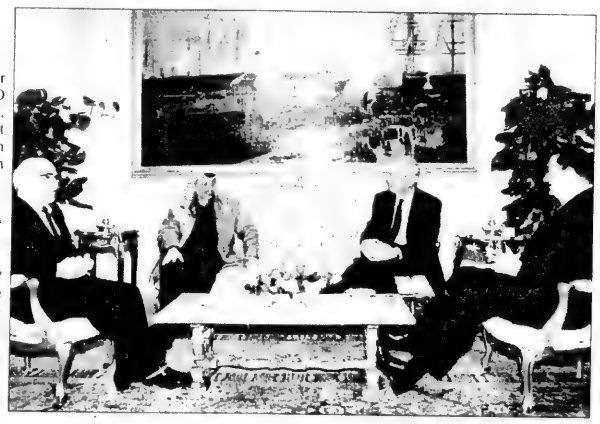
A PARTY WITH THE KING

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak sit with King Hussein of Jordan in 1995.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.



Greater Toronto Area

Reena proceeds with new home for older adults

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's full steam ahead for Reena's planned residence for developmentally disabled adults over 55 – the first of its kind in Canada.

Reena's building arm, Batay Reena, has bought a site on Crestwood Avenue in Thornhill, near Bathurst and Steeles. Fundraising campaign chair Alex Eisen has helped raise $1.5 million so far for the project.

The organization is applying for a building permit, followed by tenders being issued.

The Al and Faye Mintz Elder Home, named for the longtime Reena supporters, will be a fully kosher, three-storey residence especially for older adults. Up to 16 Reena clients 55 and over will live there.

Today, about a third of Reena's 500 clients are over 50, a ratio that's expected to rise to half in the next six years, says Sandy Keshen, the organization's executive director.

And the developmentally disabled often show signs of aging while still in their 50s, she notes, adding they are not candidates for mainstream facilities like Baycrest.

Many developmentally disabled adults still live with their aging parents. Keshen says Reena regularly fields calls from the parents about what will happen to their children once they are gone.

"The major issue is their quality of life. [The residence] will allow older adults a sense of purpose and dignity, where they can live out their lives."

Plans for the 9,000-square-foot home call for private and semi-private bedrooms, a communal living area, garden, kitchen and leisure space. Residents would attend day programs at Reena's Battle Centre, about 10 minutes away by car.

About half of Reena's clients live in residences. Keshen says the elder home will free other resources and ease the organization's waiting list, now at about 250.

Steeles Memorial Chapel, a Reena supporter, is honoring Wilfred and Mildred Kideckel, also Reena boosters, at a tribute dinner and cantorial concert on Nov. 11 at Beth Emeth Synagogue.

Proceeds from the affair will go toward the Reena elder home.

For details, call 905-763-8254, ext. 3034.

***

A collaboration between Reena and Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) has yielded the Jewish Community Action Group, whose mandate is to help change attitudes toward the developmentally disabled.

The group, whose members include representatives from both organizations and two rabbis, is examining ways in which communal leaders and institutions can be more inclusive of the Jewish developmentally disabled.

So far, the group has discussed the possibility of "inclusion representatives" at synagogues, as well as promoting the participation of the developmentally disabled in groups for youth, women and young adults.

For more information, call Ruth Slater at 905-889-2690.

Pulver was honorary VP of Hadassah-WIZO

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Carole Pulver, honorary vice-president of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, died recently after a long battle with bone marrow cancer.

Pulver, born in Peterborough, was a lifelong member of the organization and "will long be remembered for her spontaneity of thought, creativity of idea and tireless support that resulted in things happening," said Ellen Smiley, editor of *Orah* magazine and national treasurer, Canadian Hadassah-WIZO.

Obituary

Pulver, who lived in Peterborough until two years ago, was instrumental in developing the St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation, the fundraising arm of the Peterborough hospital.

"Carole took pride and derived much pleasure in her community, and was often at the forefront, trying to make a difference in areas that would further the quality of life for people," said Smiley.

As a third generation life member of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, Pulver held a variety of positions, including chair of healthcare services, general secretary and vice-president.

"Her strength, however, lay in the understanding of Jewish life in a small community. In Peterborough, Carole rallied round the small group of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO women, encouraging them in their work for Israel and providing them with stability," said Smiley.

Lily Frank, national executive vice-president, Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, called Pulver "an extraordinary volunteer... who had a genuine and deep love for our work in Israel, particularly for Assaf Harofeh Hospital, which is supported by our organization.

"She had a special way to harmonize situations. People depended on her. Her death leaves a huge vacuum in our organization and in the general Peterborough community.

Pulver is survived by her husband Sigmund (Skipper), son Fred in Jerusalem; Paul in Vancouver; and son and daughter-in-law Doug and Lana in Vancouver. She also leaves her grandson Benjamin, her parents Myer and Adeline Levine and brother Ron Levine, all of Peterborough.

For another obituary, please see page 16.

IT'S YOUR CALL...

This winter in Toronto, 4,000 Jewish children will be living below the poverty line. One of the only ways they can cope is through UJA Federation funded assistance. Without community financial support, this program and others would be in peril. Unfortunately, these children are among many Jews in need. Thousands of young people are completely detached from Jewish life and more than a million remain in the former Soviet Union, plagued by uncertainty and insecurity. Starting this coming **Sunday, November 15**, dedicated community volunteers will be contacting you on behalf of our historic **Campaign for Fifty** to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews in danger. Hundreds of thousands are depending on your positive response. **Now, it's your call.**

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NDP defends its candidate

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The NDP's candidate in York West for the next provincial election was defended by party leader Howard Hampton at the recent executive meeting of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

Stephanie Payne, who was acclaimed as candidate, made controversial remarks about Jews during the threatened boycott of *Show Boat* in 1993. Payne, who was then a school trustee, said it was usually Jews who produced derogatory plays or films about blacks. She later apologized, but said her remark was not anti-Semitic.

"I've talked to Payne, and she told me she harbors no prejudice against Jews, and will never repeat what she said at that time," Hampton said.

Congress delegate Jack Jacobson said he was not impressed by Payne's apology. "It shows some lack of integrity on the part of the NDP to choose her," he said. "I've always voted CCF or NDP, but I don't know whether I will this time."

On other issues, Payne is a good candidate, Hampton said, and she has agreed to operate within the boundaries set by the party.

Hampton is the first of the three Ontario party leaders to speak to the executive.

On another matter, the NDP leader said he is opposed to government support for Jewish day schools, adding: "I will be blunt and tell you we disagree on this issue."

But "if you say yes to Catholics and no to Jews, you don't believe in equality," Congress official David Rotenberg charged.

Referring to changes made by Premier Mike Harris, Hampton said most of the middle class will not benefit from the income tax cuts introduced by the Harris government.

He said it was the moral responsibility of the provincial government to redistribute the $1.5 billion in income tax cuts to the health system and education.

The middle class will find any income tax savings more than eaten up by fees for services which are now free and for increased university tuition fees, he said.

"It is fundamentally wrong to be cutting education and hospitals to fund an income tax reduction," Hampton said.

He said he was "deeply disturbed" over the provincial government's decision to remove material about hate propaganda and racist issues from the curriculum of high schools.

The NDP leader was thanked by chair Keith Landy for supporting the Holocaust Memorial Day bill now before the legislature.

In other business, Neil Sher, special assistant to the Canadian war crimes unit, told the executive that a "sea change" has taken place in the federal government's attitude to prosecuting war criminals.

The Ottawa war crimes unit is now filing cases against suspected war criminals at a faster rate than its counterpart in the United States, said Sher.

"We expect an increase in the number of cases, but my advice to you is to be vigilant and keep this issue on the front burner. The window of opportunity is closing a little each day."

Sher said the relationship between the war crimes unit and the Canadian Jewish community is good.

"The difficulties are obvious, there will be frustrations, and it is fantasyland to expect all criminals to be brought to justice," he said.

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New education director at JRCC

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Levi Jacobson would rather light a fire than put on a coat.

As the recently appointed, and first director of the Centre for Judaic Studies at Toronto's Jewish Russian Community Centre (JRCC), the rabbi says he's acting on a principle he learned from the late Lubavitcher Rebbe.

"The Rebbe used to say that either you can put on a fur coat to warm yourself, while everyone else freezes, or you could build a fire," says Rabbi Jacobson, who studied under Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson in New York. "We are building fires."

Rabbi Jacobson hopes to warm the spirits of Toronto's growing Russian Jewish population, estimated at 35,000, with dozens of adult education programs he's developing.

The 25-year-old rabbi comes to town from venues a bit more exotic than Toronto. He's fresh from running adult Jewish education and outreach programs in Sweden, Finland, Alaska, Greece and Shanghai – testament to Lubavitch's global reach.

Working under JRCC director Rabbi Joseph Zaltzman, Rabbi Jacobson has already attracted attention with a full autumn semester of courses, lasting until the end of December. These include weekly classes on Talmud, Torah study, Jewish law, beginner's Hebrew, and mysticism. There are also special events and guest lectures.

Rabbi Levi Jacobson

The classes, held at the JRCC on Rockford Road, require no background or previous knowledge. They are mostly free and open to men and women. Some are in Russian, but most are taught in English.

Although thousands of ex-Soviet and Russian immigrants have come to Toronto with little or no affinity to things Jewish – religion and especially Judaism having been suppressed in their native land for so long – Rabbi Jacobson is finding a market for his product.

"There is a thirst for knowledge. [In Russia] people felt Judaism in their flesh and blood. They tell me it was a curse because being Jewish was a stamp on your passport. Now they tell me it's something beautiful."

Rabbi Jacobson says response to the classes has been "excellent. People are asking me all kinds of questions. They want more programs. My hands are full."

For details, call the JRCC at 222-7105.

Cummer Lodge raises $10,000 for new equipment

TORONTO — A total of $10,000 has already been raised for audio equipment for hearing-impaired residents of Cummer Lodge.

This was raised at a special event Oct. 23 sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, where a cheque for that amount was handed to the lodge by Grand Knight Bob Gasparic.

A benefit concert Jan. 9, 1999, at the Ford Centre for The Performing Arts, sponsored by North York Knights of Columbus, will also provide funds for audio and rehabilitation therapy equipment.

The first event was a kickoff for the Night of Knights regular subscription concert by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, featuring students from the University of Toronto Opera School. It will be held in the George Weston Concert Hall of the Ford Centre.

The audio equipment will enable residents to take part in services in the multi-faith chapel at Cummer Lodge.

Cummer Lodge, a Toronto Home for the Aged, is now undergoing major renovations.

Greater Toronto Area

HOT takes aim at developing young leaders

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Last week, we examined how leaders are made, not born. Today, we will look at efforts to recruit young people, and look at some graduates of the UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program.

TORONTO — While most of the Leadership Development Program (LDP) candidates are in the 28 to 40 age range, there is another young leadership program that aims at those even younger.

One of its successes is the Hands On Toronto (HOT) component. HOT gets young people directly involved in volunteer work — everything from fundraising to program planning, said Elana Carr, who runs the program.

Some participants may volunteer to serve as Big Brothers or Big Sisters at JF&CS, others may design Purim or Passover events at nursing homes. About 75 young people are currently participating in the year-old program. "We know when people get involved, they buy into the cause," Carr said.

UJA Federation staffer Avi Benlolo believes developing leadership is key to the future health of the community. "What's going to happen in a few years when the older generation of leaders retires? That's a question we ask all the time. It's part of why young leadership was created. It was created to renew the community."

Ottawa-native Les Aaron serves as co-chair of the UJA Federation's young leadership division, the "future machers," he calls them.

People who are trained at a fairly young age and work at the grass roots level will eventually rise to take important positions in the community, he believes.

Young leaders are mentored and shown the ropes, including the UJA's fundraising element and community outreach. By combining those elements, volunteers can see how the money that is raised goes to help people in need, he said.

Gets young people involved in volunteer work

Aaron, who credits his parents with instilling a volunteer ethos in him, said that "when people reach a certain point in their career, they want to be involved with a large group, to do good work and get personal benefits."

Gloria Clamen, 1991 recipient of the UJA Federation Leadership Development Award, said she's been a volunteer since she was 12 years old. "As I've gotten older, I've been continually interested in volunteering, as it gives me the opportunity to express myself in many ways, to give back to the community...I also feel it's important for the continuity of the community. It allows people to express their Judaic affiliations in a non-religious way."

Clamen, past president of the Toronto Council of Jewish Women International, is currently serving as president of Circle of Care. Though the government-funded agency serves both Jews and non-Jews, Clamen said "my involvement in the Jewish community has brought a Jewish perspective to the board."

That translates into more information for the staff on developments in the Jewish community with particular regard to raising funds, creating partnerships to save money on resources and undertaking joint lobbying efforts for increased government support.

Judy and David Engel, a husband and wife team who both graduated from the LDP, have become key fixtures at United Synagogue Day School on Bayview. Judy is president of the parents association while David is vice-president of the board and a member of the executive. Judy has served as chair of the UJA's Women's Campaign while David has served as co-chair of the overall campaign.

Natives of Montreal, they grew up in a milieu where "it's part of our tradition to be doing [charitable work]," Judy Engel said.

Eager to create a Jewish lifestyle for themselves in Toronto, they felt that strengthening the community would create a lasting legacy for their children, she said.

They chose the federation because they believed maintaining a strong, central fundraising organization was important to avoid duplication, and to allocate funds in a fair manner.

Zac Kaye, director of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, has worked in four other Jewish communities around the world, from Australia to Boston. He points out that despite the popularity of the LDP, more recruits are still needed.

While there are many volunteers in Toronto, "there aren't enough people to go around," he stated. "There's a low level of community participation" in Toronto compared to both Australia and Boston. "Here the same people are being draw upon" while in Sydney, "it seemed to be, pro rata, a greater sense of involvement across the board, a greater level of volunteerism. In Boston, I felt the same thing.

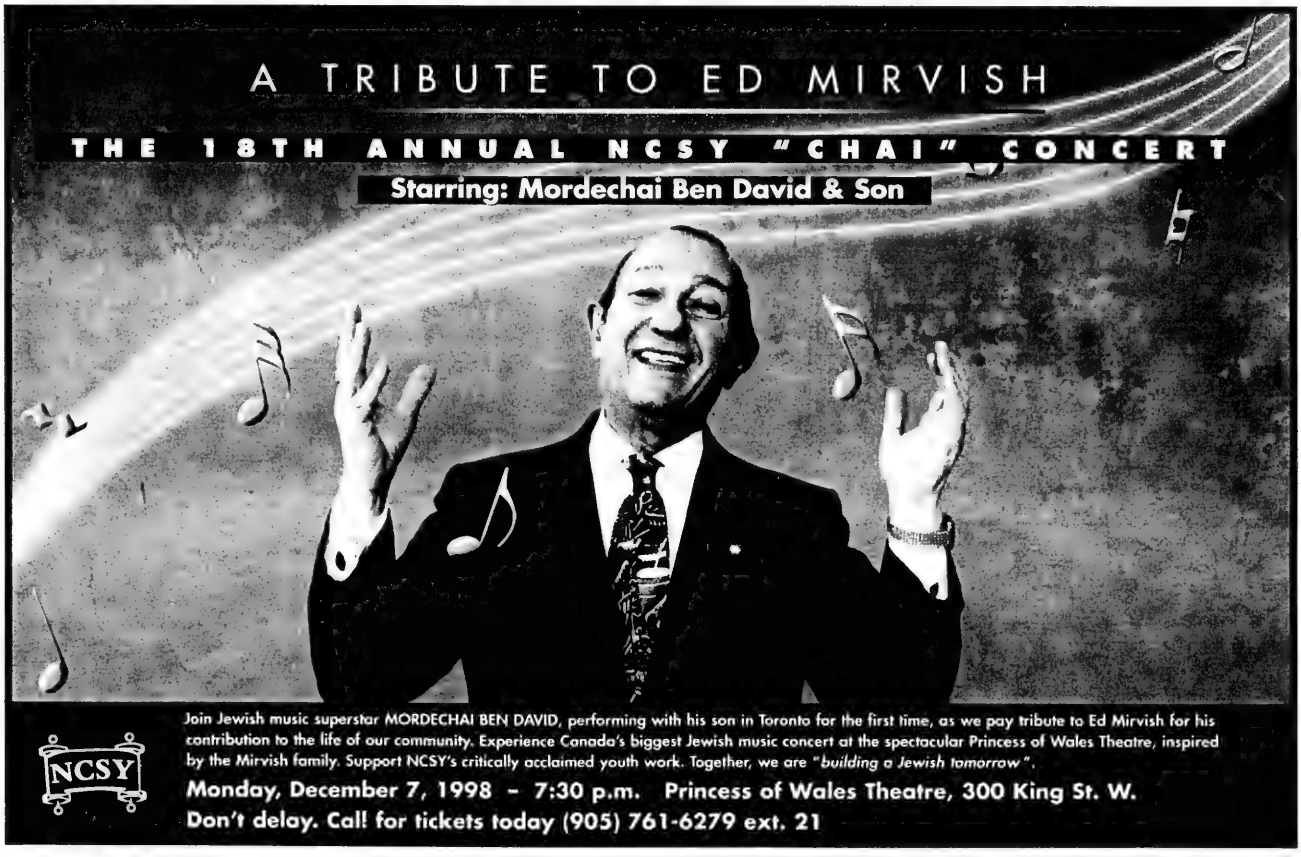
"I feel that volunteering does not necessarily have the cachet it had in the past and people don't feel a need to take responsibility. I think the Federation tries. It makes a real effort to build a cadre of leaders."

But he questioned whether the focus on "leadership" might not be turning off potential volunteers, who see it as too elitist.

"Perhaps we should not talk about leadership and instead talk about workers, volunteers. Those terms wouldn't turn people away or intimidate them.

"People don't see themselves as leaders but they might be happy to be a volunteer.

"I think the Federation does a great job, but I think there are other issues at play."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They try again

Islamic Jihad and Hamas rushed to claim credit for the attempted slaughter of as many pre-Shabbat shoppers as possible in the open air market of Machane Yehuda last Friday in Jerusalem. But whether by a miracle of God or by the bungling of the butchers, or both, Israel was spared yet another nightmare of mourning. The bombs did explode, wounding more than 20 passers-by, but they killed only the two men who had brought them.

These contemptible fanatics stoop ever lower. Last week, they aimed their murderous intent at the shoppers in Machane Yehuda. Three weeks ago, they targeted a busload of schoolchildren in Gush Katif. Moreover, there is no reason to believe they will stop. Indeed, as reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians inches closer, we know they will increase their attacks.

Their aim is to bring about the end of any possibility of peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Their method is to inflict mayhem and suffering on the people of Israel.

The government of Israel, however, refuses to let the fanatics achieve their aim. It is determined to find a path to peace. Thus, although it temporarily suspended the deliberations over the Wye accord, it did not abandon them. Nor will it abandon them unless it believes that Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority (PA) are indifferent to the attacks or, worse, somehow complicit in them. But Arafat is now a target of Hamas and Islamic Jihad also. They want him dead too, have said so publicly, and will do their best to see it done.

If we accept at face value the declarations about peace that Arafat made before the world at the Wye summit and the recommitments to peace he signed there, then Hamas and Islamic Jihad are no less his enemies than they are Israel's. He must therefore act accordingly and demonstrate his resolve to protect the peace process. That means he must strike at Hamas and Islamic Jihad at every turn and uproot them from the soil of Palestinian nationalism.

He must tell his people and, more importantly, show them that he stands unequivocally for peace with Israel, that the possibility of a better future lies only through accommodation with Israel rather than through conflict.

The nations of the world who wish for peace between Israelis and Palestinians, Canada included, must reinforce this important message to Arafat. They must also demonstrably stand alongside Israel and the PA in their struggle against Hamas and Islamic Jihad by reinforcing the flip side of that message to the extremist, violent fanatics that terror will never be tolerated.

Poignant red poppy

The Jewish people, perhaps more than most, understands the metaphysical gravity of *memory*. Memory that traverses time, that spans generations, is more than merely recalling something to mind, more than a momentary mental notation, more than simply not forgetting.

It is an imprint pressed deeply into the soul of a child. It helps to define the adult that the child is destined to become and the community to which he or she will belong.

All such memories have their symbols. When caught by the corner of the eye or contemplated in the silent recess of one's heart, they usually summon forth familiar images of that first memory.

The poignant red poppy is one of those symbols.

Small, floral, its jarring scarlet boldness evokes almost a century of memories embedded forever, through the travail of tears, into our western way of life.

Those memories are of grieving for the thousands of Canadian servicemen and women who died fighting in our wars.

Nov. 11 was Remembrance Day. When we saw the poppy, we remembered them, for their memories have surely been for blessing.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"And Abraham was old, had lived long, and God blessed him in every way." ***Parshat Chayei Sarah***

Dry Bones
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT WE AND THE PALESTINIANS
HAVE FINALLY AGREED ON A PATH THAT WE CAN FOLLOW TOGETHER.
THE BAD NEWS IS THAT EACH SIDE THINKS THAT THE ROAD...
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A simple way to solve millennium glitch

.Re: Y-2-K Puzzle

The much dreaded worldwide computer crash, anticipated on Jan. 1, 2000, can certainly and easily be avoided.

On Dec. 31, 1999, the whole world should simply begin using the Hebrew calendar. End of the problem.

David Marx
Toronto

20,000 Canadian Jews deserve homage on Nov. 11

Your Oct. 19 article "1948 War Vets To Be Honored" properly pays tribute to those young Canadians of the Machal whose Zionist commitment was matched by their readiness to shed their blood for a cause most Jews believed in deeply. Most were prepared to contribute monetarily but these men made by far the most selfless and meaningful contribution, men like Joe Warner, and the legendary Major Ben Dunkelman. Men who believed on two occasions, that if one didn't have principles – people and even countries so precious to them that they were worth dying for – their lives were without meaning. Their names must be revered for generations to come.

It is at this time of remembrance that we Jews must never forget those close to 20,000 young Canadian Jews who enlisted, and the hundreds who died, to defeat Hitler and his Nazi Germany. These were the true liberators without whom we would not have our treasured survivors. Because of them, and all who fought so nobly and successfully, our community, its synagogues, institutions and media should also join in our national day of remembrance, Nov. 11, which is too often unobserved by a community who should enshrine their names with pride and gratitude.

Barney Danson
Toronto

Israel didn't gain most in peace deal

After 50 years, the State of Israel is sharing, under the interim peace agreement, an area the size of an elongated postage stamp, with its former nemesis.

Consider the narrowness of the country and the danger of attacks carried by anti-Israeli militants from the West Bank and Gaza. When the local media, in their prejudicial enlightenment, can print in boldface types "Israel Comes Out Ahead" and "Israelis Gain Most" in the mideast interim peace accord, how can anyone consider the breakthrough as Israel's preferential deal!

Now parliamentary headliners in the Knesset and right-wing supporters solidly backed with disillusioned settlers are stirring up dangerous nationalistic sentiments and demands against the peace process.

Plagued with internal violence, Israelis are at a difficult impasse with themselves, but they must now be prepared to accept their closeness with the Palestinians in a friendlier and safer environment across international borders.

All the Israelis aspire to a secured and peaceful region, free from bombs and the spreading of vicious propaganda. Let's hope they can finally succeed!

Albert L. Stal
Toronto

Reviewer had the Singer brothers mixed

Re: Review of *Vagabond Stars* (*CJN*, Oct. 29).

Someone should inform the editors of Nahma Sandrow or the University of Syracuse Press or Sheldon Kirshner that *Yoshe Kalb* was written not by Isaac Bashevis Singer but by I.J. Singer, his older brother.

The reviewer seems quite miffed that Toronto is not mentioned in the book. Why should it be? What major performer hailed from here? It does have a small claim to fame; it is the only city where a new building was constructed for the sole purpose of housing the Yiddish theatre – the Standard Theatre which lasted until the depression struck.

Wolf Horowitz
Toronto

Health workers add to problem of aged

Re: "Our ageist society" by Rabbi Gunther Plaut (*CJN*, Sept. 17), calls attention to a serious problem of bias and discrimination. I would like to add that many members of the helping professions compound the problem.

How often do we hear nurses, social workers, physicians, psychologists, use such expressions as "the burden of your aging parents" and "you are the sandwich generation being squeezed." Framing the caring of one's parents in such negative language takes away their dignity, and places older people in a category of "the problem."

Etta Ginsberg McEwan
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Letter to a Palestinian friend

By AMNON RUBINSTEIN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

I thought about you after the terrorist attack in Gush Katif in which we lost a soldier, and were spared the deaths of school children. I remembered your courage in coming to the funeral of an Israeli who had been murdered by Hamas. And I know that in your heart you have but one big wish: to put an end to the murder and the bloodletting.

But I thought to myself what would happen to you and me, your people and mine, if God forbid, the Hamas murderers had succeeded, and the broken bodies of our children were strewn before us in that intersection?

After all, everyone knows that the fate of this peace process, which began in Oslo, still hangs by a thread. Hamas can rip it apart at any moment. Hamas and the Islamic Jihad are a powerful factor. They "vote" in the Israeli elections; they brought the downfall of the Labor-Meretz government.

Although it has already been said many times before, the truth is that without a fight to the finish against terrorism and its infrastructure – a consistent war that does not wax or wane with the seasons or the governments – peace between the two peoples is impossible.

No government would be able to survive, should you attempt to disregard this simple fact. But that's not why I'm writing to you. The issue runs much deeper than that. The time has come for the Palestinian leadership and educated classes – yes, now – to consider Israel, its peace-seeking residents and the permanent settlement.

The prime minister made a decision that was painful and difficult for him; much more difficult for him than for us. He had to abandon an idea on which he was raised from earliest childhood, that the entire greater land of Israel exclusively belongs to the Jewish people.

True, this difficulty also exists among you and your friends. You were raised to believe in a greater Palestine, and you clung to that idea even when the idea was wholly implausible.

It isn't easy for Arafat to listen to the condemnations of the rejectionist Arab camp and the curses of Ali Hamani and Hassan Nasrallah, just as it isn't easy for [Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu to hear yesterday's allies threatening him with electoral ostracism.

But the symmetry ends there. There is a large majority in Israel, spearheaded by the intelligentsia, which is prepared to pay a heavy price for peace with the Palestinians and the Arab world.

Most of the Israeli media supports Palestinian issues, stressing their distressful condition and welcoming anything that looks or feels like a step in the direction of peace. If only we could see a similar situation on the other side.

If only people like you would raise their voices in courage. How can educated people not join us in common struggle? How is it that your voice is silenced, in the best case, or joins the chorus of the rejectionists, in the worst – and more prevalent – case?

How can the Egyptian intelligentsia become the mouthpiece for extremist rejectionism?

How can anyone give an interview, as Hanan Ashrawi did to the BBC, without expressing even the slightest word of praise for what the Likud government did? Or without even mentioning, even in passing, the immense public support in Israel – 75 percent – for the Wye Agreement? We hear Ahmed Tibi, another friend, stating that "we will not be satisfied with anything less than a Palestinian state in the '67 borders."

One hundred percent sovereignty, he says, will give one hundred percent security to Israel .

I do not believe there is, or will be, a government in Israel that would agree to this plan, to which [I] would also be opposed. There is no way to base a permanent settlement on this plan, and Dr. Tibi knows that.

The Beilin-Abu Mazen agreement indicated that there is readiness among the Palestinians for compromise. But on what basis can we determine that one hundred percent Palestinian sovereignty will give us one hundred percent security? Where are there any signs to prove that?

We are on the brink of fateful decisions that will affect the two peoples and the entire Middle East. The courage of Yitzhak Rabin and his government paved the path out of perpetual war. Most of the public has been persuaded to take this path. The Likud and its leader have abandoned the route heading in the other direction.

These are historic times that need the leaders and educated class on the other side. The chance for peace also depends on you; by what you do and what you don't do, by what you say and what you don't say.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai surveys the scene of the terrorist attack in Gush Katif. [RNS/Reuters photo]

The wreckage of the army vehicle driven by Alexei Neykov who lost his life in Gush Katif saving the children on the schoolbus. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Hamas tried again. A car bomb exploded in Machane Yehuda in Jerusalem last week before Shabbat. The two bombers were killed but more than 20 people were injured. Please see our coverage elsewhere in the paper.

Amnon Rubinstein

Opinions

The battle for the centre

The most significant element in the Wye agreement is not contained in the many clauses of the written document, but rather in its impact on Israeli politics, and specifically, in Benjamin Netanyahu's divorce from the ideological right. The split between the ideological and the political right is now clear, and its implications are far-reaching and long-term.

Shira Herzog in Toronto

Wye occurred against the backdrop of an already discernable trend, which has been described as a "centrization" of the Israeli political map. Five years of dialogue with the PLO – as difficult as it may be – have blunted the edges on both left and right. Over this period of time, the division between left and right on the peace issue has become less acute, and a majority of Israelis has remained supportive of the peace process throughout.

While in 1996, the right and the centre elected Netanyahu, his coalition has been dependent on the nationalist National Religious Party and the ultra-Orthodox – but more politically moderate – Shas. This has given the opponents of Oslo a pivotal position in the government and Knesset, and has made Netanyahu vulnerable to their threat to topple his government.

Recently, however, through the Wye agreement, Netanyahu's acquiescence to the inevitability of the process – as reluctant as it may be – has marginalized the opposition to the process from the right. The agreement is supported by close to 80 percent of the Israeli public, and 105 out of 120 Knesset members. Along with other significant players in Israeli politics, like Labor leader Ehud Barak, outgoing Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo, and Likud MK Dan Meridor, Netanyahu is now playing to the Israeli centre. That is the new, critical battlefield in the country's politics.

Last week's memorial services marking the third anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination reflected this trend. Labor and "peace" leaders have traditionally addressed the public assembly commemorating the event. This year, two of the speakers were Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, a key figure in the Netanyahu cabinet and a supporter of the Oslo process, and former foreign affairs minister David Levy, who had supported the process while in the Netanyahu government.

Back in the Knesset, the political turmoil continues. The open question is whether Netanyahu will seek early elections to protect himself from the stranglehold threatened by the right. By appealing to the people in the next 69 days, he can take advantage of the goodwill in the centre, and Labor's "security blanket" in the Knesset. However, to do so on his own, he requires the agreement of President Ezer Weizman, who is not a fan of the prime minister.

In the meantime, a bill calling for a Knesset vote for early elections, first sponsored by Labor MKs a few months ago, is slowly making its way through the legislative process. Ironically, in the wake of Wye, it is now supported by some of the agreement's opponents on the right, who want to challenge Netanyahu in the polls. At the same time, a number of Arab MKs, who had earlier supported the bill, are now arguing that Netanyahu deserves a chance to deliver on Wye.

Two other initiatives are complicating the situation even further. A private member's bill calling for a return to the old, single-vote system by which the Knesset votes the leader of the largest party as prime minister, rather than the direct election system that brought Netanyahu to power, is also in the mix. In addition, there is a move to raise the threshold of representation in the Knesset from 1.5 percent of the popular vote to a higher number.

Both of these stem from a concern that the next Knesset will be even more fragmented than the current one, thereby exacerbating the "sectorization" of Israeli politics. If the existing system remains in place, Labor and Likud are unlikely to get more than 45 seats altogether in the next election. (Two votes have allowed voters to vote for a prime ministerial candidate, and then give their Knesset vote to a party of their choice. As a result, the traditionally smaller parties gained significant strength in the last election.)

If it all seems extremely confusing, that's because it is. Most political observers say that Israeli politics have never been as fluid and unpredictable. The uncertainty reflects a deeper process of realignment that is shifting the sands and has not yet created the landscape of new politics for the next decade. The old divide between Labor and Likud is no longer relevant, and the mainstreams of the two parties have more in common in policies, if not in political culture, than what divides them. That is why the centre is the arena to observe in the coming months and years.

From public to private Judaism

Jewish identity has for some time been conceived in linear terms, with clearly defined poles that distinguish "greater" from "lesser" levels.

Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

We can allegedly measure it, and more is better than less. This has certainly been the guiding assumption of most quantitative social scientific research on Jewish identity in North America. It also underlies much of the thinking about the continuity crisis facing contemporary Jewry.

American professors Steven Cohen and Arnold Eisen have completed a small scale study which serves to challenge those assumptions. Their work, sponsored by the Wilstein Institute, is based on roughly 50 in-depth interviews with "moderately affiliated" American Jews. These were Jews who were not assimilated, mainly Reform and Conservative, had a range of Jewish backgrounds, and in general identified positively with being Jewish. As often happens with qualitative research, the study yields conclusions that differ from those of large scale survey research.

The central finding of Cohen and Eisen is that the meaning of Jewishness has shifted from the public to the private realm. In some ways, this reinforces a dominant trait of liberal individualism within American society. These Jews were finding their own paths to and definitions of a meaningful Jewish identity, but in a way that did not yield a linear journey. They did not want to conform to pre-set limits and boundaries. This same tendency has been noted in recent studies of American religion generally.

From the study, it is difficult to generalize about causal factors which promote identity. Indeed, the blurring of the subjective and objective leads to an almost post-modern conception of Judaism. Jewishness is what they felt it to be. Is any of this new? Jews recall the saying that "every Jew makes their own Sabbath." (Yet at least there was a consensus on the need to make a Sabbath…)

Cohen and Eisen list several "obstacles to involvement" that their subjects recounted. The list negates every previous study of Jewish identity. The negative influences are parents; Hebrew school; rabbis and congregations; UJA, federations, and Jewish organizations; and Israel. The respondents reported on various biographical episodes in which these factors may have turned them off at some point from Jewish life – though obviously not fully, since they remained committed Jews.

What is going on here? Take the issue of Jewish education. Every study has found that more Jewish education is associated with higher measures of subsequent Jewish identity, though the precise nature of the relationship can vary.

Yet the authors report that "Hebrew school was consistently named, even by high end respondents, as a negative feature of their childhood experience."

How can both be true? Simple. The qualitative and quantitative findings are not contradictory. I propose the "spinach theory" as an explanation. Most people might have negative childhood memories of being forced to eat spinach, along with other fruits or vegetables, when they preferred candy. But years later, those who had eaten the better diet might well be objectively healthier as adults.

The challenge facing Jewish planners and formal and informal educators is to come up with a delicious spinach candy.

Or consider that one of the respondents' "stimuli" to Jewish involvement is dating and breaking up with a non-Jew. Yet surveys have found that dating non-Jews is highly correlated with mixed marriage and assimilation. Again, both may be true. Cohen and Eisen did not interview Jews who dated and then married non-Jews.

But leaving aside methodological issues, their interviews do raise a difficult question. If it is true that Jews will increasingly seek fulfilment within their private spheres and in their families, what does this mean for the profoundly communal and organizational character of Jewish life? It is no accident that Jews need a minyan in order to pray. Even the pluralism which many of us value within the Jewish experience has usually been associated with corresponding organizations and social movements of substantial size.

Canadian Jews as yet do not share the same degree of detachment from their formal organizations as do Americans. But a trend towards ever smaller units of Jewish life – if it materializes – will pose challenges for future notions of Jewish community.

More on Josef Burg

A Torontonian, Frederick Rose, who is a regular reader of *The Canadian News* and often comments on my columns, wrote me the following concerning a recent article on Josef Burg. (Burg was for many years a member, not only of the Knesset, but also of the Israeli government under a variety of prime ministers, and was truly a survivor until he voluntarily retired from politics. His son, Avraham, is the head of the Jewish Agency.)

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Rose remembers Josef Burg from his school days in Leipzig, where Burg was his teacher, and comments: "I am probably his only surviving pupil in Toronto."

He made available to me an address that Burg gave in Berlin some three years ago on the occasion of VE Day – the end of World War II in Europe, in 1945.

Burg talked first about Israel and its endangered situation: "We choose to live now in the shadow of an ABC-War. A stands for atom bombs, B for bacteriological warfare, and C for chemical attack, but we Jews had already had an ABC experience: A for Auschwitz, B for Birkenau, Bergen-Belsen and Buchenwald, and C for Chelmno, all the way to W for Westerburg and Z for Ziklongas [German for cyclon gas]." After a review of Jewish life in Germany, he turned to the necessity for Jews and Germans to come together rather than stay apart, and quoted German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, who said: "Let us build bridges for the future."

Burg continued: "This new dialogue is possible through mutual understanding. We should think and feel together, as Goethe said in 1807: "Germans, like Jews, may be oppressed from time to time, but they cannot be extinguished. They will not lose their courage and remain strong even if it were their fate not to have a homeland." (This remarkable saying by the German poet referred to the fact that, in 1807, the existence of Germany itself was in danger of being shattered by the French, and of course the Jews had not yet been threatened by a holocaust.)

Burg closed his address in the following manner: "About half of all Jews in the world live today in Israel. We are free citizens in a true democracy on our historic soil. The new Israel can, may and must take up the dialogue with Germany once again. The horrors of the past must not suppress the hope for the future. Let us take as an example the ner tamid, the eternal light, that in every synagogue reminds us of the Temple in Jerusalem. The ner tamid which had been placed in 1866 in the 'New Synagogue' [which has since been partially rebuilt by the city of Berlin] had been found in 1989 in the synagogue's ruins.

"That light displaced darkness – may this be the motto for this place and may we remember what the first chief rabbi of Israel once said: 'The old may renew itself and may the new become sanctified.'" (He referred to Rabbi Abraham Kook.)

It is my hope that Burg will someday soon return to Canada. We can all learn, not only from his rich background, but also from his compassion, intelligence and all-encompassing tolerance.

The Kirshner File

Jewish philosopher, literary critic fascinates Germans

Virtually unknown outside Germany when he died in 1940, Walter Benjamin is a cult figure today. A philosopher and a literary critic, his interests ranged far and wide.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Whether he was writing on German drama, French literature, art history or modern film, Benjamin brought to bear on his essays a rigor of intellect and a depth of knowledge.

Like many German Jews whose lives were shattered by Nazism, Benjamin has been claimed by Germany as one of its own. In July 1992, Germany marked the hundredth anniversary of his birth with an abundance of events running the gamut from scholarly congresses to radio and television programs.

The fascination with Benjamin remains unabated. Last month, in Toronto, the Goethe-Institut, an organization dedicated to promoting German culture and language, sponsored a two-day symposium on Benjamin.

There was a metaphorical Spanish film about his last tragic days entitled *The Last Frontier*, a stylized documentary by Manuel Cusso-Ferrer which established his position at the intersection of various scholarly disciplines and literary forms.

There was a talk by Michael Jennings, a Princeton University professor of Germanic languages and literature who introduced a new, three-volume English edition of his writings called *Walter Benjamin, Collected Works* (Harvard University Press). Jennings, the general editor, spoke of the difficulties in translating Benjamin's imagistic style into English, noting that previous translations had been erratic.

There was a photographic exhibition both documenting his life and depicting the memorial to him created by Israeli artist Dani Karavan in Port Bou, Spain. The exhibition, which ends on Dec. 12, shows the sombre Benjamin from boyhood to adulthood.

There was, finally, a conference in which several speakers, experts in their respective fields, reflected upon his contributions. Among them were Dieter Hassenpflug of Bauhaus University in Weimar and Rebecca Comay of the University of Toronto.

Benjamin, whose fate was a paradigm of the persecution of Jews by Germany, was born in Berlin, the son of a wealthy art dealer. He studied in Berlin, Munich and Bern. Upon the completion of his formal studies in 1920, he returned to Germany. Until 1933, when he finally

Walter Benjamin

emigrated, Benjamin wrote mainly for the *Frankfurter Zeitung* and the *Literarische Welt*. His declared intention was "to be recognized as the most important German literary critic."

After Adolf Hitler's appointment as chancellor, Benjamin considered the idea of going to Palestine. His friend, Gershom Scholem, a librarian at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, promised to try to find him a job there as a lecturer in Jewish mysticism if he learned Hebrew.

Benjamin, though a Marxist, was intensely Jewish. But he was definitely not a Zionist.

Settling in Paris, he resumed his activity as a translator of Proust and Baudelaire. And under the pseudonyms of Detlef Holz and K.A. Stempflinger, he continued publishing articles in the *Frankfurter Zeitung*.

In June 1940, with France occupied by the German army, Benjamin caught the last train leaving Paris. From Lourdes, he travelled to Marseilles. From there, he joined a group of German-Jewish refugees bound for neutral territory in Port Bou, Spain. Much to his horror, the official stamp that would have legalized his departure from Vichy France was withheld from him. In a fit of despair, he committed suicide in Port Bou.

The body was interred in a local cemetery, but when the five-year-lease bought by a friend expired, his remains were placed in a common grave. The contrast between his ignominious death and his present fame is nothing less than astonishing.

The scent of fascism

L'Oreal, with annual sales of seven billion dollars (US), is the world's largest cosmetics company. Besides its own products, it owns such famous trademarks as Lancome, Lanvin, Guy Laroche, Georgio Armani and Ralph Lauren.

As a matter of course, firms like L'Oreal spend untold millions buffing their corporate image. But nine years ago, L'Oreal, based in France, found itself embroiled in an international scandal which irretrievably tarnished its name. The scandal turned on L'Oreal's compliance with the Arab economic boycott of Israel and the Nazi past of two of its principals.

As Michael Bar-Zohar states in *Bitter Scent* (Dutton), the genesis of the affair goes back to a board of directors meeting in 1989, during which one of its members, Jean Frydman, a Jew with close connections to Israel,was shocked to learn that he was being asked to resign.

Frydman, who had an interest in a Helena Rubinstein plant in Israel, refused. Several days later, he discovered that the board had announced his resignation at a meeting that had never even taken place. Frydman was told that his ouster had been engineered by Jacques Correze, the president of L'Oreal's affiliate in New York and the person responsible for its negotiations with the Arab Boycott Bureau in Damascus.

Never having heard of Correze, Frydman set out to learn about him. In investigating his background, Frydman, a Polish Jew whose family had settled in France in 1938, stumbled upon information about L'Oreal's founder, Eugene Schueller, which made his skin crawl. *Bitter Scent*, which often reads like a thriller, reveals the sordid details.

Schueller, a Parisian of Alsatian origins, invented a hair dye in 1910 which he dubbed L'Oreal. As his fortune grew, he turned reactionary and anti-Semitic. He was drawn to far-right extremist circles, including La Cagoule, which plotted against the government and carried out political assassinations in the 1930s.

When France was conquered by Germany in 1940, La Cagoule broke into three groups. The first swore allegiance to Charles de Gaulle's government-in-exile in London. The second sided with the Vichy regime. The third collaborated directly with the Germans.

Correze was a member of that fanatical faction. Its platform called for "the exclusion of the Jews from the life and the economy of France..." In September 1941, Correze went one step further and joined the Wehrmacht as a volunteer.

Following the war, Correze was arrested and imprisoned. In 1950, after serving only two years, he was released. Shortly afterward, Schueller gave him a job at L'Oreal. Correze rose in the ranks, and became good friends with Helena Rubinstein, from whom he concealed his past. L'Oreal eventually bought her company, and Correze was appointed its president.

When the Arab League, in 1989, decided to boycott L'Oreal over its ties with Helena Rubinstein, Correze took charge of the file. Bar-Zohar, an Israeli writer who was once a member of the Knesset, describes at length the convoluted talks between L'Oreal and the Arab Boycott Bureau.

The plot thickened in 1990 when Frydman, a resident of Israel since 1981, sued L'Oreal. Subsequently, several French Jewish organizations filed class action suits against L'Oreal for violating France's anti-boycott laws, enacted in 1981 under the administration of President Francois Mitterrand (who had a long and enduring friendship with Francois Dalle, L'Oreal's president).

The story, competently told by Bar-Zohar, does not end there. Indeed, the denouement is more surprising than one might assume.

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The truth of existence

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

I once saw an interviewer ask Woody Allen, "What do you have faith in?" He paused, and then said, "I have faith in the power of distraction." Nor is he alone.

Our culture's frantic search for amusement reflects an intense need to avoid coming to terms with our uncomfortable suspicion that nothing really adds up, that life may in the end be "lost" or "trivial" or "random." We'd rather not gaze at that picture – who would? – but we're also unsure and unclear about how and where to search for meaning. Distraction is what is left us, a twilight zone in between emptiness and the search for spiritual authenticity.

With this in mind, I introduced my students to a fantasy constructed by the American philosopher, Robert Nozick, called The Experience Machine. What if a person could preprogram their life before entering a kind of tank? Inside the tank they would then experience whatever they wanted with whomever they wanted – swashbuckling adventure, passionate romance, colorful travel. It would feel to the person as if it were totally real; they would not even be aware of the fact that they were enacting a complete illusion, spending their life within a machine.

This is more than simply an amusing philosophical diversion. The issue of whether a person prefers pleasant illusion to the often more complex and inevitably more painful fate of real life is one that arises repeatedly for all of us. For example, if you could have a marriage where your spouse continuously cheated on you, but you did not know and you were very happy otherwise, would you wish that illusion to carry on forever, or would you want to know the painful truth, even if it shattered your life?

This very question faces the narrator of Ford Madox Ford's novel, *The Good Soldier*, who finally discovers that for many years his wife has been having an adulterous affair with his best friend. The narrator's world is in tatters; the "happiness" that he has enjoyed for nearly a decade has come crashing down.

Here is his poignant question: "If for nine years I have possessed a goodly apple that is rotten at the core and discovered its rottenness only in nine years and six months less four days, isn't it true to say that for nine years I possessed a goodly apple?"

If we live a lie, but we are content within that lie, does it matter? Isn't that a good life?

Not quite. Although a number of my students were tempted by Nozick's experiment, almost no one wanted to be betrayed, regardless of the fact that I stipulated that they would be content in their ignorance. They overwhelmingly voted to "know the truth," despite the obvious feelings of loss and fragmentation that would ensue. Notwithstanding our all too easy capacity for illusion and our claims that we just want to be happy at all costs, there is still a strangely powerful instinct for truth in human beings. To live as if distraction is all that is required is to tacitly admit that life is something to be averted.

Judaism believes that we all have a responsibility to seek out – not necessarily to obtain – the truth of existence. When we are children, honesty comes a lot more naturally than it does in later years; it is part of the spiritual reawakening of adult life to return to truth as a way of discovering what it really means to be human and alive.

Women and the Torah

Books
Bernard Baskin

ReVisions, Seeing Torah Through a Feminist Lens. **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein (Key Porter Books, $29.95)**

Over the past two or three decades, Jewish women have made giant strides in achieving equality with men in synagogue and communal life.

In an increasing number of synagogues, women rabbis and cantors preside. Women are called to the Torah and are counted in the minyan. It is no novelty to have women chosen for high congregational positions, including president. The bat mitzvah ceremony is now well established and infant girls are welcomed by family and friends in a ritual modeled after the brit milah. Mahalot (women ritual circumcisers) now look for business and the Reform prayer books and Haggadah have been rendered gender free.

Is this enough? No, contends Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel, a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. She writes, "For my purposes, egalitarianism is not enough. Egalitarianism does not yet balance the predominance of male images, male perspectives, male views of the world... Egalitarianism does not insist upon women's voices as women being heard; women's perspectives as women being sought; women's experiences as women being recorded."

Do women interpret the text of the Torah differently from men? Yes, asserts the author. They ask different questions and bring different answers. And she brings her own female perceptions to familiar biblical accounts of Eve and the snake, the matriarchs and the women of the Exodus story.

The midrash teaches – although the author doesn't mention the idea – that the Torah was transmitted to women first; and that women did not participate in the worship of the golden calf or in the evil report of the 12 spies, sins that were to prevent the children of Israel from entering Eretz Yisrael.

The author suggests a special prayer and ritual for menstruation. "Menstrual blood is women's covenantal blood, just as brit milah, circumcision, is men's. Women indeed have a brit inscribed in their flesh as an everlasting covenant. Women's covenant of blood is not just once, at eight days, but every month. We are 'initiated' when we begin to bleed."

Another of the author's basic concerns is to visit the mikvah at the beginning of each month, "when the moon and the sea and women's cycles become one."

She writes: "I go to the mikvah each month, not so I may be 'kosher' for my husband – I'm no chicken product – but as a woman bidding farewell to a regular part of myself. I am a woman who needs some way to existentially experience and then bless special moments."

Based on her rabbinical experience she feels that the mikvah can be a helpful adjunct to the healing process for women who are undergoing severe life changes or who are suffering from psychological malaise.

A portion of this challenging work deals with the idea of the goddess, her place in primitive Judaism, and how she can be restored to the faith meaningfully for women in our time.

This idea is bound to meet with strong resistance. Rabbi Goldstein argues that although the notion of the goddess is tied to pagan worship, it "provides a welcome relief from dominant patriarchal images of mainstream Judaism."

Certainly, the idea of the God of Israel must be complex and multifaceted enough to include all the components that went into the making of human beings – male and female.

The "rediscovered" Shchinah is an authentic Jewish symbol of the female qualities of God that has been used by women through the generations in connection with prayer and ritual. It can be merged, she insists, with the old goddess imagery and a staunch monotheism in a new and fruitful synthesis.

Involved in a balancing act, she wonders, "How do we straddle the fence... with one foot in the feminist camp and one foot in the Jewish camp; one foot in modernity and the other foot in tradition."

ReVisions is rich, feisty, closely reasoned and deeply felt. It should be read with a mind receptive to challenging provocative and unexpected ideas.

Rabbinic Reflections

People of the book

By RABBI JOSEPH KELMAN

Amidst all the other earth shattering news that fills up newspapers and concerns the media, there always seems to be a story about the moment of the millennium.

While there is danger that computer breakdown may possibly cause havoc and even destruction of property and lives, certainly in the last decade or two, the computer has had a powerful impact upon every area of life. This includes education, transportation, business enterprise and, most of all, communication in all its manifestations.

While for many people communication technology has enhanced knowledge and been of great aid in the learning process, there are many scholars who are afraid that some will see it as replacing the reading and study of books as the key to attaining knowledge and developing right values in life.

I am writing this just before the Jewish Book Fair in Toronto begins, and by the time you see the article in print, the book fair will hopefully have attracted thousands of Jews, young and old.

One of the major purposes of Jewish Book Month is to remind us of the fundamental role that Jewish books have played in the creation and development of the Jewish people. Furthermore, with all the changes in our way of life, Jewish people must still continue to use and study books each and every day.

Obviously we begin with the prayer book, but we must continue with the study of Torah by children and adults. This begins with the weekly study of the Torah portion, and at different stages of our lives, it continues with the study of the Mishnah, the Talmud, Jewish history and the many books teaching the high ethical and moral standards that Judaism must continue to implant in Jewish families.

By coincidence, as I was completing this article, I found an interesting report in the *Globe and Mail* (Nov. 2). It quoted the speech made at York University by Umberto Eco. The renowned Italian writer said journalists always ask him whether new interactive technology will kill the book, the author or even literature. He responds that "if books are respected, they can provide us with wisdom."

There is no question that with all our concerns about the rising rate of intermarriage and the apathy and indifference of the majority of our young people in colleges and universities about the Jewish component in their lives, there are many positive features. There are considerably more young and old people starting to study Talmud and other Jewish books than ever before in Jewish history. The number even surpasses the period of Jewish history in eastern Europe that was filled with religious intensity and committed observance.

I trust that the book fairs in North America and the celebration of Jewish Book Month will be a positive reminder of the tremendous benefit that every member of the Jewish family can receive by reading or studying a Jewish book every day. I have no doubt that the Internet and the computer, which have also spread Jewish knowledge, can also serve as an inspiration to people to study further on their own, attend various classes and have a Jewish book in their hand each and every day.

The Jewish people were the first ones to have a high standard of literacy. May we continue to live up to our name, *am hasefer*, the people of the book.

Rabbi Kelman is the rabbi emeritus at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue in Toronto.

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The Jewish Highway

A brit milah roundup

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today, I wrap up my look at the brit milah on the Jewish Highway with some advice for including siblings at the ceremony; a place where you can share your thoughts about the procedure; and a brief survey of the way brit milah has been portrayed on television.

Rabbi Mark Cooper provides some thoughtful advice about including siblings in their new brother's brit ceremony **[http://www.exit109.com/~mohel/siblings.htm]**. "Keep in mind that the birth of a new baby is often a difficult time for a toddler...Little children can be included in the brit milah ceremony in a number of ways.

You might have your older child/ren help bring the baby into the room by walking alongside the adults who receive this honor. You could also write a simple prayer or statement that your child could read or say, such as, "I am happy to have a new baby brother. I will help him learn and grow and I will play with him."

Over at the Liberal Jewish Category Index, people can share their opinions in lively discussions about brit milah **[http://silk.compclass.com/mlj/category/c7.html]**. When I checked, there were dialogues about such topics as Brit milah and the Reform movement, and Circumcision, anti-circumcision, anti-Semitism. But my favorite discussion focussed on a recent episode of *ER* in which a non-Jewish patient agrees to undergo a medical circumcision to appease his Jewish girlfriend. A typical comment: "I felt personally offended and insulted, and I suspect that others of us who are either on the road towards or have taken the path of a sincere, serious conversion to Judaism, and an adoption of the Jewish people, felt the same way. I mean, to have conversion to Judaism portrayed in this way on one of, if not the, most popular shows on television? Good grief!" **[http://silk.compclass.com/mlj/subject/s2796.html]**

Good grief, indeed. Although the brit milah is a pillar of Judaism, its treatment in western culture is much more uncertain. When you do a search of brit milah on the Internet, in addition to the numerous Judaic sites, you are struck by the number of television series that have used the brit as a gimmicky plot device.

In an episode of *Seinfeld*, Jerry, George and gang find themselves, reluctantly, at a brit, with Jerry holding the baby **[http://www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Theater/3205/seinbris.htm]**. In an episode of *thirtysomething* called "Prelude to a Bris," an intermarried couple grapples whether to go ahead with the procedure **[http://www.arches.uga.edu/~lasteven/30s4ep/bris.html]**. Brit themes have also been used on *Cheers* **[http://www.tardis.ed.ac.uk/~dave/guides/Cheers/8.8.html]** and more recently on *South Park* **[http://www.kettering.edu/~kubi0461/episodes.html]**. Skip these links if you are interested in the traditional Jewish take on brit milah.

However, one TV brit milah stands out mainly because it was funny, ridiculous and inoffensive, at least to me. About 20 years ago, there was a television advertisement for a luxury automobile. To prove the car's superior ride, they had a diamond cutter go about his work in the back seat. He studies his subject, takes a swing and exclaims "Perfect!" So, along comes *Saturday Night Live* with their parody. But instead of a diamond cutter, they placed a mohel in the car **[http://ccwf.cc.utexas.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/serpas/snlsrch.cgi?77h]**. The "mohel" studies his subject, takes a swing and exclaims "Perfect!" And it was.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at {mdm@inforamp.net}.

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Kristallnacht remembered

That fateful night in '38

By HANNA TENNENHAUS

Guest Voices

That fateful night, Nov. 9, 1938, I studied late. After finishing my homework, I took a piece of paper from a notebook, wrote *Ich hasse Hitler* (I hate Hitler), then quickly burned it in the dying embers remaining in the red tiled stove and went to bed.

At 2 a.m. there was a great commotion in the street. "*Juden raus, Juden raus*" (Jews out, Jews out) went the awful shouts. Our bell rang incessantly. My mother, in a long white nightgown, went from room to room in great agitation, while my father prayed silently.

Finally, I opened the door to our apartment. The front door had already been opened by the depufy mayor of our town, who lived on the second floor and was obviously aware of all the horrors to follow.

In front of me stood three machine-gun toting SA men, who told us to get dressed quickly and come with them. I was not quite 15, my anger was greater than my fear, and I told those thugs, "You'll have to wait while I brush my teeth."

They obeyed, dumfounded by my defiance, which could have cost me my life.

We crossed the park, small but lovely, where I had spent many happy hours playing or reading, and we were led to a large square where the whole Jewish community was being herded together.

Mrs. Einstein, our paralyzed neighbor in her 80s, was dragged there, suffering shock and numerous bruises as a consequence. The square was surrounded by armed Nazis. Someone asked to go to the bathroom and was scornfully told: "Jews don't need that!"

Men, women and children were ordered to stand apart. Not wanting to leave my trembling mother, I disobeyed.

Our usually awe-inspiring principal and physics teacher arrived in pyjamas with his family, including twin baby girls in a carriage.

The November night was exceptionally cold. We were standing there shivering and dazed, in shock and fear.

Suddenly the sky turned pink

Suddenly, the sky turned pink. The synagogues, not far away, were burning, together with the community centre, the library and and the mikvah. Some people were screaming, "They are going to burn us alive!"

Around 7 a.m. they led us through the streets to a hall once donated by a Jewish philanthropist. We were jeered by emerging townspeople. Then the women and children were sent home, the men incarcerated in the hall. Some beatings and sadism took place, but none of the fathers ever spoke about it.

A few hours after the release of the women and children, a neighbor came to our apartment asking me to accompany her to the hall to give her imprisoned husband his heart medicine. When we arrived there, an armed Nazi guard sneeringly told the poor lady: "Your husband won't need his pills. We are going to burn you all, together with your swinish Torah scrolls."

Soon after we arrived home, the bell rang once again: more armed Brown Shirts looking for men. I trembled for two hours. Later in the day, news spread that we could bring food to our captive men. I hardboiled two eggs, added some bread and set out once more into the hostile streets.

A solitary figure was walking towards me – it was my father, who was the only man released. The others would be sent to the Dachau concentration camp.

To this day I remember the incredible joy I felt, comparable only to my overflowing gratitude when my brother Joseph came home from Dachau, eight long weeks later.

Meanwhile I had witnessed the disintegration of my home and school life, the premature end to my childhood and the decimation of my ancient community.

I was sent to England with the Kindertransport; my brother and sister also escaped to England. Sadly, my parents with 900 others from our community (almost half) perished in concentration camps. May their martyrdom never be forgotten.

Hanna Tennenhaus lives in Montreal.

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MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13-19/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	4:40 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	6:15 & 7:30 AM	Mon.-Wed. Maariv 8:45 PM
Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	4:40 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	7:45 AM	4:30 PM
Darchei Noam (Rec.)	15 Hove St. (416) 638-4783	----------	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:40 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	50 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	6:00 PM
Sephardic Kehilla Centre (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:20 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 & 8:00 AM	4:35 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	4:45 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	4:45 PM
Solel Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	Tuesday 7:00 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

Community Matters

Ottawa Fly-In

Face to Face on Parliament Hill

A large UJA Federation delegation took Jewish concerns directly to our country's capital last week.

More than 50 UJA Federation Ottawa Fly-In participants kept a quick-pace from dawn till dusk as they met political leaders, diplomats, members of parliament and journalists to discuss a range of current issues, such as homelessness, national unity, foreign policy and government action on bringing Nazi war criminals to justice.

Members of UJA Federation's Corporate Partners Program were up at the crack of dawn to join Ottawa Fly-In participants. (l-r) John Hutchinson, Senior Manager, Deputy Real Estate, Royal Bank; Angie Lopes, Account Manager, Royal Bank; Lorri Kushnir, Chair, Partners; Anne Fox, Account Executive, Accord Communications Inc.; and Jeff Carney, Senior VP, TD Bank.

Former Liberal MP Barry Campbell, who accompanied the group, which included university students and UJA Federation corporate sponsors, added an experienced perspective to presentations by Reform Party Whip Chuck Strahl, NDP leader Alexa McDonough and Bloc Quebecois member Pierre De Savoye.

Highlights of the mission included private luncheon sessions with MPs Elinor Caplan, Carolyn Bennett, Joe Volpe and Defence Minister Art Eggleton - who welcomed the opportunity to be "reminded where UJA Federation dollars go" - and a visit to the Treasures of Egypt exhibit at the National Museum of Civilization.

There, Israeli Deputy Ambassador Chen Ivri and Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Hamdy Nada expressed their governments' support for the re-invigorated peace-process.

The group ended the day at a dinner with guest speaker Jim Peterson, Secretary of State for Financial Institutions.

"I feel privileged to have been part of such a meaningful expression of communal commitment," noted John Hutchinson of the Royal Bank, one of UJA Federation's Corporate Partners. "We have certainly made an impact."

"It's wonderful to be able to devote an entire day to important issues affecting our future as a community as well as those affecting all Canadians," said Rick Orzy, who co-chaired the 1998 Ottawa Fly-In with Jill Reitman.

Fly-In participants pose for a photo on the Hill before attending Question period.

UJA Federation 1998 Ottawa Fly-In Co-Chairs Rick Orzy (far left) and Jill Reitman with Minister of Defence Art Eggleton.

JEWISH toronto

*Two members of **Israel's National Rescue Unit**, one of the first to respond to the October terrorist bombing at the American Embassy in Nairobi, were in Toronto recently, speaking about the heroic rescue operation. **Reserve Major Eran Magen** and **Lt. Meital Halawi** (in uniform) recounted details of the daring mission carried out by the 170 member team, to members of UJA Federation's Lawyers Division, York University's Jewish Student Union and grade 7 and 8 Leo Baeck students. The two IDF officers also visited Vancouver and Ottawa.*

On Their Way to the G.A.

More than 220 Jewish communal leaders from across Canada, including over **80 Torontonians**, will join thousands of their North American counterparts in Israel next week for the **UJA Federations of North America 1998 General Assembly**. Fifty-three Toronto representatives will participate in a week-long UJA Federation sponsored mission to Kiev. For the first time, G.A. delegates will take part in one of 38 exciting field expeditions chosen from 18 areas of interest, ranging from building Jewish identity to policy and planning, to women's issues.

Malamet on Millennium

UJA Federation's Young Professionals Network and Young Business Network present **2001: A Spiritual Odyssey: Finding Meaning for the Millennium, Monday, November 30, 7:30 p.m., Metro Hall**. It's an uplifting dialogue about spirituality and community conducted by **Dr. Elliott Malamet** and **Rabbi Michael Skobac**. Tickets are $18 in advance and $20 at the door. For reservations call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

It's Your Call...

Hundreds of thousands of Jews in need are depending on your participation in UJA Federation's **Phoning for Fifty Telethons, November 15-19**. Participating families, with three or more generations of callers, can win a free family photo session, courtesy of Stephen Epstein at Big Dipper Communications. You could also **win a free round-trip ticket to Israel**, courtesy of Air Canada. To sign up for a shift, day or evening, **call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115**.

It's on the Web!

For complete information on the latest news about ***Jewish Toronto***, its organizations, activities and special events take a tour of our Website.

www.feduja.org

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Toba Korenblum was *CJN* reporter

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Former *Canadian Jewish News* reporter Toba Korenblum was known for her artistic talent, love of theatre and music, her concern for children and for her good-hearted nature. Korenblum died last week after a lengthy battle with cancer. She was 47 years old.

Korenblum joined *The CJN* in 1975 as part of its summer intern program. In her three years with the paper, she gained a reputation as a top reporter specializing in local news. Lewis Levendel, former *CJN* associate editor and a close friend of Korenblum, said she was "an editor's dream.

"She was tops. She was the finest reporter I dealt with in my seven years at *The CJN*."

Winner of the 1978 Smolar Award for feature writing, Korenblum was known for her intelligence, sense of humor and her upbeat attitude, Levendel said.

CJN columnist Miriam Herman remembers Korenblum as "an A-one quality person. She was very bright and very sensitive. I felt she was always optimistic. I never heard her complain. She was just very high quality."

Gary Laforet, *The CJN*'s general manager, recalled Korenblum as "a superb reporter and a wonderful person. She had a smooth writing style and there never was a question about accuracy."

Prior to joining *The CJN*, Korenblum worked in public relations for the Canadian Cancer Society. "She was working to promote awareness in cancer recognition," her husband, Marshall, said.

Following her stint at *The CJN*, Korenblum worked as a freelance writer for the *Globe and Mail*, *Maclean's* and for the University of Toronto's alumni magazine.

Obituary

She went back to school at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) where she earned a masters degree in clinical child psychology. She had just started the PhD program when she fell ill, Marshall said.

In addition to her studies, Korenblum worked with a psychologist, providing private tutoring to learning disabled students, her husband said.

"Toba was unselfish, altruistic, always thinking of other people," Marshall said. "She was always devoted to family. Family was the most important thing to her."

A modern-day Renaissance woman, Toba was also a talented violinist who played with the National Youth Orchestra. She loved music, culture, theatre and painting.

In his eulogy, Rabbi Chezi Zionce of the First Narayever Congregation remembered Korenblum as "someone who had the idealism, the virtue, the drive to make the world a better place.

"To all of us Toba was the epitome of goodness. We think of her and we understand the depth of those over-used Yiddish expressions '*a gitte nishama*' (good soul), a 'fine mentsch.'"

Korenblum is survived by her husband Marshall, her children Jacob and Chana, her parents Henry and Helen Goldenberg, her sisters Ricky and Malka Goldenberg, and her brother and sister-in-law, Leslie and Susan Goldenberg.

Her family has established the Toba Korenblum Fund for Children with donations being forward to Sparrow Lake Alliance, a multi-disciplinary research and advocacy group for children's mental health. For further information, contact the department of psychiatry, Hospital for Sick Children 813-7560.

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Gloria Lea ז"ל
May her family be comforted with all other mourners in Zion.

The Staff of
The Canadian Jewish News
extend sincerest condolences
on the passing of
our former colleague and friend
Toba Korenblum ז"ל
May her family be comforted with all other mourners in Zion.

Teens lend helping hand

MARKHAM — The Friendship Circle is a new program that will give teens the opportunity to interact with and help other young people who are developmentally challenged.

Members of the Chabad Teen Club, under the leadership of Zev Herman, will volunteer their time to visit an adopted friend regularly and help with homework or other chores. The program is designed to help the challenged young people create bonds and integrate into society. At the same time, it will also expose the volunteers to the real world and help them learn the joy that comes from giving to and helping others.

Another goal of the Friendship Circle is to offer a helping hand to families in the Jewish community who have children with special needs that are not met by other agencies, and to offer friendship, support and encouragement to those children.

Members will relieve some of the burden on the parents or siblings responsible for the care of the child with the special needs. The volunteers will not be left alone with the children without adult supervision, but the pressure felt by many parents to interact with the children will be eased for a couple of hours weekly.

In order to attract volunteers who are committed to a regular schedule of visits, incentives offered to all members will include trips, social events, quality training and brainstorming sessions with renowned professionals.

The program is sponsored by Chabad Lubavitch in conjunction with Zareinu, a community school for children with special needs up to age 14.

For more information, call Zev Herman, teen coordinator, at 905-886-0420.

2,200 long-term beds slated for Toronto

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish seniors in North York will benefit from a new 120-bed facility at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and 183 new beds at North York General Hospital (NYGH).

These are among 2,200 new long-term care beds to be made available in Toronto in the largest single expansion for this purpose ever announced by the Ontario government.

In all, there will be 740 new beds in North York, Cam Jackson, Ontario minister for long-term care, announced at a lunch at Baycrest.

The new beds at Baycrest should be ready by June of the year 2000, said Stephen Herbert, Baycrest president and CEO, welcoming the minister's announcement.

The awarding of the contract to Baycrest is an acknowledgement of the pre-eminent role the hospital plays in the field of geriatrics, Herbert said.

A new feature of the Baycrest expansion is that the 120 beds will be developed in smaller resident home areas of 24 and 28 residents.The provincial maximum is 32 units.

The Jewish community is aging at twice the rate of the general community, he said.

North York General has been given the go-ahead for 32 new beds at its Seniors Health Centre, and for another 151-bed facility at a site to be named.

The government announcement said only that NYGH will build a new 151-bed long term care facility. This appears to rule out converting empty beds at Branson Hospital for this purpose.

Extendicare (Canada) Inc. has been awarded a 112-bed facility in North York at a site yet to be named. This will include a unit for people with Alzheimer and related disorders.

The Salvation Army has been awarded a 200-bed facility in North York and another 200-bed building to replace Grace Hospital in Toronto.

Villa Colombo Home for the Aged and Villa Charities will be adding 125 beds to their existing long-term care facility.

"I'm looking forward to new proposals from B'nai Brith... and Baycrest before April 1999, because we intend to build another 3,700 long-term care beds in Toronto," Jackson told his Baycrest audience.

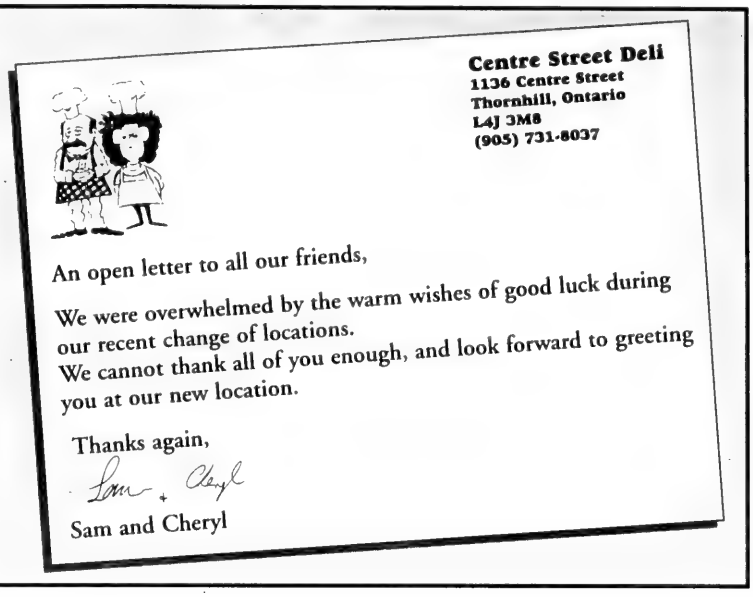
The minister said he was particularly happy to make his announcement at Baycrest because his mother, born in eastern Europe, had been raised by the Jewish community in Winnipeg, and as a result he understood Jewish concerns.

The new long-term care beds, he said, were Premier Mike Harris' way of fulfilling a promise to look after his own parents in their old age.

Those chosen to build the new beds for seniors had to meet strict standards, he said. One of his department's concerns was that the beds be in small, home-like surroundings and that the cultural needs of ethnic communities be understood and met.

Herbert acknowledged a gift of $18.9 million dollars from the Ontario government for the new 470-bed Apotex Home for the Aged and the cognitive centre, now being built at Baycrest.

Other contracts were awarded to: Doctors Hospital (200 beds); Leisureworld Inc. (160 beds in Etobicoke, 128 beds in East York and a second 160-bed facility in East York); Oakwood Retirement Communities (120 beds in York); St. Demetrius (Ukrainian Catholic) Development Corporation, (41 beds in Etobicoke); Slovenian Linden Foundation (36 beds in Etobicoke); West Park Hospital (200 beds on its existing site in York); Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care (65 beds added to the existing facility and a new 150-bed facility in Scarborough).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Spanish rabbi offers prescription for retaining Jewish identity

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL, ONT. — Rabbi Benito Garzon has little regard for rabbis who isolate themselves in yeshiva. "This is not the way. You must learn, and you must share," the Madrid-based educational director and spiritual leader of the World Sephardic Educational Center (SEC) said at a recent lecture on Jewish Identity.

In town recently as part of a tour that included Los Angeles, Seattle, New York and Montreal, Rabbi Garzon put his philosophy into practice at unexpected moments. He explained the significance of his blessing over the water he drank during his talk at the Sephardic Kehila Centre (sponsored by Toronto's SEC young adult chapter), and expounded briefly on Sephardi Torah commentaries while having his picture taken.

He even started his talk with a word on the joy of singing and launched into a spirited version of *Happy Birthday* for SEC founder José Nessim, who was here from Los Angeles. After presenting Nessim with a gift, Rabbi Garzon, 61, jumped nimbly back onto the podium and rolled up his sleeves. "Are you ready to work?" he asked.

"Together we will enter the kitchen of our inner life, and we will prepare a dish to attract people...closer to Hakodesh Baruch Hu."

Many Jews have not only tried to lose their Jewish identity, he said, but they have also tried to imitate "those who persecuted us...That is a tragedy. We need you to build the Jewish identity."

An identity is based on time and space, he explained. He exhorted

Rabbi Benito Garzon

parents to celebrate their children's next birthday on the Jewish date – and not at a non-kosher restaurant. "Parents wish and pray for [their child] to be married under the chuppah, but make the effort for the opposite thing."

An identity is a collective experience, he noted. "If I believe only that my own identity is the true Jewish identity, then I am not a Jew; I am a Garzonista. What we're looking for is not Garzonismo. It's Judaism."

Collective experience

There are Jewish ways of dress and of eating, he said. "Why do we give up our way?"

Jews have the right and duty to retain their identity, which comes from actions, not feelings, he said.

"That is why the Torah is built on 'do' and 'not do.'" Those who adhere to its tenets will "receive a prize, which is your Jewish identity."

SEC, which has 27 branches around the world, advocates slow change said the rabbi. "We don't like to make a fight between the old identity and the new."

A native of Tetouan, Morocco who speaks seven languages and has post-graduate degrees in philosophy and philology, Rabbi Garzon said in an interview he never left the country of his birth. His ancestors, incidentally, were Spanish Jews who left Granada after the expulsion.

"My Jewish life in Morocco is living with me," he said. "I am nourished by that until today. I'm wealthy with [memory], but I'm aware that my daughters, son and grandson cannot benefit by that."

He said the Sephardi community is obliged to share its Jewish writings with the rest of the community. "We suffer when we see [that] the Jewish people [don't] share this treasure."

He moved to Madrid 32 years ago as community rabbi and has headed the Sephardic Educational Centre since 1980.

The small Jewish community in Madrid was established after World War II, he said. Rabbi Garzon agreed to go there on condition a Jewish school be opened. Today, he said, there are three synagogues and three rabbis (seven rabbis in all of Spain), a beit din, a day school and a youth movement serving about 300 youngsters.

Anti-Semitism is less prevalent in Spain than elsewhere in Europe, he noted. Religious persecution and Holocaust denial have been outlawed, and shortly before the rabbi's arrival here, a Barcelona trial regarding Holocaust denial began. It is the first of its kind in Spain.

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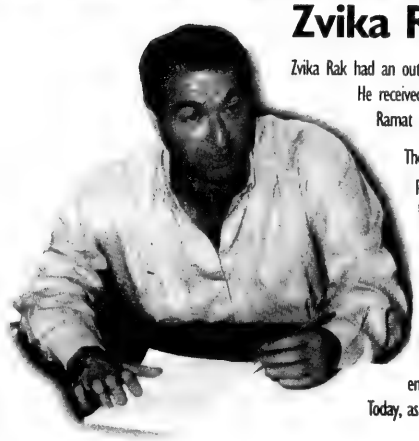
Zvika Rak. The Right Attitude



Zvika Rak had an outstanding military career. During the Six Day War he fought in the Sinai, El Arish and the Suez Canal. He received a medal during the Yom Kippur War and in 1972 was the Commander of the tank division in the Ramat H'golan area.

Then his life changed. He was seriously injured, his right arm severed from his body, his left arm completely mangled. 'When I look back, I think of how lucky I was. The rehabilitation and assistance from the Beit Halochem Centre in Haifa gave me the courage to feel strong and self-confident, not that the path to recovery was easy.'

Zvika then entered university to study public relations. When he graduated, he began Military College in Haifa., and was appointed Head of the Haifa Army District. Currently he is the chief auditor of Haifa.

'Today, as a family, we travel extensively, in and out of Israel. I have been able to shrug off any embarrassment swimming without my arm. Each person goes through rehabilitation in their own way. Today, as a Beit Halochem member, I help younger disabled soldiers.'

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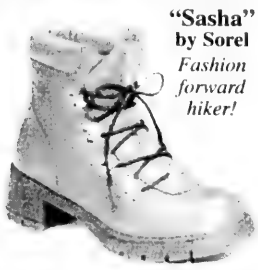

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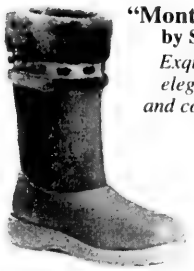

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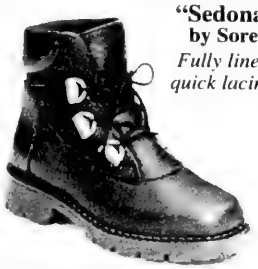

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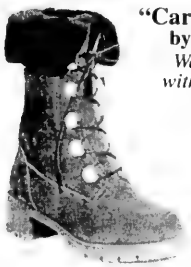

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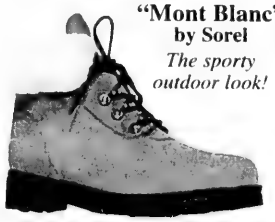

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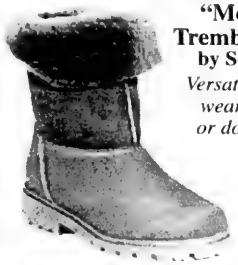

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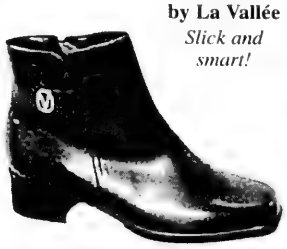

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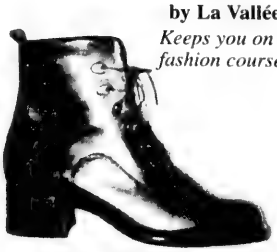

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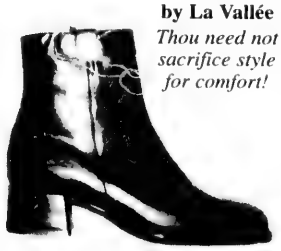

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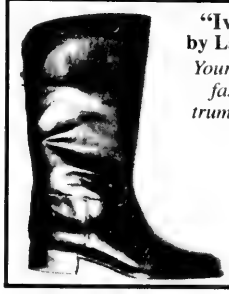

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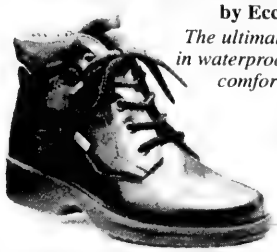

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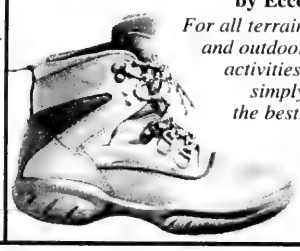

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JNF honoree a man-for-all-seasons

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Family life and traditional values are very important to Allan Silber, this year's Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner honoree.

On Nov. 29 at The National Trade Centre, Exhibition Place, the Toronto community will pay tribute to Silber "in recognition of excellence in communal leadership and dedication to Israel."

Proceeds from the 50th annual JNF dinner will help create a unique fund.

In his honor, The Allan Silber Endowment Fund will be established in Israel in order to create an additional, more stable and enduring source of monies for particular JNF projects.

"He is a good friend and a very, very forthright person," says Albert Reichmann, campaign and dinner co-chair with Michael Bregman and Dale Lastman. "He deserves this honor because of his charitable involvements in many institutions."

A self-made man, Silber is a successful business entrepreneur, philanthropist and man-for-all-seasons. His charitable work and community involvements range from the Orthodox to the secular.

Interviewed at their Forest Hill home, his wife Hinda, an active community worker, spoke about her husband. "One of the things that is important to me is that Allan can be immersed in the business world, but first and foremost is his family and his Judaism. When he goes up to lead a synagogue service, our family is filled with pride and admiration."

Silber is chairman and CEO of Counsel Corporation, one of North America's leading health-care and business development companies. Joined by partners, Morris Perlis and Edward Sonshine, the story of

Allan Silber

Counsel Corporation's growth and expansion is both a business and friendship success story.

His parents Godel and Cilka Silber, Holocaust survivors, created in their Hamilton home an environment with a strong emphasis on Jewish tradition, tzedakah and synagogue activity.

After graduating with an honors degree in biology at the University of Toronto in 1970, Silber changed direction and studied accountancy "because of my passion for business." With a decade of accounting experience in mergers and acquisitions, and taking his first steps in buying and selling real estate, he left accountancy to set up Counsel Corporation with the acquisition of Counsel Trust.

Buying and restructuring home healthcare and institutional pharmacies in the United States have catapulted Counsel's holdings.

Silber says, "Coming from a traditional Jewish background has affected my ideals and values – I learned how to give back to the community and how to make a difference."

He says he accepted the JNF honor because he believes that the endowment fund would help "to buy into my vision of a more secure future for JNF."

He emphasizes that supporting community means including all Jews. "I believe that there is a need for all segments of Judaism – we all bring different elements together that make us all stronger."

He adds that Jewish education and traditional values are the backbone of Jewish survival. "To know where you come from strengthens us as Jews and helps us develop self-pride."

The Silbers are members of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

"In my experience with him over the past 15 years, Allan exemplifies the Talmudic principal of – a son is the knee cap of the father causing him to stand or fall," Rabbi Henry Hoschander, former rabbi of Shaarei Shomayim told *The CJN*.

"Allan comes from a home that is deeply concerned with Torah Judaism in all of its ramifications – service to God and service to man."

He is a member of the executive committee and board of Mount Sinai Hospital, he is also on the boards of JNF and Weizmann Institute and he has been honored by many institutions including Lubavitch, Aish HaTorah and State of Israel Bonds.

His list of community involvements locally and internationally includes, the United Way, Yeshiva University, Bar-Ilan University, Hebrew University, ROM, AGO, and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Hinda (Rosen) and Allan, who met at the University of Toronto and married in 1970, have four children, Josh 26, Leah 23, and twins Jay and David, 19.

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Greater Toronto Area

Educators get lesson in teaching the Holocaust

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The first goal of teaching the Holocaust is to complicate students' thinking, says Frank Bialystok, former chair of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre.

Bialystok was giving the dinner address at the 18th annual teachers' seminar on teaching the Holocaust, held recently at the Lipa Green Building.

He cited the scene in the movie *Schindler's List* in which the strains of a Mozart composition were played during a mass execution of residents of the Cracow ghetto.

"We must bring to the student the imbalance of Mozart and the destruction of the ghetto occurring simultaneously."

Students must understand that the horrible and the normal existed side by side, he said. "Anti-Semites saved Jews, while supposedly non-anti-Semitic police murdered them; some Jews did horrible things to survive, and some did incredibly heroic stuff. Often the same people did both."

At the same time, he said, "we must balance the universality of the event with its uniqueness."

In other words, he said, teachers must decide whether to teach about other victims of the Nazis, such as the Romani and homosexuals, or about other genocides.

"We must decide on a definition of unique, and ask ourselves can if we place limits on what is universal."

Bialystok, who now teaches at York University, called his approach to teaching the Holocaust "questionable, and not perfect, but mine."

Relative to the time and resources available and the age of the students, Bialystok said, teachers must teach the "where, when, and the progression of events" of the Holocaust.

The students must get to the point where they realize that "the more we learn, the more difficult it is to understand and to comprehend what happened."

At the same time, he said, while we must deal with the Holocaust as an event in history, a teacher should limit the universal implications of it. "Don't teach the Holocaust as a means of teaching about other genocides. If you want to teach about others, and you should, teach them.

"It is important to understand that the fate of European Jewry is also the fate of the Cambodians, the Rwandans and others – dead people. However, each one had a uniqueness."

It is not helpful to mix all tragedies together, he said. "We must teach them separately, and then draw universal implications."

Bialystok spoke about a meeting he attended between survivors of the Holocaust and survivors of the genocide in Rwanda.

The Rwandans wanted to learn from the Holocaust survivors how to talk about their dreadful experiences, how to pass on the information to a younger generation. This, he said, is what educators have to come to grips with.

The question period following Bialystok's speech emphasized the difficulties teachers felt they were encountering because of recent changes in the Ontario education system.

One participant lamented that he used to teach *The Diary of Anne Frank* in history, religion and English classes. Now, he said, because of the strictures against interdisciplinary approaches to subjects, he can teach it only in English class, making its impact and message less effective.

Bialystok suggested a good subject for discussion might be whether Anne Frank would have been able to write her famous line, "I believe that people are good at heart," if she had written her diary in Bergen Belsen, where she died.

The dinner was followed by workshops on Exploring Holocaust Issues through an Integrated Arts Approach; Pedagogical Challenges (of teaching the Holocaust); Facing History & Ourselves: an approach to teaching the Holocaust; and Exceptional Materials for the Holocaust educator.

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Debbie Dorfman demonstrates challah-making at the recent Kosher Foodfest at Centerpoint Mall. [Frances Kraft photo]

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Holocaust Education Week

Jews in Israel not sheep for the slaughter: author

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — If a safe haven for Jews had been created in 1937, millions of European Jews would have been saved, says Michael Bar-Zohar, author, lecturer and official biographer of David Ben-Gurion.

"That was the main lesson learned in 1948, when the State of Israel was created," he said.

Bar-Zohar, speaking at Pride of Israel Synagogue during Holocaust Education Week, said several conditions existed when Israel was created. "As well as providing a safe haven for Jews, the country had to be able to withstand the dangers of hostile environments."

In order to keep Israel safe, Jewish people had to be educated, said Bar-Zohar. "They had to learn that they are not sheep being led to slaughter. No longer is their blood free."

People coming to Israel, he said, had lived for years under the reality that they were victims. "Now they are free, and anyone who tries to [hurt] them will be punished."

When Adolph Eichmann was found in 1960, Ben-Gurion wanted him brought to Israel alive, said Bar-Zohar, so that during the trial, the younger generation would learn about the Holocaust. "Every year now, we commemorate the Holocaust and teach the youth about it. Soon, however, [the people will be gone]. Only books, movies and papers about the Holocaust will exist."

Just knowing about the Holocaust is not enough, he said. "We must take practical steps so that it will not happen again."

Europe is more advanced than North America in dealing with Holocaust deniers, said Bar-Zohar. "If you deny the Holocaust in France or Germany, you go to jail. Here, we talk about the freedom of speech. But freedom of speech is wrong, when the person is talking about Holocaust denial.

"People with good rhetoric can convince [others] of the worst lies. I believe that if we commemorate the Holocaust, we must take it one step further. We must fight for laws to prohibit Nazi propaganda."

We must not only remember the Holocaust, he said, we must nip Holocaust denial in the bud. "This is more important than remembering. There must be a bottom line of action."

For the first time in history, he said, all Jews, no matter where they live, are free. "There is not one place where they are persecuted or mistreated. We have succeeded to create a new reality. Anyone can leave their country and go to Israel.

"I believe that all Jews stand taller because they know there is a safe place for them. Everywhere in the world, Jewish people feel better and stronger," he said.

If Israel makes peace, he said, that will preserve the safe haven. "We have to put all our efforts into making it strong.We must find ways to live with our neighbors in peace."

Bar-Zohar said he does not expect the Arab neighbors to "join Hadassah or give to the United Jewish Appeal, but the bottom line is that for the last 20 years, we have not been shooting at each other. Even if we don't start to love each other, it's enough for our generation – learning to live together without killing each other."

The lecture was co-sponsored by Jerry and Karmela Klasner in honor of Joseph and Katie Klasner.

Poet says truth 'will set us free'

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Despite the grim subject of Ursula Duba's poetry, the Connecticut-based author, in town recently to read from her work and speak at Shaar Shalom Synagogue for Holocaust Education Week, maintains a positive outlook on life.

"I don't feel I give darkness to people," Duba, a jewelery designer and mother of two grown children, told *The CJN*. "I believe that the only thing that will set us free is the truth, no matter how painful."

Born to a Catholic family in Cologne, Germany in 1938, Duba only learned of the Holocaust at the age of 19, on a blind date with a Jewish man.

Ursula Duba

In her 1995 book, *Tales from a Child of the Enemy*, Duba described her horror, shame and rage in a poem entitled *Blind Date*:

till the end of her life/she would have to prove/that she wasn't one of them

"I became obsessed with trying to find out who are the people who raised me, and who are the Jews." There was an angry confrontation with her parents and then a stay on an Israeli kibbutz, where she was met with warmth and openness the likes of which she'd never experienced.

"I couldn't, after that, think of the Jews as 'the Jews,'" – a term she abhors. Instead, they became "Moshe and Dalia and Leah..."

Almost 40 years later, Duba (her pen name, the Hebrew equivalent of Ursula, meaning she-bear) still has close friends in Israel.

But she won't put Jews on a

Continued on page 23

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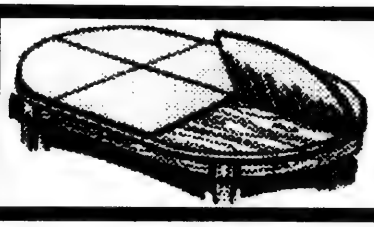
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Holocaust Education Week

Parents must tread carefully in discussing Shoah: lecturer

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —One of the worst things parents can do when talking to their children about the Holocaust is to frighten them, according to a Toronto psychologist who spoke as part of Holocaust Education Week.

"Fear doesn't aid their understanding of the experience," said Alan Bardikoff, a specialist in treating children and adolescents and a past chair of the education committee of the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto.

Bardikoff discussed How and When to Talk to your Children about the Holocaust at the Posluns Education Centre branch of Associated Hebrew Day Schools.

He also addressed classroom issues and recommended that parents talk to teachers about their own anxieties, children's fears and dealing at home with what's being taught.

He advised against using the Holocaust to "secure" Jewish identity or to justify the existence of Israel. To say Israel came about because of the Holocaust, Bardikoff believes, sends "wrong messages about the ways in which we achieve things, the ways history works, the way in which God works."

He also said he worries "when people talk about the Holocaust in a way that engenders undue anger toward the non-Jewish community.

"How can one accept a conclusion from the Holocaust that preaches anger, perhaps even hatred? These were one of the greatest weapons that were used against us."

Bardikoff, who is not a child of survivors, became interested in the Holocaust and Holocaust education as a teenager, after he was asked to take part in a Holocaust memorial service. He found the experience moving and said that making an emotional connection was the key.

When it comes to teaching young children about the Holocaust, it's important to "really listen" to them. "We have to start where they are, not where we are."

He advised caution in terms of what to allow children to watch and experience. Graphic information on how people were killed is "clearly inappropriate" for a 5-year-old.

Stories and literature, particularly those focusing on one person's or one family's experience, can begin to create a connection for children, Bardikoff said. Most valuable, he added, is the opportunity to hear a survivor speak.

It's also important, Bardikoff said, for children to understand what it is to be a bystander, and even to learn about victimizers.

Parents should not feel they have failed if they cannot talk about the Holocaust. "Some people really can't. It doesn't mean our kids shouldn't learn about it. Obviously it's incumbent on us to find other ways for them to learn about it."

He believes it's fair for parents to tell children they need time to think before answering a question, and pointed out that there are positive stories of dignity and rescue that can be shared.

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'Truth will set us free'

Continued from page 22

pedestal. "I have no problem saying '[someone] drives me up the wall with her kvetching.'"

Duba's quest seriously damaged her relationships with her six siblings and now-deceased parents.

Her parents were not implicated in the Holocaust, she said, but their feeling she has betrayed them is not atypical.

"Germany doesn't want to touch my book with a 10-foot pole."

The book includes Duba's perspective and that of Jewish survivors whose stories she heard as a young woman living in Brooklyn.

Living in a Jewish neighborhood, people often assumed she was Jewish, but as she got to know them, she set the record straight.

When she paid by cheque for the first time in a Lower East Side fabric store, the shopkeeper expressed surprise at her non-Jewish first name and Jewish surname (her ex-husband was half-Jewish). But even when she said she wasn't Jewish, she felt "very much" accepted.

German students respond with anger or silence

She derives "enormous strength" from her work and is thus ignoring friends' advice to steer clear of Holocaust issues while undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

In fact, she attended other Holocaust Education Week events.

Despite the goodwill and sense of community she feels from such events, she believes the gentile world should be sponsoring the week, "considering that anti-Semitism is a non-Jewish problem."

Having spoken in American and German schools, she finds German students generally respond to her with anger or stony silence, she said in her address at Shaar Shalom. But other students express sorrow and are often moved to tears.

"I actually went so far as to start by saying [in Germany], 'You are innocent.' It didn't work...They feel sorrow is an admission of guilt."

Although the situation in Germany is "much improved," it took Duba two years to gain admittance to a school there. Teachers are ambivalent about Holocaust education, and parents born after the war ask their children, "Are they ever going to let you alone?"

What is needed, she said, is an emotional link with young people.

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Holocaust Education Week

Vatican apology invites Catholic 'tshuvah:' priest

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last spring's historic Vatican document apologizing for Church members' silence and inaction during the Holocaust is just the beginning of "a process" of Catholic reconciliation with Jews, a priest told a synagogue audience last week.

Father Thomas Rosica, executive director of the Newman Centre at the University of Toronto and an advisor on Catholic matters to the Israeli government, said the document issued last March "is not just an apology. It's much more significant than that. It's the beginning of a process of repentance."

Addressing a Holocaust Education Week program at Beth Tzedec Congregation, Father Rosica said the document "invites Catholics into a deep process of tshuvah and a purification of memory."

The 14-page document, entitled *We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah,* urged Catholics to repent for their failure to do more to help Jews during the Holocaust. It decried the "unspeakable tragedy" of the Holocaust, and speaks of a "moral imperative" Catholics should have to ensure that persecution of Jews never happens again.

The carefully worded document, issued by the Church's commission on religious relations with Jews, was 11 years in the making. It said Catholics "deeply regret the errors and failures of those sons and daughters of the Church" during World War II, and express "deep sorrow" for failures throughout the ages.

For many, however, the document fell short in its defence of wartime Pope Pius XII from accusations he could have done much more to save Jews.

Father Rosica said Pope John Paul, who was implored to issue the document in 1987, has done more to advance Catholic-Jewish relations than any pontiff in history.

"People have stopped counting the number of times" the Pope has spoken out against anti-Semitism and the evils of Nazism. In 1986, Pope John Paul became the first pope to visit Rome's main synagogue, and a few years ago, he established formal diplomatic relations between the Vatican and Israel, Father Rosica noted. He said the Vatican has also established Aug. 9 as a day of Holocaust remembrance.

The Pope has a "deep sympathy and affection for Jews," and he's "not just mimicking saying he's sorry. He's made this a very important issue."

Father Rosica said that some people saw the Vatican's statement as an attempt to absolve Catholics. "Nothing can be further from the truth. It acknowledges and recognizes [Catholics'] complicity."

He acknowledged the "new pain" caused by the recent canonization of Edith Stein, a nun who was born a Jew, and who was murdered at Auschwitz.

But he called for a start to reconciliation. "We must deeply commit to work together. The process will be very risky and painful. We need each other on this journey of healing."

Later, addressing an audience member – a Holocaust survivor who said she lived as a Christian in Poland but was betrayed to the Nazis by her Catholic neighbors – Father Rosica said, "I am very sorry for what my people have done."

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl of Beth Tzedec remarked that the Vatican's statement "did not look critically enough" at the role played by Pope Pius XII, and said Jews "find it very difficult for Edith Stein to be held out as a bridge between Catholics and Jews."

Historian examines Pope's response to Shoah

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In December 1942, following requests by American and British diplomatic envoys, Pope Pius XII issued a statement condemning Nazi atrocities.

The pope's condemnation was made "in a highly abstract and ornamental language" that never specifically mentioned the word "Jews," according to history professor Michael Marrus.

Nevertheless, it was "unmistakable" that the pope was in fact referring to Jews, he said.

Marrus, dean of the school of graduate studies at the University of Toronto, was speaking to about 200 people at the Holy Blossom Temple during Holocaust Education Week. His focus was on the controversy surrounding Pope Pius XII and his role during the Holocaust.

A number of factors combined to create such a muted papal response to the slaughter of European Jews, Marrus said.

The fate of the Jews was not a high priority for the Vatican or among the Allies, he said. Pope Pius was concerned primarily about the fate of the Roman Catholic Church during the war, and whether the Nazis would act against it.

Furthermore, the church was inundated with appeals for condemnations from various quarters – the Polish government in exile, Serbs, Jews, even German and Italian representatives, who asked that he condemn the Allied bombings of their cities.

In the midst of all that, Pope Pius concerned himself with the survival of the Church as an institution, Marrus said.

Addressing the "might have beens," Marrus said there are those who argue a "burning protest" would have backfired and made things worse for the Jews.

One Israeli historian has suggested that it might have put Jews hiding under the protection of the church in danger, Marrus said.

Marrus, author of *Vichy France and the Jews* and *The Holocaust in History*, outlined the background circumstances that influenced the Vatican's wartime actions.

"There is something unreal in considering the Vatican a major player in the ordeal of European Jewry," he said.

Otherworldly

The Vatican had no military and was vulnerable to the power of surrounding authorities. In addition, the Vatican was "culturally isolated, a world of priests and nuns who have an intensely ecclesiastical preoccupation...It is an otherworldly institution, very much apart."

Pope Pius XII, elected in 1939, was "austere, solitary and reserved" unlike his predecessor, Pope Pius XI, who had come into conflict with the fascist powers. Pope Pius XI had prepared an encyclical against racial policy but it never appeared, Marrus said.

The Church, which had preached theologically based anti-Judaism for centuries and which saw Jews as "a nefarious influence in the state," opposed racially motivated anti-Semitism, Marrus said. But the church's anti-Judaic tradition was adopted in collaborationist regimes, such as Vichy France, he added.

When the Vichy regime passed anti-Jewish laws in 1941, the Vatican advised its priests that it was permissible for the state to restrict the activities of the Jews. Marshall Petain, who headed the Vichy regime, saw that as "a green light," Marrus said.

In recent years, the Vatican established a committee to examine its relations with the Jews and its role during the Holocaust. The committee published its report in March 1998, titled, *We Remember, A Reflection on the Shoah.*

It was "the most important document ever issued by the Vatican on that subject," and it asked whether the Nazi persecution of the Jews was made easier by years of anti-Jewish preaching. The document looked forward to the day when there would be "no more anti-Judaism among Christians, and no more anti-Christian feelings among Jews," Marrus said.

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From coast to coast

National unity main focus of the Quebec election

Continued from page 1

the Parti Québécois. As an indication that better days were ahead, the number of home buyers in Montreal soared in the months of April and May, a phenomenon widely attributed to Charest's arrival. But sustaining Charest's popularity at such high levels proved far more complex than might have been initially assumed.

Towards the end of the summer, Bouchard insisted that he would not hold a referendum on sovereignty unless conditions ensured a victory. This had the effect of somewhat diminishing the importance of Charest's strongest electoral plank.

While most French Quebecers believe that the issue of effective government takes precedence over the referendum question, the vast majority of members of Quebec minorities, including the Jewish community, regard national unity as the main focus of the election. Although most French Quebecers resist the idea of holding a referendum, they are equally if not more concerned by the concrete changes that the Charest Liberals might make in such areas as health and education.

Liberal victory not guaranteed

By September, it was clear that the state of Quebec public opinion was evolving. At the Oct. 28 call of the election, the Parti Québécois and the Liberals had nearly the same level of popular support amongst the provincial electorate. However, in terms of the critical distribution of provincial ridings, the Parti Québécois appeared to have a slight edge in a campaign whose major turning point has yet to arrive.

Like most Quebecers who strongly support Canadian unity, members of the overwhelmingly federalist Quebec Jewish community have also undergone significant mood swings, as public opinion polls suggested that a provincial Liberal victory was not guaranteed.

Many members of the community have put their hopes and energy behind the Charest campaign and are still cautiously optimistic about his chances of forming the next government. It is difficult to recall a provincial Liberal leader who was as popular as Charest is with the Jewish community. Even those in the community who have supported a considerably tougher public stand against Quebec language policies and separation have been keeping a lower profile in the campaign.

Charest remains quite capable of building the necessary momentum to carry him to victory. If he wins the election, most members of the Quebec Jewish community will likely feel a new sense of confidence about Quebec's future. Ironically much of the energy that members of the community have invested in national unity will be redirected into the health and education sectors.

In the event that the Parti Québécois wins the election, the Quebec Jewish community will not be taken by surprise. Undoubtedly, there will be a great degree of disappointment, but there will be less anxiety than there was in the aftermath of the 1976 Parti Québécois election victory or for that matter following the narrow results of the 1995 referendum. While there will likely be a further sense of being politically disempowered for many Quebec Jews, the community has learned to weather many a political storm.

Generally, the organized Quebec Jewish community leadership does not develop post-electoral strategies for its members, and in this case, such an approach is probably not warranted. It is after Nov. 30 that we will be better able to determine what is next on the Quebec political horizon.

Jack Jedwab is the executive director of the Association for Canadian Studies.

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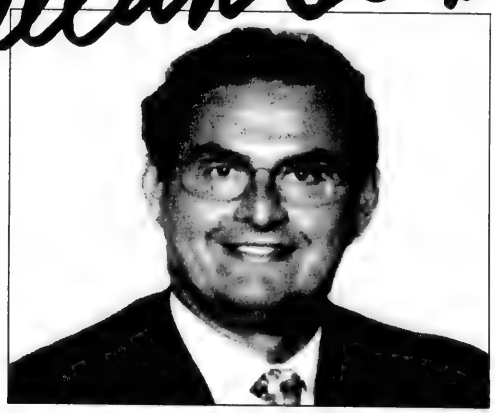

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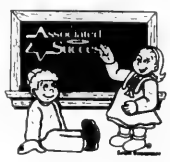

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גידי קורן וחברים

להישאר כיתה:
פגשתי השבוע רופא סיני חכם מהונג-קונג, והוא ציטט משפט סיני עתיק (כמו אלה שקוראים לפעמים ב-Fortune cookies) ״מי שמסוגל ללמוד אבל אינו חושב - אבוד. מי שמחשוב לחשוב אבל איננו לומד - מסוכן״. יש במשפט הזה הרבה חכמה. כי בור פיקח עלול להגיע למסקנות מוטעות שנובעות מזה שלא למד. פעם אדם היה יכול ללמוד מקצוע- ואח״כ לא לפתוח ספר כל החיים. היום- אם אתה לא מתעדכן באופן רצוף- אתה מסוכן וגם אין לך עתיד. אני התחלתי. כמו כולם, ללמוד בגיל ארבע, וקשה אולי להאמין- סיימתי את ההשתלמות שלי במחקר בגיל 39, ומאז אני לומד כל יום שעות רבות. היום המושג Life long learning הופך לחלק מהתרבות שלנו. ואם מישהוא מאיתנו חושב שיום אחד יוכל להפסיק ללמוד- הוא בצרות

ועכשיו אני מגיע לעניין. אולי אתם זוכרים , כשהגעתם לקנדה השוויתם את מה ש״שם״ למה ש״פה״, - גיליתם שלימודי המתימטיקה פה (בקנדה) מאוד ירודים לעומת המבריקנות הישראלית. ולפני החזרה לארץ דאגו כולם שהילדים יקבלו קורסים במתימטיקה כדי שלא ישארו כיתה. מה מאוד התפלאתי על כן לגלות שבבחינה בינלאומית במתימטיקה שהתקיימה לאחרונה הגיעו הילדים הקנדיים למקום השני בעוד שהישראלים לא היו בין 40 המדינות הראשונות. הדבר עולה גם בקנה אחד עם ירידה באחוז הילדים הישראלים שמסיימים בגרות. הסטטיסטיקות האלה היכו אותי בתדהמה. כי תמיד היתה רמת הלימודים הישראלית מקור גאווה לי. כמו לרבים מיכם.

אז מה קרה? מסתבר שהמשאבים שמושקעים בחינוך בישראל הולכים וירודים מוסף ״ידיעות אחרונות״ של סוכות כלל פרטים מאוד מדכאים בעניין זה.

ככה זה - כשצריך להחזיק צבא חזק, אין כסף גם לבנות את הגדה המערבית וגם לחנך ילדים. מאחר ונתניהו בונה את הגדה המערבית, כבישים עוקפים, היאחזויות עם ארבע כיווני אויר ובידה - אין כסף לשלם למורים. לממן יום לימודים ארוך ומבנים.

אם התהליך הזה ימשך - זה יהיה מה שהמילון מגדיר ״התאבדות״. מלבד המוות היהודי וההשכלה היהודית - ישראלית יש לערבים יתרון בכל שטח אחר - מספרים, משאבים ותמיכה עולמית, אם נוותר על הגינוס היהודי על ידי זלזול בחינוך של ילדי ישראל- גם נפסיד את היתרון הבטחוני. ולא יהיה עוד סיכוי ל״מעטים מול רבים״. תחשבו על זה.

FACTORY THEATRE:

יש ב- 225 Bathurst (דאון טאון) תיאטרון צעיר, חזק, חברתי שנקרא כיום הכותרת. מוצגות בו כעת שלוש הצגות המשך תחת הכותרת "Suburban Hotel". העלילה של שלושתן מתנהלת בחדר מס' 17 של מוטל עלוב. לאחרונה ראיתי את Problem Child שמספר על זוג צעיר. הוא אסיר לשעבר והיא נרקומנית, שמחכים לעובדת הסוציאלית שאמורה לבדוק אם הם כשרים לקבל חזרה את התינוקת שלהם, שנלקחה בינקותה עקב התנאים הלא מתאימים בבית. הצגה חזקה, אמיתית, נוגעת ללב, קנדית לחלוטין.

אומרים שבטורונטו יש יותר תיאטרון מקורי פר גולגולת מאשר בכל עיר אחרת בעולם. אפילו אם זה לא מדויק ולונדון וניו יורק חזקות יותר, - עדיין יש הרבה מה לראות.

רוצו.

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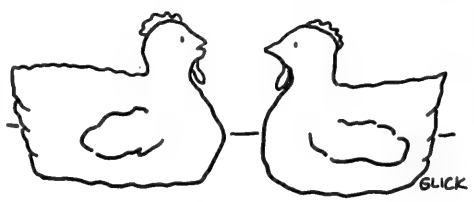

"Politically, do you consider yourself left fleegle or right fleegle?"

From coast to coast

Federal judge appears biased in war crimes case: researcher

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Federal Court judge preparing to rule on whether alleged Nazi collaborator Vladimir Katriuk lied to enter Canada should recuse himself from the case, said a Montreal legal researcher.

Kenneth Narvey, who attended Katriuk's trial daily and is well known within Jewish community circles for his years of meticulously researching and chronicling war crimes cases, says that Judge Marc Nadon created a "reasonable apprehension of bias" through numerous comments he made during Katriuk's trial in Montreal last summer.

Among those comments, according to court transcripts, were June 15 remarks about, "Seagrams go[ing] after a little retailer" and about, "the forces of Seagrams [being] in some ways more extensive than those of the Government;" speculation over an unnamed Cabinet member saying, "[I]f the Jewish lobby wasn't after us we wouldn't be doing this;" an opinion that those who committed atrocities, "did not like what they were doing;" and the view that a Nazi collaborator is not, "necessarily a person of bad character."

According to Narvey, the "Seagrams" remark, "gives rise to a reasonable apprehension that Nadon has bought into the delusional anti-Semitic view, dating from the Middle Ages, that Jews are enormously powerful, malevolent beings."

'Malevolent beings'

Moreover, Narvey says Nadon made a "smoking gun" comment when he suggested to one of Katriuk's lawyers an argument that he could make.

Nadon told lawyer Nestor Woychyshyn, "I guess one thing you could say to me in argument, that it is possible that to those who had been in the French Foreign Legion and married a French national, the question [of how Katriuk spent the war years] wasn't asked..."

For Narvey, these comments, and others, clearly justify Nadon removing himself from the case.

"A person cannot be both assistant counsel and judge," Narvey said.

Crown lawyer David Lucas, however, does not agree with Narvey that Nadon's remarks, taken in their total context and not in an "isolated" way, give rise to the "reasonable apprehension of bias."

Although Lucas supported Narvey's bid in September to be granted intervenor status and to have his bias case heard – without supporting Narvey's actual allegations of bias – Lucas told *The CJN* that the time has come to "have the judgement."

Lucas reiterated his September position that Nadon's remarks were "unfortunate," but said that in the context of the entire trial, they were "totally innocuous."

"Bias is a prejudgement in favor of one of the parties," Lucas said. "I don't think if you look globally you can say that [is what you have here.]

"If you see how the whole hearing flowed, you won't find an apprehension of bias."

Nadon had been expected to decide the Katriuk case imminently, with Katriuk facing denaturalization and deportation if the Federal Court rules against him. He is charged with hiding his membership in a notorious Ukrainian SS battalion, implicated in numerous atrocities, at the time he applied to come to Canada.

Narvey, however, has since June sought twice to be granted intervenor status in the case, in the second instance last September so his bias allegations could be heard.

In both instances, Narvey's motions were denied by Nadon, and Narvey is now appealing the second rejection to intervene in the Federal Court of Appeal.

Meanwhile, on Oct. 19 in Toronto, before Federal Court trial division Judge Francis Muldoon, Narvey argued another motion, this one for a stay of proceedings pending the results of his appeal to intervene so his bias allegations could be heard. The reason for the stay motion was to make sure that Nadon not rule on the Katriuk case until Narvey's intervenor status is resolved.

According to both Lucas and Narvey, Nadon indicated in any case that he will not rule on Katriuk until Narvey's motion for a stay of proceedings is decided. It would be Nadon himself, however, who would hear Narvey's allegations of bias if he ultimately is granted intervenor status, and Nadon who would decide whether to recuse himself.

Should the bias allegations be heard and Nadon declines to recuse himself, Narvey indicated, he can and would appeal that decision in the Federal Court of Appeal.

The proceedings before Muldoon were attended by Narvey, Crown lawyer Lucas, and Katriuk's lawyers Orest Rudzik and Woychyshyn.

In an interview with *The CJN*, Canadian Jewish Congress national director Jack Silverstone called Nadon's transcript comments, troubling, disturbing, and said that they would have been "better left unsaid."

But he was reluctant to explicitly come out in favor of Nadon's withdrawal from the case, saying that he would rely on the judicial process to deal with the issue of Nadon's alleged bias.

At the same time, CJC is considering whether to seek intervenor status in the Court of Appeal, in support of Narvey's continued bid to acquire the same status on the question of bias.

Narvey's representations in Court have been made on behalf of himself and a coalition of seven Montreal-area synagogues, the "Coalition of Concerned Congregations," where he is its legal researcher and chief operating officer.

Saskatoon shul gets new rabbi

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

SASKATOON — Rabbi Steven Kaplan, new spiritual leader of Congregation Agudas Israel, the city's only synagogue, would like to make a difference.

"Of all the interviews I had, this community seemed to be the warmest, and the one where I felt I could have the biggest impact," Rabbi Kaplan says.

"I am at the point in my life where just working for a paycheque doesn't do it for me anymore. I have nothing to prove. I want to focus on why I am doing what I am doing. This community seemed to be the perfect setting."

Rabbi Kaplan, originally from New York, has been based in Florida for the past 20 years where he was a teacher and author. His fourth book, *Healing the Distressed, A Jewish Approach* was released last summer.

"I felt it was time for me to move back into a synagogue setting. The first thing I have to do now is get to know my new community and its needs. Several people have already expressed a desire for more Jewish learning and spirituality."

Win two free return tickets to Israel via El Al Airlines courtesy JNF. Details on pg. 25

DR. RUTH ADDRESSES SURVIVORS

The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem and State of Israel Bonds honored six female Holocaust survivors at a dinner last week, where Dr. Ruth Westheimer was keynote speaker. From left are honorees Rose Ziner, Fanny Pillersdorf, Dr. Ruth, Genia Grossman, Gerda Frieberg and Faye Schulman. Missing is honoree Anita Ekstein. [Ron Csillag photo]

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From coast to coast

Montreal building designated historic site

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A century-old building that once came close to the wrecker's ball is now officially a place of common heritage for francophone and Jewish Montrealers keen on preserving their language and culture.

The Monument National at 1182 St. Lawrence Blvd. has been declared a site of national historic and architectural significance by the federal government in recognition of the important role it played in promoting both French and Yiddish.

At a recent ceremony, a plaque was unveiled at the Monument commemorating the fact that "this centre of theatre, political action and education has played a critical role in the promotion of the French language and culture in North America.

"Its theatre, which seated over 1,400, was also the centre of Yiddish performance in Canada between 1915 and 1957."

The plaque will be hung permanently in the lobby of the Monument, now the home of the National Theatre School of Canada.

French, Yiddish

Representatives of both the Société St. Jean Baptiste (SSJB) and Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) were present for the occasion, sharing memories of what this building meant for their communities.

Built by the SSJB and opened on June 24, 1893, the Monument was the nationalist organization's first permanent headquarters and home to various French-Canadian political, labor and educational groups over the years. But it was as a performing arts centre that the Monument became famous and its continuity was assured.

From 1896 until the late 1950s, it was the scene of Quebec musical theatre and other popular entertainment. Gracing its stage were some of the major international performers of the time as well, from Edith Piaf and Ludmilla Pitoeff to Yiddish stars Molly Picon and Maurice Schwartz.

"The Monument National has always occupied a unique and special place in the hearts and souls and memory of the Montreal Jewish community," CJC Quebec chair Dorothy Zalcman Howard said.

"First and foremost, it was the home of Yiddish theatre in Quebec for over 60 years, and many of our most treasured and enduring institutions are also rooted here."

The Hebrew Philanthropic Society, the Baron de Hirsch Institute and the YM-YWHA were housed at one time in the Monument.

Inaugural plenary

she said. The inaugural plenary of CJC in 1919, which assembled over 200 Jewish leaders from across the country, was held at the Monument, which was located in the heart of the Jewish immigrant district.

From 1903 to the mid-30s, the High Holy Days were observed by many Jews who didn't have a synagogue, at the Monument.

David Ben-Gurion, who would become Israel's first prime minister, addressed the community in the Monument on several occasions.

"From their arrival in the new world, our ancestors quickly felt the need to reproduce a part of their cultural and community life in Quebec," and the Monument National became a focal point for such activity, Howard said.

Switching to Yiddish, she said: "We found a home here, we stayed here and we're still here today."

While the heyday of Yiddish theatre at the Monument may have been from 1915-57, its presence there, both for local and touring companies, was much longer. The first Yiddish production was the Jewish *King Lear* in February 1897 and the last show went on in 1964.

Amid the Monument's pantheon of bronze busts, visitors can find one of Louis-Leiser Mitnick, Yiddish actor and impresario, alongside those of French stage actor Julien Daoust and feminist militant Idola St. Jean.

"The Monument National will always symbolize the historic, cultural and human ties that are woven between the Jewish community and the whole of Quebec society," Howard said.

SSJB Montreal president Guy Bouthillier recalled that the Monument was where the most eloquent proponents of Quebec nationalism and sovereignty found a forum, as well as other social activists and intellectuals, among them Isaac Bashevis Singer and Marek Halter.

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada describes the imposing four-storey structure as "a splendid expression of late 19th-century eclectic architecture...reminiscent of certain palaces of the Italian High Renaissance."

However, the building was rundown and facing demolition in 1970. Since the early 1950s, the Monument had been losing prestige. The area had become crime-ridden and patrons stayed away, but the National Theatre School was desperate to save it.

The SSJB tried unsuccessfully a couple of times to sell it. Then, at the last moment, the late Arthur Gelber of Toronto, a governor of the National Theatre School, intervened and bought the Monument in 1971 for $350,000 for the school.

"If it had not been for this gesture, we would not be here today," said Monique Mercure, the school's artistic director. Gelber, who was represented at the ceremony by his daughter Patricia Rubin, allowed the school to use the building for seven years, at which time it bought it back.

In the early '90s with subsidies from the federal and provincial governments, the Monument was extensively renovated and reopened with its original splendor restored on its 100th anniversary – June 24, 1993.

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From coast to coast

Vancouver organizations merge, join Federation

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF), Pacific region, has joined with three other Vancouver-based Jewish community organizations to form the Israel Experience Centre (IEC).

The IEC, to be directed by Tracy Ames, will be run as a department of the federation. It represents the combined efforts of CZF, the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver (JFGV), the Aliyah and Israel Program Centre and Habonim-DROR.

Drew Staffenberg, JFGV executive director, says, "The merger with CZF allows Federation to beef up the Israel component of our mandate. The primary goal of the IEC joint venture is to increase the number of young people visiting Israel on a wide variety of organized programs.

"Bringing all the Israel-related programs under one roof will allow us to reduce costs and make [programs] more effective," he said.

IEC will offer a host of Israel programs, including the annual high school debate; elementary school public speaking contest; Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration; Yom Hazikaron program; the annual Walk With Israel; Habonim-DROR Kibbutz and Aliyah programs; the Gift of Israel project; the March of the Living; and Partnership 2000.

Staffenberg said JFGV and CZF have enjoyed "a good working relationship" over the years.

He said the two organizations worked together to provide scholarships for youth trips to Israel, and have also been partners in the annual Walk With Israel.

JFGV president Jonathan Berkowitz said the establishment of the IEC as a department of Federation represents a natural step in the evolution of the Lower Mainland Jewish community. "When the Vancouver Jewish community became federated in 1986, Federation was structured in such a way that it assumed responsibility for only some of the Israel-related programs. Now, with the establishment of the IEC, the connection between Vancouver and Israel will be enhanced."

The IEC is receiving some financial support from CZF's Canadian head office in Toronto. Most financing for the coming fiscal year comes from a one-year allocation approved by JFGV's board of directors.

The IEC is currently using CZF's office space in the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver (JCC).

"It's the sign of a mature community when everybody is working together towards a common goal," Berkowitz said.

Ottawa Negev Dinner honoree Moshe Feig (centre), who fought with the Haganah, is seen here with Norman Barwin, president of the board of directors of JNF Ottawa and JNF national president Naomi Frankenburg. **[Howard Kay photograph]**

Ottawa JNF honoree fought in Haganah

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Local businessman Moshe Feig was the honoree at Jewish National Fund of Ottawa's (JNF) Negev Dinner held recently at Agudath Israel Congregation.

Rabbi Reuven Bulka, who co-chaired the dinner with Rabbi Arnold Fine, compared Feig to astronaut John Glenn, who was "known by many as a hero of space. Moshe Feig, for his many contributions to the Jewish homeland, could be said to be a hero of sacred space...of the land of Israel."

Barbara Farber, president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'ir, said that Feig, "in his own quiet way is a tower of knowledge and of quiet giving."

Feig, a Holocaust survivor, was born in Satmar, Romania. After the war, he joined the Jewish Brigade and set out for Palestine.

He fought with the Haganah during the War of Independence, in a religious unit known as the Alexandroni Brigade.

Feig has requested that the funds raised in the Negev Dinner campaign be directed toward the building of a rest area situated close to the memorial for those soldiers.

"We take great pride that you have chosen to honor your fallen comrades and use JNF as a vehicle for this," said national president of JNF Canada, Naomi Frankenburg.

"It would be right to count among the founding fathers of the state all those who participated in the battles for the homeland. One of these soldiers is Moshe Feig," said Israel ambassador to Canada David Sultan.

Following a cantorial concert by Cantor Yaacov Motzen, accompanied by Stephen Glass, a plaque was presented to Feig by Dr. Norman Barwin, president of JNF Ottawa.

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Author compares bestseller's thesis to Jewish thought

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The thesis of the bestseller *Men are From Mars, Women are From Venus*, by John Gray, is consistent with Jewish thought, says an American psychologist and author.

"The Talmud tells us that the first human was both male and female. When separated, the two different souls were to complement each other so that when united, they would be greater than the sum of their parts," Dr. Lisa Aiken said.

Aiken was the keynote speaker at Jewish Woman of the 21st Century: 5000 Years In The Making, a women's conference held recently at the Asper Jewish Community Campus.

The conference, which attracted about 50 women, was organized by the Collaborative Group for Jewish Women, with proceeds going to the Women's Division of the Combined Jewish Appeal.

"Gray contends that women are inclined to talk things through, while men are more apt to withdraw to their 'caves' to solve problems.

"The Torah points this out in the names that were chosen for the first man and woman. Adam, when separated into its two syllables, means one who is silent, while Chava is taken from the Aramaic word for conversation."

Gray insists, Aiken said, that men wear "uniforms" – such as tzitzit, kippot, tallit and tfillin – to define their roles, while women have no need of uniforms as they successfully juggle multiple roles.

Aiken suggested that the Jewish laws of taharat hamishpachah or family purity allow women space and time to replenish their emotional reserves, coinciding with Gray's thesis that women function as "waves" who give unsparingly until depleted, and then need to fill up again.

He describes men as rubber bands who alternately come close then pull away in relationships.

In another talk, Aiken credited the laws of family purity with creating the time needed "to restore one's sense of integration with God."

As a result, she said, a couple develops non-physical means of communication, which in turn, deepens the satisfaction and spiritual fulfilment of their physical relationship.

Other conference programs included a talk about the genetic risk of breast cancer, and workshops about the mitzvot of women, symbolism in the Jewish wedding, coping with illness and disease, and Jewish Survival.

There were also displays exhibiting features of a Jewish home, including hands-on challah baking.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recently sent a letter of appreciation to those involved in Toronto's Israel at 50 celebrations. Lindan Toole (far left) was thanked for producing the gala event at the CNE; Julia Koschitzky (holding letter) for chairing the city-wide celebrations; and Karen Morton for chairing the CNE event. Joining them was Israel's consul general, Jehudi Kinar. [D. Gordon photo]

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 16, is deadline for Nov. 26 issue and Monday, Nov. 23, is deadline for Dec. 3. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 12

HEALTH AND HEALING

Zareinu Education Centre presents Insights From the Zohar on Illness Suffering and Healing with **Rabbi Avraham Greenbaum,** Azamra Institute of Israel; other participants **Dr. Ari Friedman** and **Dr. Allan Bortnick**, 8 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah. **Nomi** 905-882-2456 or **Susan** 787-4934.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, presents Current Affairs With Erica Biro, 8 p.m., Council House. 633-5100.

Sunday, Nov. 15

A GRAND NIGHT OF SONG

Beth Tzedec Congregation celebrates *Israel at 50* , The Jewish Soul Through Its Music featuring conductor **Boris Brott** and singers **Mark DuBois, Paul Kowarsky, Anna Shatajinskaia, Louis Quillico, Linda Maguire**, 7:30 p.m.

YOUR PARENTS' FINANCES

Mutual Fund advisor **Sheldon Gilbert** and estate lawyer **Brian Schnurr** discuss Your Parents' Finances and You, Temple Sinai breakfast series, 10 a.m. 487-4161.

FAMILY DANCE

Family Dance Afternoon for the young and not-so-young, sponsored by Ontario Folk Dance Association and Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 2-5 p.m. at the Centre.

LOVELIEST LOVE STORIES

With **Selma Sage** 7:30 p.m., Yujjie (young urban Jews, ages 25-40) café at Indigo Café, Yonge Eglinton Centre. Sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and Les & Minda Feldman Foundation. 905-709-1900, ext. 222.

MITZVAH DAY

Camp Ramah in Canada's Ramah Family Institute and the Jewish Educators Assembly co-sponsor Mitzvah Day. Contact your synagogue, USY chapter or Camp Ramah 789-2193.

SEX AND SENSIBILITY

Communicating Positively With Opposites That Attract, marriage counsellor **Robbie Schwartz**, 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Presented by Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood.

SINGLES DINNER

Singles/Neve Yerushalayim dinner, La Perville, 1815 65th St., Brooklyn, 2-9:30p.m. **Dahlia Heller** 212-539-3500 (Voice Mail).

A CHANUKAH NOVEL

Lynne Kositsky reads from her new book, *Candles*, a Chanukah novel for children ages 10-15, 11:30 a.m., Children's Bookstore, 2532 Yonge St.

Monday, Nov. 16

ELDER ABUSE

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International (singles 40 +) program deals with Elder Abuse, presented by the Bernard Betel Players, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. General meeting will follow. **Helen** 638-4326 or **Fran** 638-2716.

BIBLICAL CONUNDRUMS

Carl Ehrlich series continues with The Concubine and the Crown (Judges 17, Samuel 1), 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

RITUAL & THE SABBATH

Symposium on Being Jewish by **Jonathan Perlman**. Part 4 – Ritual and the Sabbath, facilitated by **Henry Alkin**, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Continued on page 33

IGA Kosher
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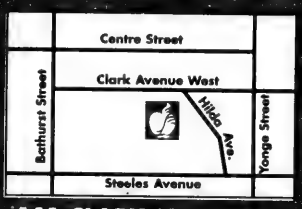

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What's New

Continued from page 32

Tuesday, Nov. 17

LOSS AND DEATH

Beth Tikvah Synagogue series on loss and death from personal and theological perspectives begins with **Rabbi Naomi Levy**, speaking on her book, *To Begin Again: A Journey Toward Comfort, Strength and Faith in Difficult Times* , 8 p.m.

REBUKE

Rabbi Moshe Stern series continues with How Does One Fulfil the Commandment of Rebuke, 8-9 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. Topic continues Nov. 24.

JEWISH POWER

Rabbi Bernard Baskin reviews *Jewish Power: Inside the American Jewish Establishment* by **J.J. Goldberg**, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Wagman Centre monthly meeting, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kosher lunch. Tickets at Service Desk. **Mara** 785-2500, ext. 2275.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

Moshe Bitterman, a Holocaust survivor, talks about his autobiography, 8 p.m., Beth Sholom Synagogue. Amcha.

MY BROTHER PETER

At Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood meeting author **Nomi Berger** talks about her book *My Brother Peter*, 12:30 p.m. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

Wednesday, Nov. 18

REINVENTING DIVORCE

Wendy Dennis, author of *The Divorce From Hell*, speaks on Reinventing Divorce In the Best Interest of Our Children, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Presented by National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section.

ADOPTIVE KIDS

Jewish Family & Child Service features Do All Adoptive Kids Have Special Needs? with **Shelley Rosenberg**, author of Adoption and the Jewish Family: Contemporary Perspectives, 8 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. **Susan Brandes**, JF&CS, 638-7800, ext. 294.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group current events topic, What's Happening Now, with **Doug Haddow**, at noon. Bring your lunch.

Thursday, Nov. 19

BODY IMAGE

Panel discussion, Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, Who's the Fairest of Them All? – Body Image and Eating Disorders, 7:30 p.m. North York Council Chambers, 5100 Yonge St. Jewish Women International, 630-9313.

PILLAR OF FIRE

Israeli documentary, Chapter XVI, commentary, **David Goldberg** 7:30 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Beth Am Synagogue. 633-3988 or 633-3500.

And What Else Is New

SING TO ME IN YIDDISH

Claire Klein Osipov, soprano, accompanied by **Wendy Bross Stuart**, perform at the Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave., Sunday, Nov. 15, and Monday, Nov. 16, at 7:30 p.m., songs from their CD, *Sing to Me In Yiddish*. Presented by Morris Winchevsky School with assistance of Label Basman Memorial Scholarship.

JEWISH THINKERS

Prof. David Novak, University of Toronto, discusses Modern Jewish Thinkers – Nov. 18 (Franz Rosenzweig), Nov. 25 (Abraham Joshua Heschel), Dec. 2 (Leo Baeck), Dec. 9 (Yeshayahu Leibowitz), 7:30-8:45 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Congregation.

OCCULT & SUPERSTITION

Downtown Jewish Learning Council presents A Jewish Perspective on Magic, Sorcery, Astrology, the Occult and Superstition, **Rabbi Michael Skobac,** Jews for Judaism, Tuesdays 8 p.m., Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Register, 924-6211

LASER QUEST

Chabad Youth Club fun evening of Laser Quest, Saturday, Nov. 21, at Laser Quest, 9625 Yonge St., Unit 3. Transportation available from Chabad Lubavitch of Markham. Reservations a must. 905-886-0420.

JEWISH TIME, SPACE

Three-week exploration of the Jewish Year, the Jewish Home and the Jewish Soul, beginning the week of Nov. 15, downtown, midtown, Thornhill locations. Sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. Pre-register. 905-709-1900 ext. 222.

THE NEW MARKETPLACE

Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary New Marketplace '98: Silent auction Nov. 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25; Bakery Cafe and Sale Nov. 18; Country Kitchen and Sale Nov. 25.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

Jewish Spirituality and Personal Growth with **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, 10 weeks beginning Wednesday, Nov. 18, at Jews for Judaism Centre, 800 Steeles Ave. W. Register 905-761-0040.

LUNCH & LEARN

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Lunch & Learn series, Strained Relations in the Bible, with **Rabbi Barry Schneider**, continues Tuesdays Nov. 24 and Dec. 8, 10:15 a.m. Presented by Continuing Education and Chai Shalom. RSVP **Tema Wasserman** 633-3838.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W., 905-764-1818.

Why the Jews, **Norm Grafstein** 8 p.m.

The Zenith Express – Not All Pleasures are Created Equally, **Rabbi Mitch Mandel** 8 p.m.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., winter courses for adults, teenagers, preteens in conversational Hebrew, all levels: Monday mornings Jan. 18-April 19; Wednesday mornings Jan. 20-April 21; Thursday evenings Jan. 21-April 22. Register. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Learn duplicate bridge and become a whiz. Lessons by expert. **Marg Long** 447-2326. Sponsored by Beth Tikvah Sisterhood.

SINGLES SCENE

Singles ages 25-35 and 36-55. Under auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 or **Mitchel** 223-8244.

Trivia Nite, Saturday, Nov. 14, 7:45 p.m.

Singles CPR, learn to save a life, Nov. 15 or 22. Receive certificate.

Fame at Royal Alexandra. Buy tickets now. 633-3838.

Jews for Judaism Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. at synagogue.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. Register. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800 ext. 215.

Grandparents in Families Where There Has Been a Divorce, workshop Nov. 24, 7:30 p.m.

Dealing With Life Cycle Events, how to cope with your ex-spouse when planning a bar/bat mitzvah or wedding, workshops Dec. 1.

Single Parent Challenge, begins Nov. 19; Bereavement Group for younger people losing a spouse, begins Nov. 25; The Self-Confident Women, stress and time management, begins Dec. 3.

ST. JOHNS COURSE

Held at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Reserve. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

Save A Life/Heartsaver CPR Nov. 15 or 22. Receive certificate.

Infant and Child CPR, November date to be announced.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. Nov. 19, bingo; Nov. 26, video; Dec. 19, Chanukah dance (reserve, **Malka Colla** 630-5771). Information, **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Israel trip postponed to Purim. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel Nov. 22-25; dance Nov. 15; New Year's Eve dinner dance Dec. 31. Bridge Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 1-3 p.m. Membership open. $12. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami Trip 1999, **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip, January, $1,280; February, $1,390. Efficiencies, entertainment and tax included. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W., 225-2112.

Check Nov. 15 Family Dance Afternoon in What's New section.

Wellness lecture, Let's Talk About Safer Sex, Seniors, with **Carol Farkas**, consultant Sexual Health, Research and Counselling, Thursday, Nov. 19, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Nov. 17 is a sing-a-long. **Anna**

Movie, *As Good As It Gets*, Sunday, Nov. 15, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social Nov. 18, with **Larisa Rosenfeld** and **Vladimir Gurevich**, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211

Toronto Jewish Film Society screens *My Mother's Courage*, how playwright **George Tabori's** mother **Elsa** survived the Holocaust, 5 and 7:30 p.m., Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario.

Wednesday Wellness Night continues with How to Improve Circulation, 7 p.m. Reserve.

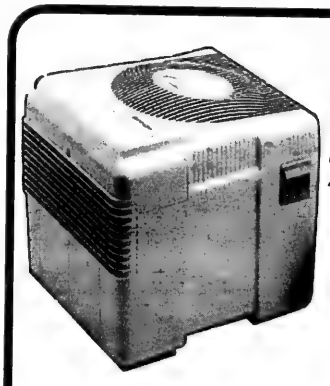
Senior's Club: Thursday, Nov. 12, 2 p.m. Artist **Lena Endicott** and drawing workshop; Thursday, Nov. 19, 2 p.m. Stay Healthy with a Vegetarian Diet, nutritionist **Suzi Singer** and **Rachelle Bronfman**, author of *CalciYum!* cookbook.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Registration is open for September 1999 for half-day programs for Tic Tac Two, Nursery, Junior and Senior Kindergarten. Ext. 248.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 34



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Wednesday, November 18, 8 p.m.
Bathurst Jewish Centre
4588 Bathurst St., The Jerusalem Room

For information and registration, call Susan Brandes at Jewish Family & Child Service 638-7800, ext. 294

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FRONT LINE REPORTS FROM ISRAEL

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BARUCH MERZEL
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For information call 416-537-2671

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SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.

For rates or to place an ad, call: TANYA at (416) 391-1836

***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles 35-55. Book Review. "Colour Of Water" by James McBride, reviewed by Ruby Newman. Beth Tikvah Synagogue, Nov. 24, 8:00pm Refreshments. Cost: $16. R.S.V.P. Ferne Kirschner 416-493-8338.

Chabibi Promotions invites you to the Ultimate Jewish Bash at Rockit Night Club, 120 Church St. at Richmond. Sat., Nov. 14. Tickets: $8-adv., $10-door. Info: 416-713-5012. chabibi4u@hotmail.com. Check out our website at http://all.at/chabibi

Co-ed Volleyball. Metro Toronto Sports presents its 6th annual co-ed volleyball season. **Recreational, intermediate & competitive** divisions. For info call 416-222-7111.

Hike The Rouge River Explore the Rouge River Valley. Special 2 for 1, Sunday, Nov. 15. Coming soon: Ski Mt. Tremblant New Years! **The Adventure Network - 905-707-0147**

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Kedma serves needs of Orthodox students

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Maury Kelman

TORONTO — Orthodox Jewish students on Toronto and Montreal campuses now have an organization geared to their specific needs.

Kedma, the brainchild of Toronto native, Rabbi Maury Kelman, was started in Israel two years ago and now has a presence in Canada, the United States (where it is continuing the activities of the organization Kiruv), England and France. A Kedma shabbaton was held this weekend in Montreal.

Rabbi Kelman, who moved to Israel in 1992, returned to Toronto last year to study law at Osgoode Hall.

He started Kedma to serve an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 observant North American students spending a year at yeshiva in Israel.

Ambassadors of Judaism

"The idea was to, basically, develop leaders who will be a source of Kiddush Hashem (sanctification of God's name)," he said. The independent, non-profit organization is apolitical, he added.

Programs focus on leadership training and social action. "Our mission is to strengthen observant students."

Most of the students in Israel, he noted, attend secular universities on their return home and haven't necessarily been in a non-Jewish or non-observant environment before.

Young men wearing kippot or young women in long skirts "will be seen as ambassadors of Judaism. How [will they] deal with that?"

Some of the programs he initiated in Israel included role playing and discussion "in an open, tolerant way," as well as social action programs like quarterly blood drives and an annual bone marrow drive held in conjunction with the Toronto one in memory of Audey Stanleigh.

Kedma's role includes preparing students for outreach to other Jews who may have negative stereotypes about the Orthodox – perhaps by extending a Shabbat invitation, offering to study together or talking informally about a Jewish issue.

"The object is to show Judaism and Orthodoxy in a positive light. One of [our] main principles is to sanctify God's name," he said. Kedma encourages students to do volunteer work and to be positive role models by living according to their principles, without being condescending.

While Kedma only became an official partner of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS) in September, Rabbi Kelman ran a couple of programs here last year.

A day-long conference on comparative law (Jewish and secular) was co-hosted by Kedma and Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Congregation in May.

Many of the non-observant attendees were shocked to find that they'd been under misconceptions about Jewish law, he said.

Kedma Israel now has a staff of five, who run the organization in Rabbi Kelman's absence.

In Toronto, Rabbi Kelman is running classes on the weekly Torah portion and contemporary Jewish issues out of York University's Jewish Student Federation. "The idea is to create learning programs, discussion groups on contemporary issues like pluralism and conversion, and trying to be a Kiddush Hashem." There's also a social aspect, he noted.

Lance Davis, JCS' director of education, serves as Kedma director in Toronto. Rabbi Kelman is chair of the international organization. The partnership arrangement with JCS – which is paralleled by the Conservative group Koach and the Reform movement's Kesher – is unique for Kedma, Rabbi Kelman said.

In the United States, by comparison, the New York-based group works with individual rabbis and synagogues to serve a variety of campuses.

Upcoming plans include the creation of a continent-wide student board. "Our goal is to make Kedma a student-run organization."

Kedma has filled a large gap in Toronto, said JCS' Davis. Regarding the separate denominational campus groups, "the idea is not to segregate communities, but to provide welcoming and safe gateways to bring the entire Jewish community together."

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The Canadian Jewish news

Sharon proposes return of Palestinian refugees

By AKIVA ELDAR
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon has recently been touting a revolutionary new plan for preventing a deadlock in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

The plan includes full territorial contiguity for the Palestinians, return of the 1967 refugees to the West Bank, and a two-track process with one devoted to security issues and one focused on "humanitarian and economic" issues aimed at improving Palestinian living conditions in the territories.

In his six-page English-language plan called Security and Coexistence: an alternative approach to the deadlock between Israel and the Palestinians, Sharon says that "the unflagging struggle for peace must be central to all our considerations," and that "the Middle East is in the midst of a conventional and non-conventional arms race, and as a country that absorbs immigrants and faces heavy social, economic and humanitarian problems, Israel is not interested in taking part in this race."

In the document, which Sharon has used recently in presenting his views about the region to various groups, he says, "It is possible to reach an interim agreement which is a kind of non-belligerency agreement. This will enable the Palestinians to keep the Oslo agreement, and Israel will get the time it needs to test and see that conditions are ripe for a true, lasting peace."

Emphasizing that "this alternative approach of avoiding crises, a concept of the agreement as 'less than peace' must be considered a position of retreat: if at any stage in the negotiations it becomes clear that the effort to reach a final status agreement has failed, the Israelis and Palestinians could adopt this approach, as a way of breaking the deadlock and reviving the peace process."

In the introduction, Sharon writes: "Fifty years after the establishment of the state, the political landscape of the Middle East is still characterized by hostility, hatred and suspicion. At the most basic levels, the Palestinians and Arabs have not fully accepted the presence of a non-Arab, non-Muslim state like Israel, in their midst ... Do we really have to wait for this attitude to change?" Sharon asks.

"I don't believe so," he replies. "An unflagging effort to reach peace should be the principle guiding all our judgments."

Continued on page 37

U.S. urges Israel to ratify Wye

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — U.S. officials have urged Israel and the Palestinian Authority to move ahead with the Wye agreement, despite a spate of terrorist attacks aimed at derailing the peace process.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright telephoned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat last Friday, after a suicide bombing at Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda market wounded at least 21 Israelis. The two suicide bombers were the only fatalities.

She reportedly appealed to them not to let the enemies of peace derail implementation of the Wye Accord, which calls for Israel to transfer 13 percent of the West Bank to the Palestinians in exchange for concrete actions against terrorism.

The Israeli Cabinet, which was in session last Friday when the suicide bombers struck, immediately suspended its deliberations on the accord.

The Cabinet later issued a statement that it would ratify the agreement only after the Palestinian Authority fulfils its security obligations under the accord.

Just the same, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai predicted the Cabinet would convene in the coming days to resume discussion of the agreement.

At a weekend rally, Netanyahu announced that Israel would continue to build in Jerusalem, including Har Choma. The start of infrastructure work in March 1997 at the controversial site in southeastern Jerusalem prompted a deadlock in the negotiations with the Palestinians that lasted 18 months.

Machane Yehuda was the site of a terrorist attack in July 1997, when two suicide bombers claimed 16 victims and wounded 170 others.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Russian Parliament fails to censure extremist

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — The lower house of Russia's Parliament is facing accusations that it fuelled anti-Semitism by rejecting a resolution criticizing a Communist lawmaker for anti-Jewish remarks he made last month.

President Boris Yeltsin criticized the Duma, saying he was indignant at the rejection of the motion to censure Gen. Albert Makashov, who recently said, among other things, that "it is time to expel all Yids from Russia."

"Extremism will not take the upper hand in Russia," Yeltsin said in a statement.

In fact, Makashov is not alone in blaming the Jews for Russia's economic hardships. Anti-Jewish banners were evident at two rallies that drew 20,000 people last weekend to mark the 81st anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution.

The rejected motion, which did not criticize Makashov directly, said his comments were "harsh and bordering on rude" and had provoked concern across society. It fell far short of receiving the 226 votes it would have needed for passage in the Duma.

Pyotr Shelisch, a Jewish member of the Duma, said it was "important that the vote did take place, showing where the Communists stand" on the issue of anti-Semitism.

Boris Berezovsky, a Jewish tycoon, went so far as to call for the banning of the Communist party, the main opposition party in the Parliament.

The debate in the Duma received unusually extensive coverage in the Russian mass media.

One television channel, NTV, called Nov. 5 a black day for Russian Communists who showed their worth when they "trampled on multi-ethnic Russia."

In Washington, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) commended Yeltsin for his remarks, but also called for further action.

"It is time to look for ways to make fundamental changes in how the Russian people and Russian leadership think of their fellow Jewish citizens," Mark Levin, executive director of the NCSJ, said in a telephone interview. "Now is the time to dig out the root of systemic anti-Semitism that exists in Russia. It needs to be addressed before it gets out of hand."

Russian state prosecutors had said they were considering bringing criminal charges against Makashov, and the Communists had said they would dissociate themselves from his statements.

But attempts by authorities to prosecute Makashov over his remarks have stalled. As a Duma deputy, he enjoys immunity from prosecution and can only be stripped of this by the chamber.

And the Communists appear to have reneged on their earlier promise.

Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov tried to limit the damage caused by the affair by saying that Makashov had been issued a reprimand by the party. But Zyuganov also said in an interview last week that if some Jews are insulted by Makashov's remarks, Communists are ready to take part in a "Russian-Jewish dialogue" that should also involve "numerous facts" of humiliation and insults to the Russian people.

Other hard-line legislators also defended Makashov. Another Communist lawmaker, Yuri Chunkov, said that many people in his native Siberia share the views expressed by Makashov. And Vassily Shandybin, a Communist representing central Russia, said all Jews are to blame even when a single Jew acts as a "traitor."

Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the leader of the Liberal Democratic party, chimed in by saying that the remarks were understandable given the hardships experienced by the Russian people.

For his part, Makashov said the issue was not one of anti-Semitism. He said that by using the word Yids, he meant to attack Zionism, which is a "threat to Russia."

Some analysts suggested that the issue could damage the future electoral chances of the Communist party.

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High court backs pluralism

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — In a decision that advances the cause of religious pluralism in Israel, the High Court of Justice has ordered three Israeli cities to appoint Reform and Conservative representatives to local religious councils.

Along with the ruling regarding Tel Aviv, Haifa and Arad, the court called on a government committee that oversees the contentious issue to resolve pending challenges regarding the religious councils of Jerusalem and the northern community of Kiryat Tivon.

In its ruling, the 13-justice panel established a general criterion for membership on the local councils – that the representatives not be anti-religious.

The participation of non-Orthodox representatives on the councils has been hotly debated in the courts for more than two years.

The local religious councils, supervised by the Religious Affairs Ministry, have exclusive jurisdiction over marriage, kashrut, burial and other religious matters for all Jews living in Israel. Members of each council are appointed by the local municipal council, the religious affairs minister and the local chief rabbi.

Rabbi Uri Regev, head of the Movement for Progressive Judaism in Israel, as the Reform movement in Israel is known, termed the latest ruling an "important stepping stone" that builds on a ruling last year which opened the way for the appointment of a Reform representative to the Netanya religious council.

But Orthodox representatives challenged the ruling, questioning how it would be possible for a religious council to operate if its members possessed varying degrees of religious observance.

"Regarding Haifa, the question was not whether Conservative, Reform and Orthodox could sit together on a council. We consider such categorizing artificial," Haifa's chief rabbi, Rabbi Sha'ar Yishuv Cohen, told Israel Radio.

"If the council includes members who openly say they do not observe kashrut and keep the Sabbath, then the religious councils, whose function is to provide religious services, such as kashrut certification, cannot accomplish their tasks."

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The Week in Israel

Nov. 2

• Yasser Arafat agreed to a request by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to postpone the start of the Wye Accord, which was to take effect today.

• Israel lifted restrictions imposed in September on the entry of Palestinian workers. The number of entry permits for laborers was increased from 47,000 to 60,000. Israel also allows entry to 21,000 Palestinian merchants.

Nov. 3

• President Ezer Weizman assured Cyprus that relations between the two Mediterranean countries would not be affected by Israel's increased military ties to Turkey.

Nov. 4

• Attorney General Elyakim Rubenstein said the government plans to indict a former undercover agent for failing to prevent the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. Although Avishai Raviv did not know the precise plan for the murder, he did know of Yigal Amir's intention to assassinate Rabin.

Nov. 5

• A law that would force Israeli radio stations to devote at least half of their music air time to Israeli songs passed first reading in the Knesset. The bill is intended to "erect a protective wall" around Israeli music against the "onslaught" of foreign influences.

• Israel announced it will send medical supplies, medical teams and agricultural teams to help the victims of Hurricane Mitch.

• Israel attacked suspected Hezbollah targets in south Lebanon in retaliation for a roadside bomb that killed three members of the South Lebanese Army.

Nov. 6

• The cabinet suspended talks on ratifying the Wye accord following the suicide car-bomb attack in Machane Yehuda. Hamas claimed credit for the attack. It appeared that only the two bombers were killed. More than 20 people, however, were hurt.

• Israel's population passed the six million mark. The population grew by one million during the past seven years. Of the total figure, 4.76 million are Jewish.

Files from the JTA

Islamic Jihad sent bombers to market

Continued from page 1

small group of right-wing extremists arrived at the site promptly and tried to incite the crowd.

These extremists are almost always on hand in the aftermath of a Palestinian terror attack. Machane Yehuda, a bastion of the capital's right wing, is considered a friendly area for them.

This time, however, the chants of "Bibi is a failure!" and "Ka-hana!" were almost immediately hushed by market vendors who hurried to restore business to normal, at least partially. "Shut up, you trash!" one vendor shouted at a youth, who screamed for "death to the Arabs."

Surprised by the reaction, the boy and his friends tried again: "Death to the traitors, death to the Arabs." But to no avail.

"Nobody here says anything against Bibi," said a vegetable vendor. "Nobody here is going to exploit a terrorist attack for political gain."

The Kahanists, supporters of the outlawed extremist movement Kach, looked helpless and lost. They hoped to find a stormy and furious market following the attack, but instead found that some of the rage was aimed at them. Even the police acted determinately against the instigators, some of whom they know well.

Within several minutes, three of the inciters were arrested and the others dispersed. One of the three was remanded to custody while the other two were released on bail.

The flow of shoppers after the Friday morning attack was light, but a trickle of market-goers continued to arrive – especially to the stands farther from the site of the blast.

Another indication that vendors were trying to restore business to normal was that, unlike previous times, not everybody sent their Arab workers home, despite the concern that they would be lynched by an angry mob. A few Arab workers could be spotted in the market during the day.

Those vendors who did not close their stands at 10 a.m. insisted on ending the day "with something," according to pastry vendor Golan Levy. "Life goes on no matter what," he said, "especially on a Friday."

Another vendor added, "It will be tough, but peace will continue. We can't go back. The government knows what it's doing. Bibi and Arik [Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon] are not stupid."

About three hours after the incident, Jaffa Street reopened to traffic. Several hours after the attack there were reports of two incidents in which Palestinians were hurt by Jews who threw stones at them.

TYPE OF CAR OR SIMILAR		1/1 26 AUG. 98 19 DEC. 98
	MANUAL CARS	
A	FIAT PUNTO 3 DR	126
B	CITROEN SAXO	147
C	DAIHATSU CHARADE P.S	175
C1	PEUGEOT 306	217
C1	FORD ESCORT PS / DAIHATSU APPLAUSE	238
CD	CITROEN XSARA DISEL	259
N	KIA BESTA 8 SEATS	455
M	MINIBUS 10 SEATS	490
	AUTOMATIC CARS • A.C	
D	KIA PRIDE / DAIHATSU SIRION	196
E	DAEWOO LANOS	238
F	* NISSAN ALMERA	280
G	* MAZDA LANTIS / KIA 1.8	315
K	* GMC SAVANA	700
X	* SUBARU LEGACY 1.8	336
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List of Nazi-era looters found

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

NEW YORK — The World Jewish Congress (WJC) announced Friday it has found a list of 2,000 people involved in the Nazi looting of art during World War II, and planned to make the list public as early as this week.

The WJC said its researchers found the list during a search through recently declassified documents in the U.S. National Archives.

The list was compiled by the Art Looting Investigations Unit of the Office of Strategic Services, which later became the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Nazi looting of art was unprecedented in history and according to Francis Taylor, the director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the total value of the stolen art in 1945 was about $2.5 billion at wartime prices – or more than the total value of all the art in the United States.

A WJC spokesperson said the group plans to make the list public as early as next week in connection with the opening of a State Department conference at the end of this month on the restitution of Holocaust-era assets.

The list of names will be accompanied by a biographical index. The spokesperson said that the names on the list include people from Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Sweden and Luxembourg. Some of the most prominent art dealers in Europe are included.

Sharon's new plan

Continued from page 35

While noting that "Judea and Samaria are the cradle of the Jewish people…and no country would give up territory and its historic roots," he says, "Israel has agreed to compromise and to make concessions in order to reach peace."

Therefore, Sharon suggests a plan of his own to advance the peace process. The plan includes the following key points:

• Efforts must be made to avoid crises in the negotiations;

• Israel must do all in its power to improve the daily life and living conditions of the Palestinians;

• Israel must stick to its strategic defence needs, including security zones;

• Israel must make its positions clear as to what it can and cannot do.

Sharon proposes advancing the negotiations on two parallel tracks. The first would be the diplomatic track and deal with border security, mutual territorial agreements and other elements. The second track would be humanitarian and economic and would deal with improving the economic climate, providing incentives, creating mutual trust and more.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Italy struggles with memory of anti-Jewish era

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — Sixty years ago, fascist Italy enacted anti-Semitic legislation that led the way to the Holocaust in this country. Italy's public authorities and the country's Jewish community are marking the anniversary with a series of commemorations, conferences, publications and other activities.

They are aimed both at memorializing the Jews who were persecuted as well as condemning the anti-Semitic policy of the fascist state.

But they also are directed at examining the behavior of most mainstream Italians who did little to protest or combat the racist laws.

"I'll never forget the indifference," recalls Tullia Zevi, until recently the longtime president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities. "It was bitter. Nobody took a stand."

The fascist government of dictator Benito Mussolini passed the first of a series of anti-Semitic laws on Sept. 2, 1938. The laws were fully in place on Nov. 17, 1938 and affected more than 48,000 people.

They barred Jews from public life and subjected them to a wide range of humiliating restrictions and persecution.

Among other things, they barred Jewish students and teachers from public schools and universities. They barred Jews from marrying non-Jews, from working in a long list of professions, from serving in the army, from employing Christian servants, from staying in hotels, vacationing at resorts and placing classified ads in newspapers.

Thousands of Jews fled the country, including talented intellectuals and scientists, such as Rita Levi Montalcini, who won the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1986.

The racist laws were a particular shock for Italy's highly acculturated Jews. Unlike the case in Nazi Germany, the laws came with relatively little warning and more or less reversed the prior policy of the fascist regime.

Jews had been active participants in Italy's independence movement, the Risorgimento, in the 19th century, and most felt a profound sense of Italian identity.

A number of Jews were early supporters of Mussolini, and while many Jews were anti-fascist, thousands of Jews had joined the fascist party.

"The racist laws represented a deep wound, not just for the Jews, but for the country as a whole," the Milan Jewish magazine *Il Bolletino* said in its October issue. "For the first time, the united state constructed in the Risorgimento cut off a group of citizens who had participated, side by side with others, in the construction of that state."

Recalled Zevi, who was a teenager when the racist laws were imposed and fled Italy with her family to the United States: "From one day to the next, we became nobodies, ghosts. It teaches you about the fragility of the human condition."

Indeed, part of the problem in looking back is the fact that many older Italians must confront their own behavior in the face of the persecutions.

Italy entered World War II as a Nazi ally and ended it on the side of the Allies. The Italian fascists arrested Jews and interned them in prisons and concentration camps, but Italian Jews were only deported to death camps after the Germans occupied Italy in 1943. About 8,000 Italian Jews were deported to their deaths.

Indeed, Italians have won praise for their role in helping Jews survive during the war.

As a result, there has been a tendency to "push the idea that attitudes of solidarity shown by many Italians during the German occupation, when Jews risked deportation, had actually begun as early as 1938," according to an article in the Milan newspaper *Corriere della Sera*.

A survey of the grandparents of students at a Milan secondary school, the article said, showed that many thought that Italian anti-Semitic laws were only introduced after the German occupation.

A 1995 poll of young Italians aged 16 to 24 showed that only little more than 38 percent knew that Italy had ever imposed anti-Semitic laws.

The commemorations come at a time when renewed interest in the history of World War II is coupled both with a fading of memory and with debates over the true nature of Italian fascism and its legacy.

Pope Pius XII a saint?

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — Israel's ambassador to the Vatican wants to delay plans to beatify Pope Pius XII.

Calling for a 50-year moratorium on plans to beatify the wartime pope, Aharon Lopez told reporters that haste in setting Pius XII on the road to sainthood would constitute a "very destabilizing element" in relations between Israel and the Vatican.

Critics accuse Pius XII of remaining silent in the face of the Holocaust.

The beatification process is the last step before someone is made a saint.

Lopez called on the Vatican to open its classified archives to let historians find out the full truth about Pius XII's wartime actions. Such archives, he noted, are usually kept secret for 70 years.

Lopez noted that "beatifications are the absolute prerogative of the church" and said he did not intend to pass judgement on Pius XII.

But, calling Pius a "controversial" figure, he added, "I think there should be a moratorium of about 50 years" on the beatification process in order to "dispel any doubts about Pius XII."

He also noted that "feelings are still high and wounds are still open from the tragedy of the Shoah."

In response to Lopez's remarks, a Vatican spokesperson said that the beatification process "would take its due course" and the Israeli position would have no effect.

Forgiveness for Inquision possible

ROME — Pope John Paul II has indicated that the Vatican may ask forgiveness for the Inquisition as part of a policy of self-searching as the Christian millennium approaches.

The Pope said last week that the Inquisition belonged to a "tormented" phase of the history of the Roman Catholic Church, and he noted that he had already called upon the faithful to reflect deeply and sincerely on this period.

But, he said, the church could not ask for pardon based only on emotionally charged public opinion.

"Only when historical science has managed to establish the true facts can theologians and ecclesiastical authorities express an objectively based judgment," the Pope said.

The Pope was addressing several dozen international historians, scholars and other experts on the Inquisition who had met for three days behind closed doors at the Vatican.

The symposium was the church's first official examination of what many regard as the darkest chapter of its history.

It was held as part of the Vatican's preparations for the year 2000. Pope John Paul wants the church to begin its new millennium by owning up to, and repenting for past sins.

The Inquisition was set up in the 13th century as a permanent tribunal charged with rooting out and combating heresy. It lasted into the 19th century and became notorious for brutal methods that included the interrogation, imprisonment, torture and burning at the stake of many thousands of people.

—R.G., JTA

French Jews put Holocaust education ahead of restitution

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Leaders of the French Jewish community have asked the World Jewish Congress (WJC) for moderation as it pursues Holocaust restitution in France.

Educating the French people about their wartime past takes priority over monetary reparations, the community's president said during a recent meeting in New York.

"We know you want to help us," said Henri Hajdenberg. "We thank you for your help and your support, but you have to understand – it's a French problem."

The appeal comes as the WJC prepares to negotiate payment of Holocaust-era claims with 15 countries, including France, on behalf of Jewish victims and their heirs.

Some critics have maintained that the WJC was too strong-handed in its efforts to wrest a settlement from Swiss banks, and that this posture contributed to an anti-Semitic backlash in that country.

Others have defended the WJC, saying the recent $1.25 billion (US) Swiss settlement would never have been reached without the group's persistent pressure.

The call for moderation from French Jewish leaders reflects fears that too aggressive an approach in their country would only fuel the right wing, which has attracted 15 to 20 percent of the French vote in recent elections.

Noted Nazi hunter Serge Klarsfeld, a member of the French delegation meeting with the WJC here, also cited the "deep roots of anti-Semitism in France," punctuated by the Dreyfus Affair of 100 years ago and the Vichy government of World War II.

"We have to deal with that complex situation," said Klarsfeld, who is one of four Jews sitting on a nine-member, French government commission that will inventory assets looted from Jews living in France during the war.

The commission is expected to present a final report of its findings in December 1999.

The French Jewish community's objective concerning material restitution, Hajdenberg said, is threefold:

- to inventory bank accounts, money and possessions taken from Jews deported from France;
- to ensure that heirs of foreign Jews living in France who were deported receive restitution; and
- to make sure that stolen artworks are returned to their rightful Jewish owners or their survivors.

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Winter Fashion

Company's success attributed to versatility

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

When Irving and Debbie Estein launched I.D. Fashion Ltd. 20 years ago, they ran their fledgling women's apparel company from the basement of their home.

Today, the Winnipeg-based company is the exclusive North American manufacturer of the label L.A. Seat Covers and employs 70 people in its 30,000-square-feet headquarters at 100 Adelaide St.

"We grew quickly," Debbie Estein said in a recent telephone interview. "When we moved into this building, we occupied one floor then a second. We kept growing and finally we bought the building. Today we're spread out on four floors."

Estein attributes I.D. Fashion's success to the quality and versatility of the clothing line it has produced over the last two decades.

"The kind of product we manufacture was popular right away. It was a lucky break. Customers recognized the high quality right away."

The company specializes in "sophisticated" weekend wear, which she defined as unstructured clothing in soft fabrics with elasticized waists for comfort.

"Quality and fit are the strengths of the line," she said. "These are our priorities... Most of our product is pre-washed. We eliminate shrinkage and we offer soft fabrics that are easy to care for."

Estein said the clothing is so versatile that, with the right accessories, it can be worn at the office or other less casual venues.

The outfits also have a "youthful look that appeals to women of all ages," she added.

The company produces both a winter and summer line. The winter wear, which is in stores now, uses a variety of fabrics, like velour, and polar fleece, while a soft woven cotton is used extensively in the summer line, Estein said.

She said one of the most popular selections is a ribbed velour grouping in purple, brown, black, and chartreuse. Leggings or pull on pants are paired with a box style-single breasted blazer or a zippered tunic-length top with a flower treatment on the pull of the zipper.

Another big seller, she said, is a polar fleece group which is available in solid black as well as a geometric print in melon and light turquoise with black accents.

The polar fleece straight-leg pants, which are ribbed at the drawstring waist for comfort, can be coordinated with several matching tops: a long sleeve simple tunic, a hip-length vest with a zipper and Chinese collar, a big shirt with buttons or a long sleeve shirt with a drawstring waist and a wind collar (a zippered collar that can be worn up or down).

Irving and Debbie Estein.

Continued on page 40

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Winter Fashion

Psst... Hey guys wanna buy ladies' underwear?

By JOSEPH SERGE
Supplements Editor

A month ago I was invited to a Jack and Jill wedding shower. What made the whole thing rather stressful was that it was a "lingerie-themed" shower, meaning I was supposed to buy lingerie for the bride-to-be.

So armed with the bride's bra-size (which I surreptitiously obtained from her sister, not by copping a feel and guessing), I headed over to the nearest super mall and trepidatiously entered a place I'd only heard wonderful stories about – La Senza.

Within seconds I began to feel like I'd rather be on the battlefield in Stalingrad – "anywhere but here."

First off, the huge posters of young women wearing only their undies was a bit discomforting. You know, it's like those old Russian icons that keep staring at you no matter where you move.

As I began fiddling about with the lacy bras on display, looking for a size 30C, I felt – I knew – that every woman in the store was looking at me (and wouldn't you know it, the store was packed, although I could swear it was empty when I walked in). I knew exactly what they were thinking – and it wasn't nice.

Temperature rising, sweat falling, I aborted the bra idea and moved on to teddies. (Panties were right out!) But now I faced a dilemma. Cup size wasn't the only thing I had to know here, and I'm a horrible guesser when it comes to S, M, L, XL.

A store clerk, half my age, soon approached me. "Can I help you?" I looked at her and then at all the women who turned to look at me. I swear the girl in the poster beside me shifted her pose, perhaps to hear my answer.

My hands started shaking. I felt like a teenage boy caught by a store clerk looking at *Penthouse*. I mumbled something incoherently and dashed out the store to a Home Depot, where, amidst the power drills and hammers, I felt safe.

Laurence Lewin, president of La Senza, has some advice for men trying to buy underwear for a woman. "The expression of love, like the selection of lingerie, can be a minefield or a masterpiece," he says. "There's always the question of interpretation when you're building bridges from Mars to Venus. That's why you've got to get your message right."

So here, direct from the horse's mouth, is A Martian's Guide to Venus.

There are three questions to consider when buying lingerie for a woman, the first being: What message are you trying to send?

Basically, Lewin says, there are three choices. If your gift were a greeting card, what would the message say?

- "I love you" or "I want you?"
- "Please wear this for me," or "Here's something to keep you warm;" or
- "Let's watch Jay Leno together" or "Let's rent 9 1/2 weeks."

The second major question: What's her style?

- Is she ultra-modern, favoring non-frilly, un-fussy clothing? If this is the case you're in luck. This is a banner year for classic satins and silks with sleek, uncluttered lines.

Continued on page 41

Success attributed to firm's versatility

Continued from page 39

The polar fleece tops can be can be accessorized with a mock turtle neck in 100 percent cotton, which comes in solid colors to match the colors of the print.

Another product grouping is called "crush and plush," in which two textured fabrics are designed to be matched together – one has the appearance and sheen of crushed velvet, while the other fabric is thicker and less luminous.

"This grouping has a real holiday feel and a less casual look," Estein said. "It comes in a beautiful chocolate brown, jade green, burgundy, and black."

Leggings and pull on pants can be paired with a long tunic with deep side slits or a baseball-style hip length long sleeve cardigan with a V-neck and buttoned front.

L.A. Seat Covers are available in small to extra large, she said. "We also do a petite block for stores that specialize in petite and a tall block made to the specifications of the Tall Girls shops."

Dresses are a growing part of the market and are included in every grouping except the polar fleece. The style is loose-fitting with a gathered or A-line skirt with, or without, a button front. The dresses come in knee and ankle lengths.

A-line skirts with elastic waists in these two lengths are available with most L.A. Seat Cover groupings, Estein, added.

The company manufactures much of the fabric used in the clothing – the velours and double-knits – she said, noting that her husband takes care of financing and fabric production, while she's in charge of production and design.

Estein said the company acquired the Canadian rights to the California-based L.A. Seat Covers about 15 years ago. But because the U.S. company no longer exists, I.D. Fashion is now the line's exclusive North American manufacturer.

Recently I.D. expanded into the United States, she said. "A year ago ColdWater Creek – a mail order business with a huge catalogue distribution across the U.S. and Canada – became a major customer."

The L.A. Seat Cover line can be found at Tall Girl shops across Canada, in Vancouver at Petit Fashions, in Regina at The Dressing Room and Under Rhaps, and in other stores in major Canadian cities.

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Ernie's wife, Debra has been in the jewellery business for the past 25 years, and enjoys not only selling but custom designing jewellery for their customers as well.

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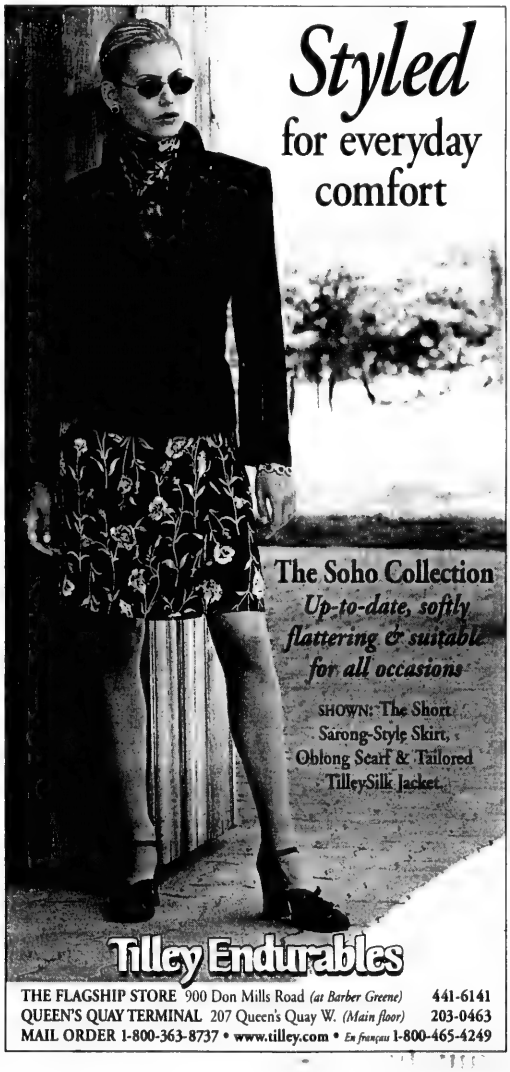
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Winter Fashion

How to buy lingerie for your special friend

Continued from page 40

• Is she romantic and tactile? A lover of dinner by candlelight? For her, consider gifts with the sensual softness of velour – in styles ranging from crushed panné mini-nighties, to luscious full-length robes.

• Does she revel in the glamor of getting really dressed up? Chances are she'll love the luxury of a full-length Jean Harlow-style satin nightgown with thigh-high slit and matching faux fur-trimmed robe. Or a slinky red satin nightie with glittering rhinestone straps.

•Is she drop-dead sexy? In this case hot peek-a-boo fashions in daring translucent mesh with embroidery, snakeskin-printed or naughty stretch lace. Plus the perennial favorite: lace-trimmed garter belts.

•Is she the playful 'little-girl" type? Look for cozy flannel pyjamas with Winnie-the-Pooh or Mickey Mouse prints. Or, like Ally McBeal, opt for the ultimate bedtime-story nightwear featuring fluffy sheep, big tailed squirrels or bundled-up teddy bears.

More often than not, Lewin says, "Women really want a lingerie wardrobe that offers a variety of choices depending on their mood."

Big help there!

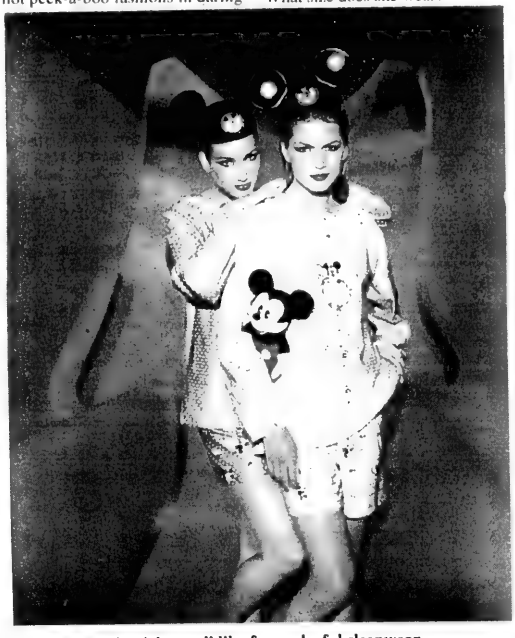
The final question to ponder: What size does she wear?

When in doubt, I was told, always opt for a larger size. At least you know she'll be able to get it on. If she notices that you've bought a bigger size than she usually wears, tell her the sales lady said the style "fits small." That way, she won't be offended or embarrassed if the larger size fits her perfectly.

"At La Senza we reduce the risk for gift givers by discreetly sealing your sales slip in a small envelope. You can slip it to her in case the gift needs to be returned for another size," he says.

For the record, I ended up getting her a nice bath robe. You can't go wrong there.

Joseph Serge only wears women's underwear "on special occasions" and never on Shabbat.



"Little-girl types" like fun, colorful sleepwear.

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Izzy Camilleri Couture
Taking Fashion to a New Level

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, *couture* is defined as the business of designing fashionable custom-made women's clothing. According to designer Izzy Camilleri, *couture* is the opportunity to launch an exciting new fashion concept.

Izzy Camilleri's career began at the mere age of nine, when her mother taught her how to sew without using patterns. Creating clothes became a hobby of Izzy's, and not too much later it became a profession. With the opening of Izzy Camilleri Couture, a full-service, custom clothing design house, Izzy takes fashion to the next level.

"I want to change some of the preconceptions women have about custom designed clothing and position couture as a viable alternative to retail shopping," says Izzy. While the idea of custom-made clothing is not new, the trend has been that women tend to have something made for a special occasion only. Izzy Camilleri Couture emphasizes custom-made production of any type of clothing from casual to business and evening.

"I think there are really two hurdles to overcome in terms of positioning couture clothing," says Izzy. "The first is that many women don't even know that the option exists and the second is the belief that it is expensive, time consuming and risky."

Draped front partially bias cut evening gown.

In order to simplify the entire couture process, Izzy has developed a formula geared to ensuring a positive experience. At the first appointment, Izzy will discuss the proposed project, design the item and take measurements. Then, the client can choose the fabric from the extensive assortment available at the studio. "I know that my clients are busy, so sending them to a fabric store seems incredibly inconvenient," says Izzy. The client will have one fitting and in most cases can pick up the completed garment a week later. Women may think that having clothing custom designed is more expensive than buying it in a store, but Izzy feels that customers will be surprised at how reasonable the cost can actually be. "To design a pair of wide leg cuffed trousers can cost approximately $100, not including fabric, which is probably the same or lower than what is found in the stores. A skirt can cost from $75 to $100, plus the cost of fabric, depending on the style. In most cases the entire project takes from one to two weeks, depending on the client's needs, but in an emergency a garment can be ready in 48 hours."

Izzy's credentials should convince potential clients that she can deliver on this formula. From 1984 to 1990, Izzy's career bloomed, as she designed unique leather and knit fashions that were shown at such high profile events as Fashion Cares, the Festival of Canadian Fashion, and even at a private showing for Prince Andrew and Sarah, the Duchess of York.

In the early nineties, the fashion industry began feeling the impact of the slowing economy. In a time when many designers suffered due to the recession, Izzy actually launched a new facet of her career when a friend asked her to create the wardrobe for a film she was working on. Word of mouth brought a flood of work in the movie and television industry. Soon Izzy had produced costumes for such stars as Nicole Kidman, Nicholas Cage, David Bowie, Mira Sorvino, Holly Hunter, and Kareem Abdul Jabbar. Today, Izzy's wardrobing business employs a staff of seven.

Semi-fitted evening suit

While the wardrobing business continues to thrive, Izzy felt it was time for a new challenge and developed Izzy Camilleri Couture. "This new venture really is a logical next step. It combines my experience as fashion designer with my experience in wardrobe production." Her goal is to make women excited about the couture concept. "There are so many aspects to couture clothing that make sense for women," says Izzy. "They can have that incredible suit they saw in a magazine that isn't available here. They don't have to scour stores looking for the perfect leather jeans, and they can replace their favourite pair of pants that have worn out. They can bring me a picture, or even an idea, and I can design and produce exactly what they want." Achieving the proper fit and adjusting current fashion trends to take into account real women's bodies is of course one of the major advantages of custom designed clothing. "We are used to making clothes for actresses that aren't even in town by taking measurements over the phone, so creating clothes that fit is one of our areas of expertise," says Izzy.

Izzy Camilleri Couture is located at **207 Adelaide Street East, Suite 204**. For an appointment, please call **(416) 860-0783**.

Winter Fashion

Photos courtesy of Saga Furs of Scandinavia

Saga Furs launches new Gaultier line

A collection of furs for men and women created by French couturier Jean-Paul Gaultier, in cooperation with Saga Furs of Scandinavia, made its North American debut on the runway at the annual North American Fur & Fashion Exhibition in Montreal (NAFFEM) this spring.

Gaultier's collection is indicative of Saga's mission – to get talented designers interested in using fur in new ways.

The styles included a unique twist on the bolero, one for women in red Saga fox, and one, for men, in Saga silver fox.

A full-length, reversible Saga mink coat for women has special seaming and embroidery, while an urban remake of an Inuit style coat combines fox with astrakahn.

For men, Gaultier has created a French, nautical-style striped pullover in Saga mink – a design that is classic, whimsical Gaultier. A belted kimono coat for women in black mink rounds out the small but diverse collection.

Fur is making inroads in menswear this year. The fall '98 European menswear collections showed trimmed and whole fur coats for men in contemporary, avant-garde and classic styles. In Paris, Milan and New York, designers discovered that fur suited their individual styles and hit the right note for autumn.

Steve Gold, Saga Furs of Scandinavia's North American representative, addressed NAFFEM representatives at the Montreal show. Gold regularly attends the designer collections in Europe and the United States.

He has also been the architect of Saga's highly successful, ongoing American Designer initiative. The program has encouraged over 40 distinguished fashion designers to use fur in their ready-to-wear collections.

The North American Fur and Fashion Design Competition award panel singled out four Canadians for their spectacular work.

Two top honors went to three former trainees of the Saga International Design Centre: gold medalist Angela Bucaro ('94, winner of $10,000; and silver medalists Mariouche Gagne ('93) and Veronique Miljkovitch ('93), winners of $7,000 each. All three are from Montreal. The two silver awards are given courtesy of Martin Cauchon, secretary of state for Canada Economic Development.

Torontonian David Dixon won a bronze medal and a $3,000 cash prize.

The North American Fur & Fashion design Competition is organized by the Fur Council of Canada, with the support of Canada Economic Development.

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Nose job: Woman turns her passion for scents into a business

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to the CJN

Blending her keen sense of smell, great intuition and a dramatic flare, Marian Bendeth, started Sixth Scents, a unique consulting company dedicated to fragrance education.

Bendeth's fascination with fragrance began when her grandmother presented her with a bottle of 4711 at the age of three. "I became obsessed with the smell," she said. "By the age of five I had saved my pocket money and was able to purchase a miniature bottle of L'Air du Temps. When I was 11, I owned over 25 perfume bottles. My taste in fragrance had become very sophisticated."

Bendeth's passion for perfume turned from a hobby to a vocation when working at a public relations firm in the 1980s. "My boss gave an excellent presentation to two potential clients, both men. When she left the room, one of the men commented that he couldn't work around her smell and promptly went to another agency. Overhearing this conversation, I took the liberty of assisting her with regard to appropriate fragrances for her future presentations."

This experience led Bendeth to her present career as a fragrance specialist, first as a promotional assistant and demonstrator with a number of stores in Toronto. By 1989, Bendeth formed Sixth Scents offering her talents to the general public and the fragrance industry.

Bendeth, listed in *Who's Who of Canadian Women* in 1997, 98 and 99 operates a multi-faceted business. Within the perfume field, Bendeth advises fragrance distributors on viability of importing products, evaluates perfumers' creations, conducts seminars, guests on television shows and writes articles.

Bendeth's in-store demonstrations are often requested by many retailers including The Bay, Sears and Eatons. She is currently negotiating to return to her birth place, London, England to ply her knowledge at one of the most prestigious department stores in the world.

As an independent, unbiased source, Bendeth is often called upon by the major perfume houses to launch their scents. Her commissioned endorsements have included Parfums Boucheron, Jean Paul Gaultier, Lalique Parfums and Lanvin Parfums.

In October, Bendeth was invited on a fragrance expedition of France under the auspices of the French trade Commission and CFME ACTIM – the agency for International Promotion of French Technology and Trade with the French Parfumery Federation. She visited essential oil houses and met with perfumers.

A highlight of her trip was being invited to the home of Loris Azzaro for tea. The couturier whose name adorns a bevy of fragrances delighted in testing her ability to sniff out the ingredients of his favorite scents. She was thrilled, yet slightly embarrassed when he insisted on calling her "*Le Nez*" (the nose).

"No," she protested. "A nose is a genius who creates perfume. It's like someone saying you are an artist when you are an art critic."

An integral part of Sixth Scents' business is personalized fragrance wardrobing. "It involves an all over fragrance education," she says. "This consultation involves interpreting the perfumer's work, the consumer taste and ultimately, their body chemistry and motivation in purchasing. What separates me from everybody else is that I become the liaison between your nose and your body."

Bendeth, a self-taught perfume expert, prides herself on her close working relationships with biochemists, neurologists, psychologists, perfumers and fragrance technicians. She brings over 30 years of experience to her consultations.

Bendeth does not sell products and as an independent consultant, she doesn't receive an industry fee for suggesting a particular scent to her clients. She makes recommendations from an array of over 600 fragrances supplied by over 36 distributors.

"I reserve the right to guide my client in the direction they like. I am totally consumer driven."

Bendeth charges $75 for a 90-minute session. The client leaves with a package that includes a personal profile, product information and sample vials, if in stock.

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Canada, Israel sign interim aviation agreement

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canada-Israel air dispute is over, at least for the time being.

Representatives of the two countries last week agreed to an interim arrangement that regulates air traffic between the two countries pending negotiation of a permanent pact.

During that time, El Al will continue its schedule of flights to Israel, while Air Canada will remove from its winter schedule one of its planned weekly departures to the Jewish state.

"I'm glad the issue has been resolved by a compromise and not by conflict," said David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada.

Air Canada had planned to offer five departures per week to Israel during the winter season, which runs from late October to March 28, but under terms of the interim agreement it will be limited to four weekly departures between Jan. 11 and March 28. Prior to Jan. 11, it will be allowed to offer five weekly flights.

El Al, for its part, will offer departures to Israel on three days per week during the winter season and upgrade that to four during the summer, said Moshe Shamai, the airline's Canadian manager.

Shamai said "El Al is happy with the interim agreement. It's a compromise."

John Hamilton, spokesperson for Air Canada, said the airline was asked by the government of Canada to drop one of its flights from its winter schedule. The carrier will eliminate one flight from Montreal to Tel Aviv during that period. He declined to comment on the agreement, saying it was an issue between nations.

Hamilton said the Canada-Israel route "is fairly strong for us" and that Air Canada was hoping for it to grow. The airline plans to offer seven flights per week to Israel when the winter season ends, he added.

The dispute began when Israel gave notice it was terminating the aviation agreement after Air Canada announced it was adding two flights to Israel during the winter season, bringing the weekly number to five.

El Al is unhappy with the aviation agreement, which was signed in 1985 and which had become obsolete, Shamai said. One example he cites is a term that compels El Al to balance its departures for Israel between Toronto and Montreal, even though Toronto has become a much larger market. A more contentious issue is El Al's concern that Air Canada is operating a North American-wide service to Israel, using Toronto and Montreal as "hubs" through which it is ferrying American passengers to Israel. It need not fill its aircraft with Canadian passengers. That effects El Al's North American business to Israel, Shamai said.

Hamilton agreed that Air Canada is using its Toronto and Montreal centres as hubs "to funnel American passengers overseas, whether it's to Asia, Israel or Europe. That's a huge growth strategy for us."

American passengers are attracted to Air Canada by the lower prices (because of the cost of the Canadian dollar) and because it is a shorter route, Hamilton said.

In other developments, El Al announced that its Montreal-bound flights from Tel Aviv will now land in Mirabel Airport and not Dorval. The change kicked in on Nov. 1. El Al will continue to depart for Israel from Dorval.

Shamai said noise abatement policy in Israel, which prohibits departures between 2 a.m. and 5:30 a.m., and regulations in Dorval that forbid arrivals before 7 a.m. led to the change in scheduling. El Al will provide free transportation into Montreal and to Dorval for passengers arriving at Mirabel in the early morning.

El Al implemented two discount fare programs on Nov. 1, Shamai added. The "Bar Mitzvah Special" offers a 50 percent ticket reduction for 13-year-olds traveling with both parents to Israel to celebrate a bar mitzvah.

The "Visiting Your Child Special" offers parents a 20 percent discount if they both travel to Israel to visit a child studying in Israel for a year, provided the child has flown to Israel via El Al, Shamai said.

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Israel Today episodes attract 50,000 viewers

By JAMES L. PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — With six shows completed, the weekly television newsmagazine *Israel Today*, is off to an impressive start.

Israel Today, hosted by Howard Adelman, 60, covers a wide range of topics affecting Israel, often with a Canadian angle.

Planning for the show began more than two years ago when Adelman was approached by representatives of the Christian evangelical organization 100 Huntley Street.

As part of its general television license application to establish Crossroads Television System, the organization wanted a television show on Israel.

Israel Today is commited to 26 shows, running until March 1999. The one-hour Monday night show (9:30 p.m EST) is pretaped at the Crossroads Burlington studio, where most filming is done.

Adelman works with a limited budget of $4,500.00 per show, and Crossroads provides the studio, the crew and all technical support.

The show is a comprehensive examination of the various issues that affect Israel, the Palestinians and the Middle East in general.

With regular tie-ins to Canada, topics cover the peace process, tourism, the Palestinians, the Israeli constitution, doing business in Israel and Israeli culture.

The one-hour format, which includes commercials, is round table in nature with guests being interviewed by Adelman.

He feels that if the show succeeds, and Crossroads is still required under its licence agreement to offer balanced programming, then the show is likely to run past its initial commitment.

In a recent Neilson Media Research ratings report, it was indicated that up to 50,000 people are watching the show, a large proportion of which are non-Jews.

Syndication possible

Crossroads organizers told Adelman that the show could get syndicated "if we get good, and if it's economical...but it's a little too early."

Israel Today is only one of several commitments Adelman has on the go. The professor of philosophy at York University and chair of the Harry Crowe memorial lecture series, has written or edited dozens of pieces on refugee issues around the world, the Arab-Israeli conflict and other matters.

Between 1980 and 1996, he was the recipient of 57 grants to study and run conferences in areas of general academia, refugee matters and children's issues.

Things go 'boom' in *The Siege*

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Edward Zwick's taut, fast-moving thriller, *The Siege*, deals with a sickeningly familiar subject – Arab terrorism.

In this instance, however, the bombs do not explode with fireball intensity in Tel Aviv or Beirut, but in New York City.

On second thought, this is hardly a far-fetched premise, given the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Centre in the heart of Manhattan, an event which introduced Americans to Middle Eastern terrorism.

The Siege, which has flashes of a documentary style, opens with a bang as a band of American agents kidnap a sheik in a desert somewhere in the Arab world.

From there, the focus shifts to Brooklyn, where a series of terrorist incidents throw New York City into fear and chaos. A bus explodes, killing many passengers. A school is held hostage by a terrorist. Bombs level a Broadway theatre as well as the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's terrorism task force, causing hundreds of fatalities.

In desperation, the president of the United States declares martial law and calls in the army to police Brooklyn, the lair of the terrorist cells responsible for the mayhem. Scores of Arabs are rounded up, sparking civil rights marches.

The film turns on four characters: Anthony Hubbard (Denzel Washington), who heads the FBI force hunting the elusive terrorists; Frank Haddad (Tony Shalhoub), his Lebanese-American partner whose son is picked up in the dragnet; Elise Kraft (Annette Bening), the pesky and shadowy Central Intelligence Agency operative who has ambiguous links to one of the Palestinian suspects; and William Devereaux (Bruce Willis), the thoughtful but brutal general who imposes order on Brooklyn.

In a movie like this, where the villains are Muslims, it is easy to leave an impression that Arabs are by definition terrorists. The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee has in fact claimed that *The Siege* is anti-Arab, a tissue of incendiary stereotypes.

I beg to differ.

In *The Siege*, now playing at Cineplex Odeon theatres, Zwick is careful to distinguish between Arab perpetrators and law-abiding Arab citizens. He does not brand all Arabs with the same broad brush. In one scene, an Arab-American community spokesperson declares that Arabs completely support efforts by the FBI to track down the terrorists.

And lest this be insufficient a disclaimer, Zwick goes to lengths to state that Islam as a religion does not promote, encourage or sanction terrorism.

Distinguished by uniformly fine performances, *The Siege* is never unduly sensational. And in only one case, a shoot-out with a den of terrorists, is there a hint of gratuitous violence.

If nothing else, *The Siege* identifies a major problem afflicting the world today, and does so without tarring Muslims or Arabs.

Bruce Willis (foreground) plays a general in *The Siege*.

Film explores the heart of darkness

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

American History X is a fiercely intense profile of a racist skinhead, as well as a journey into the heart of darkness of neo-Nazi youth culture.

Tony Kaye's edgy film, set in Venice Beach, Calif., normally a refuge of sun worshippers, beach bums and wide-eyed tourists, unfolds against the savage backdrop of inter-racial tension and violence.

Addressing such pertinent social and political issues as minority crime, multiculturalism and affirmative action, the movie is shot largely in black and white for greater effect.

Composed of a series of interlocking flashbacks that coalesce into a stunning finale, it leaves a viewer transfixed.

American History X turns on Derek Vinyard (Edward Norton), a scowling skinhead leader who ultimately renounces his hate-mongering views. Before he undergoes this transformation, he murders two black men in a spasm of white supremacist rage.

Having reformed himself, thanks in part to a charismatic black man who was once his high school history teacher, Vinyard tries to save his impressionable younger brother, Daniel (Edward Furlong), from a similar fate.

The film, which extracts an astonishing performance from Norton and credible performances from the rest of the cast, opens on a chilling note as Vinyard, a bold swastika on his chest, slays two black thieves who are about to break into his parked car. Vinyard is a formidable adversary, intelligent and calculating, and his brother looks up to him. But his mother (Beverely D'Angelo), a widow, and his sister, a dyed-in-the-wool liberal, despise his bigoted attitudes.

Continued on page 47

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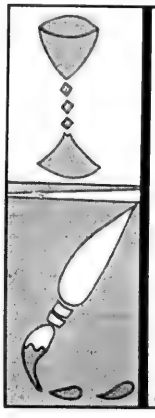

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family. There are three age categories for entrants:
1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah. They cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, 1998.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50. Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 4, 1998.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 10, 1998. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

ARIEL DORFMAN SPEAKS HIS MIND

One of the outstanding sessions of the Harbourfront International Festival of Authors had to be radio host **Eleanor Wachtel's** rivetting interview with Argentinean-born author **Ariel Dorfman**, who now lives in North Carolina.

"Can everyone hear Ariel?" Wachtel asked at the start, to which Dorfman replied, "Yes, and I hope Pinochet can hear me, too."

A Chilean citizen in exile since the 1970s, Dorfman was outspoken in his criticism of Chile's former despot, and Chile's weak-kneed response to his possible extradition from Britain to Spain to face war-crimes charges.

He castigated the Chilean government for attempting to whitewash Pinochet's atrocious record of human rights abuses.

Dorfman also spoke about his dual identity involving the Spanish and English languages and cultures. His parents brought him to the United States before he was 3 years old, and he spoke only English during his American childhood. His tongue reclaimed its native Spanish only after the family was exiled back to South America in the McCarthy era.

In a newly published memoir, *Heading South, Looking North: A Bilingual Journey* (Farrar, Strauss and Giroux), Dorfman discusses the various exiles that shaped his identity.

As he explained, his family has endured exiles and upheavals long before three of his grandparents emigrated from Eastern Europe about 1900. "My mother's father was killed in a pogrom in Kishinev in 1905," he said. "I think I grew up with terror in my blood."

Wachtel's interview with Dorfman will likely be broadcast on her popular weekly show *Writers and Company* on CBC radio some time in the winter.

A highlight of this year's festival was the rare appearance by southern Ontario writer **Alice Munro** who read from her newest book of short stories *The Love of A Good Woman* (McClelland and Stewart). Several days later, Munro received the $25,000 Giller literary prize for fiction at a gala ceremony in Toronto. (The prestigious award was founded several years ago by businessman **Jack Rabinovitch** in honor of his late wife, literary journalist **Doris Giller**.)

In previous years, Israeli authors have been well represented at the Harbourfront festival. But for the past two seasons, none have been included – an omission that director **Greg Gatenby** will hopefully amend for next year.

As Wachtel demonstrated with her radio series on Israeli writers earlier this year, there's no shortage of worthy candidates.

***

Yiddish Sayings: The Friends of Yiddish and the Committee for Yiddish of UJA/Federation present Catching Arrows – Translating Yiddish Folk Sayings, a lecture by Toronto writer-translator **Shirley Kumove**, a lively tour of the origins and translation of Yiddish folk sayings, rhymes and word plays. Part of the Jewish Book Fair. Nov. 15, 1:30 p.m. Leah Posluns Theatre. $3 (FOY members free.)

***

Yiddish Song: The Morris Winchevsky School, assisted by the Label Basman Memorial Scholarship Fund, presents a concert by **Claire Klein Osipov**, an acclaimed soprano specializing in Yiddish song, and accompanist **Wendy Bross Stuart**. The duo, joined by percussionist **Martin Fisk**, perform selections from their latest CD, *Sing to Me in Yiddish, Volume II*. Nov. 15 & 16, 7:30 p.m. $18 ($15 in advance). Reservations recommended. 789-5502.

***

Poetry Reading: Montreal poet **Robyn Sarah**, whose latest book of poetry *Questions About the Stars* was published recently by Brick Books, gives a reading Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m. at Monaco's Restaurant, 107 George St. E., Hamilton. She reads again (with several other authors) Nov. 18, 8 p.m. at the Art Bar, Imperial Public Library, 54 Dundas St. E., Toronto. 461-5657.

***

In The Spotlight: With hundreds of devoted acolytes crowding the stage, and obviously grooving on his every nasally intoned word, poet-visionary-singer **Robert Zimmerman**, a.k.a. **Bob Dylan**, gave a relatively "warm" performance recently at Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens. That's saying a lot for Dylan, who's been known to mumble indifferently through concerts, leaving audiences cold.

Mixing songs from the many phases of his career, the legendary folksinger touched on most of the eternal themes of his work – war protest, personal salvation, freedom, romantic love. He opened with *You Gotta Serve Somebody*, a religious song from his "Christian period." And what a mean harmonica he blew in such nostalgic numbers as *My Back Pages* and the bitter love ditty *It Ain't Me Babe*.

The 16 songs he and his band played ran the gamut from his earliest days (*Blowin' In The Wind*) to his latest Grammy-winning album *Time Out Of Mind* (four songs). Between numbers the stage would revert to pitch dark, leaving observers unsure which incarnation of himself Dylan would next rouse like a spirit out of the blackness.

Joni Mitchell, another icon of the Woodstock generation, performed a full set before Dylan's arrival, easily proving what a gifted poet and composer she is. All in all, 'twas one of the most memorable evenings this reviewer has spent in a hockey arena in a long while.

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New Jacobovici film premiere

TORONTO — Last year documentary filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici set out to solve a 2000- year-old mystery.

He was determined to find the 10 lost tribes of Israel by using the historical information in the Bible to trace their fate.

The results of his search is documented in his latest film, *Quest for the Lost Tribes of Israel*, which premiers at a gala screening on Nov 22, 7 p.m. at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The gala is presented by the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation and the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre.

" *Quest* takes viewers on an unforgettable adventure to some of the most remote and exotic places on earth in search of a prophecy," Jacobovici, a two time Emmy-Award winner, told the *The CJN* recently.

" In this film you see the unfolding of prophecy."

Jacobovici, who will be on hand at the gala to answer questions predicts that the film will spark a heated debate.

Most historians say the 10 lost tribes assimilated when they were dispersed 2,700 years ago, however, he claims his film proves them wrong.

Tickets are $36, admission and includes a reception. $180 includes a tax receipt and post film gala. To order call 416-781-3584.

Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

ANTIQUES AND OLD HOMES ON VIEW IN PORT HOPE

Port Hope, an attractive lakefront town an hour's drive east of Toronto, has much to offer travellers who stray (either by accident or design) from nearby Highway 401.

With a picturesque main street known for its antique shops, the town of roughly 12,000 is a haven for antique shoppers. The city also offers numerous heritage sites, including a surprising inventory of century homes.

A hilly town with extensive ravines, Port Hope was incorporated as a city in 1834 after briefly considering and rejecting the name Toronto. Like "Muddy York" and nearby Cobourg, the town had high hopes of making something of itself. Indeed, from roughly the 1840s through the 1870s, its busy port and important rail connections to Lindsay, Peterborough and the north heralded an era of grandeur and promise.

Attracted by the area's cooler climate in summer, numerous wealthy American families from places like Rochester and Pittsburgh built impressive summer homes here, sometimes staffing them with dozens of servants. The town was regularly serviced by ferries across the lake from Rochester and other cities.

Port Hope was in its glory in the 1850s, a decade of economic optimism, and the 1860s. But after the timber trade collapsed in the 1870s, severely curtailing the shipping and railway industries, the town's moment in the sun was over.

Today Port Hope is filled with many architectural remembrances of its storied past. First-time visitors may experience some satisfaction upon reaching Walton Street, the well-preserved Victorian boulevard. The residential side streets likewise present a pleasingly old-fashioned and somewhat sleepy vision of civic orderliness.

The community has undergone a renaissance of heritage restorations since the late 1960s, and a walk or drive through town will inevitably turn up many gems.

The Bluestone, at 21 Dorset St. E., is an 1830s mansion sometimes called the city's most splendid house. Other noteworthy 19th-century structures include the St. Lawrence Hotel (87-97 Walton St.) and the Town Hall (56 Queen St.), both credited to Rochester architect Merwin Austin.

One of the town's most interesting early structures is the 2½-storey post-and-beam house by the lake (168 King St.) once known as the Seaman's Inn. The house, which was featured in Jane Urquhart's 1993 novel *Away*, presently functions as a bed-and-breakfast hotel called Canada House.

For years, 1822 was attributed as the year of its construction. But after proprietors Bogdan and Sue Malyczewsky acquired the property about 1976, they uncovered evidence that it was built considerably earlier. For instance, they discovered an 1815 sketch of the town from the water with the house clearly visible. Eventually, they found the journals of the home's original owner, town founder Elias Smith, which indicate a construction date of about 1801.

The Malyczewskys uncovered many relics during the course of renovations. Behind the mantel of an old fireplace, for instance, they found an 1840 money order for $1,000 drawn on an American bank. According to Bogdan Malyczewsky, the note would have had a current value of $250,000 (US).

Although possessing the low ceilings and small rooms that mark the property as authentic to its period, Canada House (905-885-6017) would be a worthwhile place to stay for anyone interested in local history or the renovation of a heritage home.

Other local historic dwellings include the Hillcrest Bed and Breakfast & Spa (905-885-7367), whose exterior is framed by Corinthian pillars. Hillcrest was built in the 1870s as the summer home of a wealthy Jewish family, the Schwartzes, from Pittsburgh; it features lovely grounds and good views of Lake Ontario.

Smaller but no less quaint, the Butternut Inn (905-885-4318 or [www.butternutinn.com]) was the former home of the Great Farini, a famous 19th-century aerialist known for his daring crossings above Niagara Falls.

With such a cornucopia of 19th-century architectural riches, it defies expectation that Port Hope also possesses at least one significant 20th-century architectural treasure. The Capitol Theatre is an atmospheric 1930s movie theatre at Queen and Walton Streets whose neatly restored interior resembles the courtyard of a Norman castle. Images of clouds and stars are projected onto the ceiling to evoke the illusion that patrons are seated outdoors.

For a full and excellent description of Port Hope's brick-and-mortar treasures, consult *Going to Town: Architectural Walking Tours in Southern Ontario*, by Katherine Ashenburg (Macfarlane Walter & Ross, 1996).

Disturbing film evokes the skinhead subculture

Continued from page 45

In a memorable scene, one of several in this film, Vinyard lashes out at his mother's genteel Jewish suitor (Elliott Gould), bringing down on him a torrent of epithets.

American History X, which is didactic at times, suggests that the skinhead movement is becoming increasingly organized on a national basis and is exploiting the power of the Internet. Kay also infers that the skinheads are not merely loose cannons, but rather the jagged instrument of older, far more seasoned professional racists.

Kay evokes the skinhead subculture with consummate skill, both at a raucous rock concert filled with Nazi regalia and in the bleak jail where Vinyard is briefly incarcerated. Vinyard's prison experience, which includes a brutal rape in a shower stall, finally opens his eyes to the corrosive, self-defeating nature of prejudice.

Unrelentingly graphic, *American History X* hammers home an important message, and does so with unerring style.

It is playing at the Cineplex Odeon chain.

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Reports of elderly's memory loss said exaggerated

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Reports of memory loss among the aged are greatly exaggerated, a research scientist told the inaugural Ada Starkman series sponsored by the Baycrest Centre Foundation.

There is no early demise of memory among seniors, said Dr. Gordon Wincour of Baycrest's Rotman Research Institute. "We can report more good news than bad news."

Memory is not a single entity and is affected by age in different ways, he told the audience of 300 in the Abe Posluns Auditorium.

Only 27 percent of memory loss could be attributed to aging in a study at Concordia University of World War II soldiers interviewed 50 years later, Wincour said.

Other factors were more important, he said, adding that "the brain is not immune to problems in other parts of the body.

"Why so many lose or feel that they are losing their memory is not so much that they are getting older, but what happens as we grow older. In younger years, we are more resilient."

Elderly widowers are notorious for neglecting their diets, and poor nutrition might affect their memory, he said.

"People who lead energetic lives do better on cognitive functions. There is not much we can do about biological aging, but it is encouraging to know we can do something about other health factors."

Only two of the seven types of memory he listed, long-term and episodic, are affected negatively by aging, he said.

Episodic memory, remembering personal experiences that occurred at a given time, is the most vulnerable to old age, Wincour said.

He cited a study which showed that during a 10-day period, only one of 10 older people forgot to dial a telephone answering service once a day, while eight of 10 younger people forgot to do so.

When someone in the audience asked why he started out to get something, only to forget what it was, Wincour said it was a normal experience. The scientist said his studies show that the context of memory is important and that one when returns to his own surroundings, the memory of what is needed returns.

For this reason, he said, the new Home for the Aged being built at Baycrest will have more space in its rooms for residents to bring in familiar things which will help their memory.

Writing things down in an organized and meaningful way and repeating them is a good way to remember things, said Dr. Angela Troyer, the director of the memory and aging program at Baycrest.

Keys, wallets, glasses and anything that is frequently misplaced should always be put in a designated place, she said.

Seventy percent of older people were able to remember things on an organized list, while the figure fell to 50 per cent when the list was not organized.

She illustrated this to the audience who could remember many more items on an organized list of groceries than on an unorganized one.

"It's a myth that writing things down is bad for your memory," Troyer said.

Unfortunately there are no miracle cures for memory and no pills which can be taken.

"Remember where you parked the car. Write the location down, focus on the details around you. It is easier to remember information that is repeated," she said.

Scanning of brain cells is an exciting area of research at the Rotman Institute, said associate scientist Dr. Fergus Craik, the moderator. "We are working on ways to rehabilitate memory."

Further research at Baycrest will lead to more tips on how to improve memory, Craik said.

In answer to a question on how to differentiate between forgetfulness and dementia, Troyer said it is normal to forget the name of an acquaintance, but not normal to forget the name of a spouse or close relative. It is also normal to forget the details of an incident, but not normal to forget the whole event.

In answer to another query, Wincour said we lose only four percent of brain cells due to aging.

This first Ada Starkman lecture was sponsored by the Beverley and Aaron Black family and the Baycrest Women's Auxiliary.

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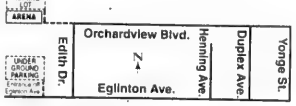

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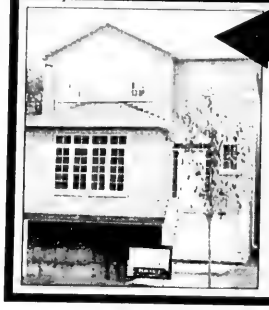

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

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330 OBITUARIES

EPSTEIN, Arnold - on Oct. 29, 1998, late of 155 Marlee Ave.

FRISCH, Jonas - on Oct. 30, 1998, late of 19 Braemar Crt.

ROTMAN, Anita Rose - on Oct. 30, 1998, late of 18 Cedarcroft Blvd.

SMULEVITCH, Frances - on Oct. 30, 1998.

DREW, Sarah - on Oct. 31, 1998, late of 33 Garthdale Crt.

BAUSTEIN, Leopold - on Nov. 1, 1998, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E.

BINSTOCK, Doris - on Nov. 1, 1998.

LIPTON, Samuel - on Nov. 1, 1998, late of 133 Torresdale Ave.

ACKERMAN, Eileen - on Nov. 2, 1998, late of 5879 Bathurst St.

DONN, Mariam - on Nov. 2, 1998, late of 225 George St.

GROSZ, Klara - on Nov. 2, 1998, late of 130 Neptune Dr.

MILRUD, Julius - on Nov. 2, 1998.

POLLAK, Dr. Edward - on Nov. 2, 1998, late of 55 Maitland St.

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Women seeking Men

CHICKEN SOUP
Single female, 33, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving, enjoy long walks, movies, cycling, tennis, theater, dancing & dining, especially chicken soup. Seeking a non-smoking Jewish male, with similar interests and values AD#1651

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, brunette, nurse, warm, sensitive, intelligent, sincere, caring, enjoy the theater, travelling, dining & dancing, intelligent, romantic, successful, for long term meaningful relationship AD#1641

FABULOUS FORTY'S
Single mom, 40ish, 5'2", slim, attractive, fit, hazel eyes, blondish hair, professional, enjoy skiing, sailing, running, tennis, cooking. Seeking a professional male, 44-50, single dads OK, with similar interests and a good sense of humour. AD#1693

TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish female, attractive, slim, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, travel, music, long walks. Seeking a male, 50+, secure, mature, honest, and thoughtful. AD#1639

LOVES TO COOK
Single, slim female, early 40's, intelligent, professional, fit, blondish-brown hair, hazel eyes, attractive, enjoy sailing, running, tennis, skiing, loves to cook. Seeking a male, 44-53, with similar interest. AD#1642

ROMANCE IS FOR TWO
Single female, slim, attractive, 5'6", fit, active, a teacher and a painter, enjoy cycling, hiking, long walks, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a male with good sense of self, sense of humour, and very intelligent, sincere, honest. AD#1649

RESPECT, LOVE, JOY
Professional Jewish female, 38, warm, sincere, intelligent, a bit determined, looking for a relationship based on respect, love, joy, consideration, passion, and loyalty, communication and family. Seeking a male, honest, playful, family oriented, emotionally available, open minded. AD#1645

ROMANTIC LADY
Single Jewish female, 5'6", attractive, enjoy movies, theater, long romantic walks, travel. Seeking a Jewish male, professional, intelligent, proud of his heritage AD#1727

FLORIDA BOUND
Middle aged female, enjoy sports, travelling, dining, hopes to move to Florida, especially during the winter. Seeking a male with similar interests and outlook. AD#1650

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Slim female, warm, self employed, wonderful, sensual, enjoy movies, music, informal dining. Seeking a slim male, 38-48, 5'8"+, with similar interests. AD#1632

SPONTANEOUS
Tall, pretty female, early 30's, brown hair & eyes, easy going, good sense of humour, spontaneous, enjoy music, long walks, watching films. Seeking a male with similar interests. AD#1630

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish female, unique, charming, honest, kind, caring, young in mind, body & spirit, enjoy outdoor activities, sports. Seeking a male who lives life to the fullest. AD#1652

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single female, young looking, teacher, 47, spirited, loves to laugh, 5'3", 118lbs, kind, has 2 teenage children. Seeking a male, kind, non-smoker, honest, successful, emotionally stable, 40-55. AD#1607

LOVES TO LAUGH
Single mother, 47, slim, attractive, professional, youthful, spirited Seeking an emotionally and financially secure male, non-smoker for friendship, possible relationship. AD#1611

SPEAKS RUSSIAN
Single Jewish female, attractive, intelligent, kind, honest, non-smoker, good cook. Seeking a Jewish male, that speaks Russian and is in the similar age group. AD#1626

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, attractive, intelligent, kind, canng, many vaned interests Seeking a male, 68-, educated, honest, caring, sincere. AD#1599

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, down to earth, professional, enjoy movies, theater, music, reading, travelling, walks, bowling, keeping fit. seeking a single Jewish male, 31-43, with similar interests & values AD#1596

NIFTY 50'S
Single female, 50's, 5'1", slim, warm, sincere, charming, down to earth, good sense of humour, no dependents, variety of interests. Seeking a well groomed, non-smoker, easy going, emotionally mature, caring male from the Toronto vicinity. AD#1591

OUTGOING
divorced female, 36, fit, attractive, sincere, witty, outgoing. Seeking a male, 35-40, with no dependents, beautiful on the inside and outside with similar qualities. AD#1579

EMOTIONALLY OPEN
Single female, attractive, affectionate, creative, curious, enjoy folk dancing, hiking, cross country skiing, music. Seeking a caring, warm, fun loving male, that is open to new experiences, emotionally open and expressive. AD#1583

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

Men seeking Women

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 6', enjoy movies, dining & dancing, exercising, good conversation. Seeking a lady with similar interests AD#1643

STYLISH GENTLEMAN
Single Jewish male, very stylish, blue eyes, dark hair, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, music Seeking a female, 18-40, with similar interests and outlook. AD# 1742

GOOD TIMES
Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship. AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING
Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator. Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate. AD#1625

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single male, 36, 5'8", handsome, fit, well-established, non-smoker. Seeking a slim, stylish, attractive, lady, no children, non-smoker, with traditional Jewish values, 28-33. AD#1634

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity. Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

CLASS OF '98
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit. AD#1584

NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional. Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, satire & Jewish values. AD#1595

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel. Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and children in the future. AD#1597

SEEKING A COMPANION
Single male, 31, 5'10", medium build, brown eyes, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, outdoor activities, quiet evening at home. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1615

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives. Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests. AD#1616

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking. Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family. AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead. AD#1562

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing. Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times. AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times. Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace. Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group. AD#1547

LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing. Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests AD#1527

NO HEAD GAMES
single male, 40, originally from Montreal, handsome, sincere, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hardworking. Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour. AD#1543

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38. Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship. AD#1523

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male, late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling. Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded. AD#1534

330 OBITUARIES

VAJDA, Eva - on Oct. 18, 1998, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E., #2401.
FINSTEN, William - on Oct. 19, 1998, late of 95 Thorncliffe Park Dr., #4303.
BARRON, Shirley - on Oct. 22, 1998, late of 133 Torresdale Rd., #608.
GOLDENBERG, Harvey - on Oct. 22, 1998, late of 41 Lynch Rd.
SHORE, Lisa - on Oct. 22, 1998, late of 3 Richview Crt.
SILVERSTEIN, Dave - on Oct. 22, 1998, late of 2600 Bathurst St., #5.
WYNBERG, Judith - on Oct. 23, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St. (Baycrest).
OELBAUM, Ronald - on Oct. 24, 1998, late of 110 Bloor St. W., #909.
PITCH, Sarah - on Oct. 24, 1998, late of 60 Macklin St.
SHORE, Anne - on Oct. 24, 1998, late of 65 Skymark Dr., #107.
BRONER, Hyman - on Oct. 25, 1998, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
KAUFMAN, Thelma - on Oct. 25, 1998, late of 50 Camberwell Rd.
FREEDMAN, Lillian - on Oct. 26, 1998, late of 198 Old Forest Hill Rd.
PAL, Andrew - on Oct. 27, 1998, late of 9 Feldbar Crt.
BEDER, Terry - on Oct. 28, 1998, late of 2515 Bathurst St., #810.
LINDZON, Dr. Martin - on Oct. 28, 1998, late of 174 Crescent Rd.
ADLER, Rose - on Oct. 30, 1998, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #210.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

KAYE, Trudy - on Oct. 24, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
RENFO, Pauline - on Oct. 27, 1998, late of 21 Hendon Ave.

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335 UNVEILING

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338 SHIVA CATERING

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From coast to coast

German right-wing extremism growing, says Jewish leader

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Right-wing extremism in Germany is growing, says Ignatz Bubis, president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany.

In a speech delivered at Beth Tzedec Congregation recently, Bubis said that he is confident that the newly elected federal German chancellor, Gerhard Schroeder, will vigorously combat xenophobia and anti-Semitism, the hallmarks of ultra right-wing parties in Germany.

But right-wing radicalism is on a roll, he warned, noting that between 15 to 30 percent of Germans harbor latent anti-Semitic views.

A Holocaust survivor, Bubis estimated that upwards of 15 percent of Germany's electorate is sympathetic to the far right, even though extreme right-wing candidates failed to win a single parliamentary seat in the recent general election.

Bubis, who is also president of the European Jewish Congress, said that he was concerned by two recent trends in German society.

The first is the phenomenon of intellectual anti-Semitism, which he described as a dangerous development. Such intellectuals acknowledge Nazi crimes against humanity, but they wish to stop speaking about the past.

Concerned with recent trends

The second trend turns on the perception that younger Germans are reluctant to accept responsibility for Nazi atrocities, he claimed.

Bubis expressed satisfaction with the Schroeder government's support of compensation payments to former Jewish slave laborers exploited by German companies during World War II.

In a snapshot of German attitudes toward Jews, he said that the majority of Germans consider Jews living in Germany as strangers and foreigners. Yet the intermarriage rate between Jews and non-Jews hovers around 60 percent.

In mixed marriages, he disclosed, few of the Christian partners convert to Judaism.

Frowning upon such unions, Bubis declared, "We believe in integration, not assimilation."

Germany, he said, is currently home to approximately 75,000 registered Jews, of whom some 45,000 are from the former Soviet Union. Prior to the latest wave of Soviet Jews to Germany, which began in 1990, the Jewish population was officially 29,000.

Bubis praised the federal government for giving the newcomers financial help, and he refuted Israeli accusations that he and other communal leaders encourage Russian Jews to settle in Germany. "Once they're in Germany, our duty is to try to integrate them."

Ignatz Bubis

Most of these immigrants are ignorant of Judaism and of Jewish culture and history, he suggested. But within several years, they will play an influential role in community affairs, he predicted.

Tracing the history of German Jewry since the collapse of Nazism, Bubis said that today's Jewish community was founded mainly by Jews from eastern Europe.

Noting that the newest generation of Jews feels more at home in Germany, Bubis voiced pride at the fact that the Jewish community has built a viable network of institutions, schools and synagogues.

During a question-and-answer period, Bubis was asked why he had remained in Germany after the war. He replied that he was unable to explain his decision, even after more than five decades.

Answering another question from the floor, he admitted that he has not succeeded in stopping German arms sales to Iran.

Bubis' appearance was sponsored by the Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada, the Canadian Centre for German and European Studies at York University, and Beth Tzedec Men's Club.

Hamilton's new cantor one of youngest in Canada

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Ben Silverberg, 23, Beth Jacob Congregation's new chazzan, may be one of Canada's youngest cantors.

Silverberg, a Toronto native, says he is beginning to feel at home here, now that his first big challenge, the High Holy Days services, is behind him.

During the services, he delighted the congregation with his singing, and involved the children in an impromptu choir.

The first meeting of the proposed Beth Jacob youth choir attracted almost 30 people. Silverberg says he hopes to "breathe some life into the synagogue."

Silverberg's father is Toronto cantor Michael Silverberg, who Ben says instilled in him the importance of a solid musical foundation.

It was at his bar mitzvah, when he not only chanted the Haftorah, but the whole service, that Silverberg discovered how much he loved singing.

At age 16, Silverberg began doing the High Holy Days overflow services at Adath Israel Synagogue, and by the time he was 18 or 19, "I thought truly that I could not spend a day without singing," he says.

At 19, while studying for his BA in Judaic studies at York University, he joined the Beth Tzedec Synagogue professional choir.

As well, under the auspices of the Toronto Council of Chazzanim, he studied with Cantor Benjamin Maissner of Holy Blossom Temple and then with Cantor David Bagley, who remains a friend and mentor.

Ben Silverberg

He also studied voice with Gwen Little, formerly of the New York City Opera.

Although he loves opera, Silverberg says he has no operatic ambitions. "For me, singing has to have some Jewish content."

He has taught bar mitzvah students at Beth Tzedec and Pride of Israel synagogue, and worked as a volunteer with Alzheimer patients at Baycrest.

But most gratifying, he says, was teaching youngsters with learning disabilities such as dyslexia, attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity.

Health Canada issues drug warning

OTTAWA — Health Canada is advising Canadians not to use Apo-Prednisone 1-milligram tablets, since the drug they're taking may actually be from a bottle of another drug which was accidentally mislabelled by its manufacturer.

Apotex Inc. has advised Health Canada that a single bottle of 100 Apo-Prednisone 1-mg tablets (lot number CD230) actually contains the drug Apo-Prazo (prazosin hydrochloride).

It's possible that one or more such bottles may be in pharmacies, where the drug would be dispensed into prescription-size vials.

Symptoms associated with the inappropriate use of Apo-Prazo – prescribed for the treatment of hypertension – include dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting and sudden loss of consciousness. A dose of 5 mg or higher of Apo-Prazo in a person not requiring the drug may present a serious health hazard.

For those patients taking Apo-Prednisone – a widely used corticosteroid – Health Canada advises there should be no effects from missing a dose for a short period of time.

Both products are only available on prescription. Health Canada advises those taking Apo-Prednisone 1-mg tablets to check their prescription to ensure their pills are round, white tablets with APO/1 imprinted on one side.

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Figure skater volunteered at Metulla's Canada Centre

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel and toe-loop spins don't exactly go hand in hand, but for the last few years, ex-Soviet skater Misha Shmerkin has put Israel on the world figure skating map with his exuberant performances and top-15 finishes.

Representative of the first generation of Israeli skaters, Shmerkin is at the tail end of his career, according to figure skating maven Fauna Mandel. Not to worry. Israel is producing a new crop of top notch, competitive figure skaters to take his place, she said.

Mandel, 23, recently returned from a three-month stint as a volunteer at the Canada Centre ice rink in Metulla, where she got a first-hand look at the Jewish state's budding ice stars.

Two sabras, Lior Hirsh, 19, and Kfir Nathan, 22, are exceptionally talented skaters who were developed right in the Jewish state, she said. Mandel, a figure skating coach in her native Cambridge, Ont., said Hirsh in particular is loaded with talent. He's consistent, able to land tough jumps, spin in full control and perform with lots of style.

Israeli figure skaters (from left) Kfir Nathan, Naama Zilberman and Lior Hirsh in a spiral position.

Nathan matches Hirsh in style, flexibility and ability to spin but "his jumps aren't as consistent as Lior's." Both, however, "have the talent to represent Israel well on the international stage," she said.

Rounding out the scouting report are Naama Zilberman, a 16-year-old skater from Haifa, and a 13-year-old Russian-born girl, who she knows only as Lolita, but who is "fantastic," Mandel said.

Mandel spent lots of time "stroking" on the ice with the Israeli skaters though not attempting any jumps. She got to know them and other skaters by sharing with them a two-bedroom basement flat near the rink. It was all part of the Israel experience Mandel signed up for through the United Israel Appeal.

She and Esther Saraga, a volunteer from Toronto who helped run the Metulla hockey program, shared a room in the flat, while Hirsh and Zilberman shared another room. Nathan slept on the couch for two months. The five split domestic chores, though most of the culinary tasks fell on Nathan's shoulders.

It was like one big, happy family. Living with the others while working at the rink was a wonderful experience, she said.

The only negative for Mandel was that she wasn't given the opportunity to instruct the enthusiastic young Israelis in figure skating. Instead, she and other volunteers merely supervised public skating. Her only exposure to figure skating was the time she spent on the ice with the elite athletes.

For the dozens of Israeli ice munchkins who skate around the rink in their shorts and T-shirts, it was a lost opportunity. Mandel serves as a coach at the Hespeler Figure Skating Club and at the Preston Figure Skating Club in Cambridge, giving group and private lessons in freestyle, dance and general skills.

A graduate of the city's famed Preston Club, Mandel has performed in local and regional competitions, including the Grand River and Great Lakes events, and has advanced through the junior bronze level to senior silver.

"I was a good recreational kind of skater but I knew I wouldn't go on to the national camps," she said.

A visitor to Israel twice before, the Metulla experience gave her the opportunity to combine her love of skating with her devotion to Israel. It's a feeling shared by other young Canadians. At one point during the summer, there were eight Canucks serving as volunteers at Canada Centre, she said.

Coaches employ unique style

They divvied up their on ice activities in four-hour blocks. Down time was spent at the centre's pool, its workout room or on the basketball court.

Though somewhat disappointed that she couldn't instruct the young Israelis, her time in Metulla was a learning experience in its own right. In particular, watching the Russian-born coaches was illuminating, though sometimes "bizarre," she said.

Unlike Canadian coaches, the Europeans "kind of stand at the boards and yell their instruction, but their warmup exercises are amazing...They work a lot on footwork and spins. All the Israeli skaters are fantastic spinners."

Mandel was so impressed, she's employed some of those coaching techniques in the classes she gives in Cambridge.

Not exactly what she expected, but at least someone improved their knowledge of figure skating this past summer.

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

F	E	H		H	O	W	E			S	W	A	R	M
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The Inside Back

My week at Camp Wye

By JORDAN MAX

By now, everyone knows the results of the Wye Plantation Summit – but for serious journalists like yours truly, the real story is the one behind the scenes, as detailed in Bibi's Last Laugh Diary, which I managed to acquire. Some excerpts:

Wednesday 14: Packed for Washington. Sara's adamant she needs to come along and do some shopping. Will tell Americans I need her by my side for policy advice. Yitz and Arik couldn't make flight since they couldn't get aisle seats. Hope they'll arrive Sunday. Flight not bad. Lots of policy discussions and final negotiation preparations. Schnitzel too greasy – heartburn. Movie was *Armageddon*. Remember to ask about whether our satellite is still in orbit when I return.

Thursday 15: Arrived Washington for opening news conference. Bill looks beat, kvetching that people want to impeach him or something. I tell him, me too, you just get used to it. For some reason, he got really upset when I offered him a box of stale cigars Yasser had given me. Maybe they're Cuban? Took helicopter ride to Wye Plantation. Sara excited to be seeing slaves. Tried to explain that slavery was abolished in America some time ago. She mentioned something about nannies, but I really was more focused on the summit. Met with the rest of the delegation.

Nicer accommodations than the Erez checkpoint, but the "boys" are fighting over who gets what bedroom. Had to mediate sleeping arrangements. Smaller building than Palestinians, but we have a better view of the security agents disguised as trees. Americans arranged for kosher kitchen. Hope they have lots of snacks. Opening joint session. Dinner was "Middle East" theme.

They call this felafel? More heartburn.

Friday 16: Not too much progress. Americans jamming our cell phone lines, can't call press or order pizza. Aharon Domb manages to unscramble them. Apparently he nearly bumped into P delegates at the Nike factory outlet. Beilin and Shitreet pop on over to give *eitzes*. Isn't this supposed to be a private summit? Settlers' representatives, who just happen to be in town, want to join us for Shabbes minyan. Americans don't want to admit them, also, refuse to allow sefer Torah in, claiming it might be bugged. The frum guys are really steamed. Where are Yitz and Arik when you need them? Americans won't let Sara's hairdresser in. Now, this is serious.

Cancel plans to attend Shabbat dinner with Bill and Yasser. That'll show them. Sara lit candles, Natan made kiddush. Dinner was fish of some kind with orange vegetables and twigs. Would have preferred chicken. In America they eat twigs now?

Motzei Shabbat 17: Met with settlers' representatives on lawn today, lounged around.

Americans "accidentally" turned off ovens. Nothing worse than cold cholent for lunch. Had good schluff, went for afternoon walk with Sara. She's still stewing about the nanny thing. Pretend to listen. Interdelegation soccer game, but Palestinians keep changing rules. No negotiations until after Havdalah. Tell Natan to make it really long. Americans not pleased. Tell them we've got Shabbat dishes to wash up first before talking.

Sunday 18: Yitz and Arik finally arrive. They get top bunks for being late. Time to get down to business. Some progress. Received word of Be'ersheva grenade attack. Decide to discuss only security issues. Agree to stay another couple of days, but running out of clean gotkes fast. Sara doesn't want to do laundry. Send her into town for more gotkes. Not the kind of shopping she was thinking of.

Monday/Tuesday 19/20: Lots of hard bargaining. Yasser insists on a full buffet for dinner, rather than the a la carte deal. Good thing Sara is by my side.

Wednesday 21: All night negotiations with Palestinians. Not how I envisioned spending my birthday. It's almost as bad as a Likud leadership convention, but not enough snacks. Yasser sends flowers, Sara gives me a Beanie Baby. Yasser still won't produce the working papers on security issues, Covenant guarantees as he promised. Am I surprised? Tell delegation to pack bags, we're leaving tonight. Tactics work, more snacks arrive. Unpack, for now.

Thursday 22: Yasser finally produces the papers he promised, agrees to change Covenant (again).

Deal is near. Americans want this wrapped up soon. I think the facilities are booked for some other convention and they don't want to pay for us to stay again over Shabbes.

Friday 23: Another all-nighter. Deal signed, but Americans seem really anxious to have us out, want to check for missing towels and ashtrays. Left it to embassy staff to split mini-bar bill.

Stay at embassy for Shabbes. Food much better, lots of snacks. Need sleep.

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20 oz. tin (10) pineapple rings, drained
1 banana cut into 10 slices
1 tblsp cinnamon *mixed together with*
3 tblsp. white sugar
1 tblsp. lemon juice
4 egg whites
1/4 tsp. cream of tartar
1/2 cup white sugar
1/2 cup (10) maraschino cherries

Arrange pineapple slices on greased baking sheet. Place a banana slice in the centre of each. Sprinkle with lemon juice and 1/2 of the cinnamon-sugar mixture. Beat egg whites, cream of tartar and sugar into a meringue and spread over each pineapple slice. Sprinkle with remaining cinnamon-sugar mixture. Bake 10 mins. at 400°F till golden. Garnish with cherries. Serve warm or cold.

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About Teens

Dear Karilani,

I am a Grade 12 male student and my parents say that they want their children to be happy, well-rounded, well-adjusted and successful in their own eyes. I'm very involved in extracurricular life in school and out: sports, student council and two part-time jobs to pay for what my mother calls my "habit" (buying expensive clothes). I lead a busy social life but I am relatively responsible. I get repeated reminders that my only job in life is to get good grades in school. "Keep those grades up or everything else goes." I'm a better than average student overall but do worse in some subjects than others. It is my life and I resent the threat. Any suggestions?

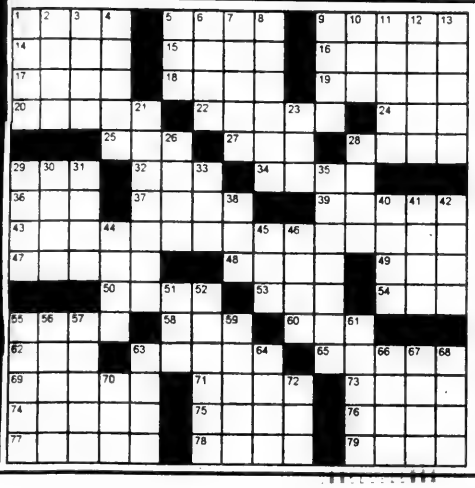
Money Spender

Dear Money Spender,

It is very important to respect and obey your parents. It is also important to consider your parents' wishes but still retain your inner thoughts and dreams. Set your own limits so that your activities don't clash with your parents' expectations. Try adjusting your schedule to accommodate your needs as well as the wishes of your parents. By doing this, you will be able to maintain those extracurricular activities that you enjoy, as well as succeeding in your studies. Also, you will find that if you arrange you schedule in a different way, your social life will be easily accommodated. Maybe, instead of holding two jobs, you can limit what you spend on your wardrobe and hold one job. This will leave more time for you school work and your school involvement.

Your parents are not threatening you; they are just looking for ways to help shape your life and help you make the right decisions. All parents have great expectations for their children. You're at an age where you have to seriously consider your future career in life.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Hebrew letter
5. Imitated Paul Simon
9. Angel's sign
14. "The __ " Wiesel book
15. Israeli Valley
16. Arthur Murray step
17. Open
18. Jerusalem entry
19. Minister of Defense
20. NY __ , Newspaper
22. __ in Goray, Singer
24. Stooge
25. Which one?
27. Last degree
28. Ed of Oz
29. Lillian Florence Hellman
32. Jonas Salk's Org.?
34. Principles signing city
36. Shikker's choice?
37. Shiva clothes
39. Cohanim?
43. Israelites' wanderings (3 wd.)
47. Kosher hooves
48. Singer Cannon
49. Imitated Deborah
50. Sagan sight
53. __ Carte
54. Robinson and Cantor
55. Owns biblically
58. Stood under a chupah
60. C.E. word
62. Lemon drink
63. Shofar blast
65. Abraham's grandson
69. Seder mortar
71. Jump
73. Agadah
74. Maxwell __ , Adams' role
75. Tardy
76. Talmud, __ Law
77. Sacrifice residue
78. Athletic org.
79. Negev plenty

Down

1. Many colored
2. Arabian prince
3. Village of Simeon
4. Like Tashlich sins
5. Portion (abv.)
6. Oy Vey!
7. Sharansky
8. Warsaw uprising locale
9. Musician Getz
10. Damage
11. Amalek
12. "The Bridal Canopy", writer
13. Baseball MVP
21. Israeli Prime Minister
23. Sighs
26. Grain measure
28. Wild dog
29. Ten commandments
30. Al Rosen
31. Gehenna
33. Columnist Landers
35. Baskin or Nimoy
38. Koppel
40. Ellis or Emerald
41. Acted the Galelah
42. Tsitsit site
44. Tsimmes
45. Literary initials
46. Transaction
51. Leather punch
52. Azoy? (Eng.)
55. Amulet
56. "Get Smart" guy
57. Abraham's father
59. Jacob's ladder?
61. Hobby for Newman
63. Murray and Shamsky
64. Einstein's specialty
66. Naomi at times
67. Funt or Sherman
68. Occupied
70. Solomon's mine product
72. Not on Pesach?

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. (Last week's answers are on page 54.)

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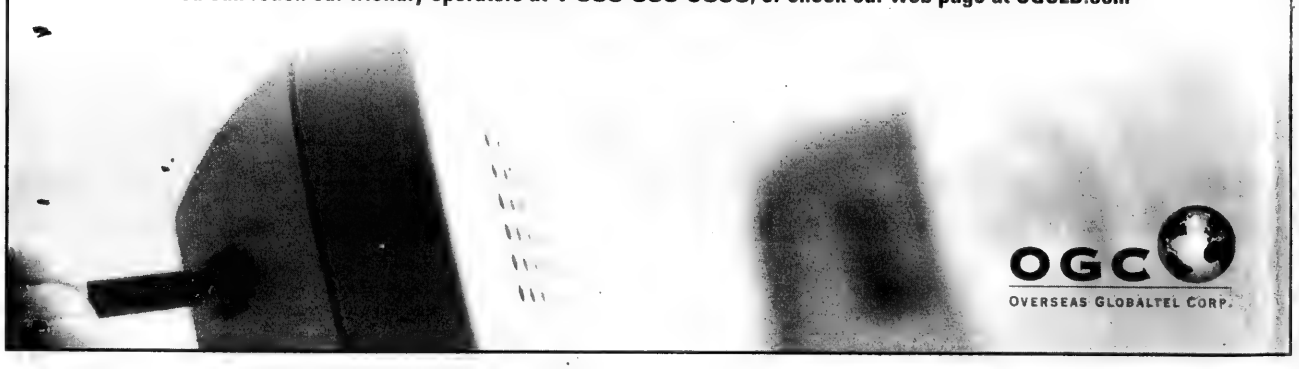

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This Week

National

CJC wants to stop Christian college from granting degrees. *Page 3*

NCJW breakfast club fights child poverty. *Page 5*

Ronen wants Swiss Funds distributed evenly. *Page 14*

On Campus

Women study Talmud in Montreal Hillel House. *Page 30*

Arts

New Jacobovici film traces the 10 lost tribes. *Page 36*

Sports

New book valuable resource for hockey aficionados. *Page 46*

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Shabbat: Toldot
Candlelighting: 4:31
Kislev 1, 5759
Havdalah: 5:36

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Zundel lawsuit includes PM

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Neo-Nazi propagandist Ernst Zundel has launched a lawsuit naming Prime Minister Jean Chretien and the leaders of all parliamentary parties as defendants who allegedly deprived him of his constitutional right to free speech.

Zundel claims he suffered "humiliation, ridicule, hatred and contempt in the nation-wide media, and further damage to his reputation" as a result of a unanimous all-party resolution on June 5 to ban him from parliamentary precincts. He claims "the defendants treated [him] as a national pariah who should not be allowed into the precincts of parliament..."

Zundel names 18 defendants in his suit, including Canadian Jewish Congress and its president Moshe Ronen, the five parliamentary parties, each party leader and several other parliamentarians who took the lead in moving to bar him from the House.

He is claiming $250,000 in general damages from each defendant for violating his right to free speech, $250,000 from each defendant for conspiracy, $250,000 from each MP for "public misfeasance and abuse of office," and a further $500,000 in punitive damages from each defendant.

The events at the heart of the suit began on June 3 when Zundel announced he would host a June 5 news conference in the Centre Block's parliamentary press room to discuss a human rights case in which he is involved.

Ronen, who had been recently elected Congress president, got

Continued on page 33

GA kicks off in Jerusalem

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A "who's who" of Jewish North American and Israeli leadership is gathering in Jerusalem this week for a historic meeting of the UJA Federations of North America General Assembly (GA).

Held for the first time outside North America, the GA will bring together 3,000 delegates to celebrate the theme, "Many People, Many Roads, One Heart."

The conference is designed to allow Diaspora participants to "build personal relationships with Israelis, and to help Israelis build personal relationships with North Americans," said Sheldon Maerov, associate executive vice-president of UIA Federations and coordinator of the Canadian contingent.

Two hundred and twenty-eight Canadian delegates were expected to travel to Israel for the convention, 80 of them from Toronto.

Participants at the 67th GA were greeted with a crowded agenda.

Continued on page 33

Four key issues

By JULIUS GREY
Special to The CJN

Election Commentary

The election campaign in Quebec raises several issues.

The one most debated in the rest of the country is the Constitution. The Parti Québécois is openly sovereigntist, but is trying to downplay the degree of commitment to the cause.

For instance, Lucien Bouchard is raising the possibility of successful negotiation of an "in-between" status.

Jean Charest is clearly in favor of the constitutional status quo. His notions of decentralization are more connected with his conservatism and his acceptance of the Mike Harris/Ralph Klein model than with any traditional Quebec goals. He, too, is trying to obscure his position and to make it seem as though the status quo is unsatisfactory to him.

Clearly, both sovereignty and status quo are relatively unpopular with francophone Quebecers, and both parties find it necessary to disguise or obfuscate their program.

Continued on page 24

WALLENBERG REMEMBERED

Nina Lagergren (second from right), the half-sister of Raoul Wallenberg, stands with her daughters near memorial to Wallenberg outside the United Nations last week. The memorial, by Hungarian born Swedish sculptor Gustav Kraitz, consists of five black columns hewn from Swedish bedrock. It is called "Hope." *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

INSIDE

Yoel Marcus of *Ha'aretz* assesses Prime Minister Netanyahu's Wye Accord achievements. *Please see page 9.*

Israel still wary of Iraqi deal — please see page 31

The News in Brief

CANADA

Town Crier To Apologize

TORONTO — The *Town Crier* newspaper will apologize for an anti-Semitic letter in a recent issue of its Beaches edition.

The letter, signed by Albert Coulls of Kingston Road, attacks Jews for pressuring the City of Toronto not to name a park after the late Joe McNulty, the popular Beaches resident who had been a member of the Swastika Club in the 1930s. The letter-writer admits to harboring "negative views" about Jews and suggests that that if Jews "do not like it here, you are free to leave."

Town Crier editor Andrew Gorm said the printing of the letter was "an error in judgment," and he pledged to publish an apology in the paper's next issue.

Muslims Protest Film

TORONTO — A coalition of Islamic groups held a press conference here last week to protest the stereotyping of Muslims and Arabs in the movie *The Siege*. The groups said the film unfairly portrays Arabs and Muslims as violent, and suggests that Islam is a potential threat to North America.

ISRAEL

Settlers Seek 'Footholds'

JERUSALEM — Jewish settlers have set up at least five new encampments in the West Bank since last month's signing of the Wye accord, the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* reported. The moves came as part of an effort to establish footholds in the area before Israel embarks on any further redeployments.

Women Earn Less

JERUSALEM — Women working in Israel's civil service earn 25 percent less than their male counterparts, according to a survey presented to a Knesset member. The report says the discrepancy is due mainly to how overtime benefits are allotted, and it suggests closing all government offices at 5 p.m., a move it says would eliminate the benefit for both men and women.

Guidelines for Journalists

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian Authority (PA) has issued guidelines for foreign journalists working in the self-rule areas. The guidelines, which in part call on journalists to obtain a licence, prompted concerns that the PA is trying to muzzle the media. Palestinian officials said they made the move to comply with the Wye agreement, which calls for a Palestinian crackdown on incitement.

WORLD

Kristallnacht Services

FRANKFURT — Germany's new chancellor and president were among the country's top officials attending one of hundreds of ceremonies in the country marking the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

Proceedings Initiated

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Justice Department has initiated removal proceedings against an Indiana man who has been stripped of his citizenship for lying about his World War II service with a Nazi-sponsored killing unit in Lithuania and Byelorussia.

Kazys Ciurinskas, 80, served in a mobile killing unit that collaborated with the Nazis in the murder of Jews and others. In October 1941, the unit murdered more than 10,000 civilians in Byelorussia. A U.S. court found that Ciurinskas participated in at least one and most likely more than one such killing operation.

Family Seeks Asylum

SUVA, Fiji — A Jewish family is reportedly seeking refugee status in the Pacific island nation of Fiji. Yuri and Irina Yurovsky and their two children arrived in Fiji last December. They claim that their forcible return to their native Kazakhstan would result in persecution and possibly death.

Anti-Semitism Increasing

BERN — The debate over Swiss banks' wartime dealings with the Nazis has fuelled a wave of anti-Semitism in Switzerland, the country's human rights watchdog says. The Federal Commission Against Racism says that "latent anti-Semitism is again being increasingly expressed in public by word and by deed," adding that "comments from politicians helped make anti-Semitism socially acceptable."

Priest Attacks Jews

WARSAW — A Polish priest known for his anti-Semitic remarks has again attacked Jewish groups for objecting to the presence of crosses near the site of the Auschwitz concentration camp. Father Henryk Jankowski claimed that Jewish calls for the area around Auschwitz to be granted special status were reminiscent of Nazi demands on Poland. His latest outburst came at the end of a one-year ban on his preaching from the pulpit, which had been imposed for his earlier anti-Semitic comments.

Chassidic 'Robin Hood' Finally Captured

JERUSALEM — A rabbi dubbed "a chassidic Robin Hood" has been arrested in Israel in relation to a string of multi-million dollar frauds and robberies in Canada, the Netherlands and Britain.

The RCMP cooperated with Israeli officials in the arrest of Rabbi Joseph Pruschinowski outside the Jerusalem neighborhood where he lived. The 59-year-old father of 12 was sought by the Mounties, Scotland Yard, the FBI and Dutch police, and evaded arrest for a decade.

Over a 20 year period, the rabbi allegedly defrauded dozens of banks, commodity brokers and financial institutions to provide money for housing and charitable causes among unwitting chassidic communities.

Until a year ago, the RCMP had 10 outstanding warrants for Rabbi Pruschinowski's arrest, but they expired under a statute of limitations. While living near Montreal, he allegedly defrauded banks in Canada, Japan, Singapore and Australia. The rabbi fled Canada in 1987.

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CJC worried over bill that would upgrade status of Bible college

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) is trying to block an Ontario bill that would allow a Christian Bible college to grant recognized academic degrees.

CJC says the Canada Christian College and School of Graduate Theological Studies missionizes to Jews, and that its request to confer degrees should be rejected.

The college, which enrolls about 150 full- and part-time students, currently grants only diplomas.

CJC Ontario region chair Keith Landy has written to Education Minister David Johnson, charging that a "primary focus" of the Toronto-based college is to convert Jews to Christianity.

Congress says a number of the college's faculty "have made a career of focussing on Jews for conversion." One of them is a "messianic rabbi," while two others are described as leaders in the messianic Jewish movement.

Of special interest to CJC is the college's Department of Jewish Studies. A syllabus openly states that one course will "enable the student to more effectively communicate and minister to the Jewish people."

Congress says "the targeting of the Jewish community for conversion by an educational entity must surely breach" provincial guidelines.

A similar controversy arose in 1991, when a *CJN* investigation found the college was apparently granting bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees, in contravention

Continued on page 24

DRESSING UP FOR BOOKS

Students at Leo Baeck Day School, including (from left), Cody Hock (a wrestler); Denise Golick (Dorothy); Erica Seetner (Belle) and Victor Spears (a farmer) dressed as their favorite book or story characters to mark a book fair, part of Canadian Children's Book Week. [Ron Csillag photo]

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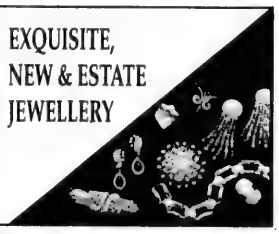

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From the editor's desk

Heroes recognized

Isser Adler, a survivor of Auschwitz, is 72 years old. An earnest man, without airs or pretensions, he walks with a deft and secure quickness. He always has time to ask how you are, and to smile at you his sweet, generous smile.

Last week, on November 9, Adler and some 180 others of his generation, were honored publicly at Beth Avraham Yosef of Toronto in a tribute to veterans of Israel's War of Independence.

The event was the largest gathering ever in Canada of the volunteers from overseas, *machalnikim* as they are acronymically known in Hebrew, *mitnadvim m'chutz l'aretz*, who served in the desperate1948 war.

Each of the veterans received a commemorative medal specially minted for the occasion. They travelled from across Canada to attend the event. Two of them were there in wheelchairs.

As Irving Abella, the evening's master of ceremonies told the large gathering, finally, 50 years after the birth of the young state these volunteers helped to bring into the world, they were receiving a long-overdue measure of public recognition and gratitude for their altruism and courage.

They were all heroes, and yet, typical of true heroism, they were all "ordinary" people too: all shapes, all sizes, some worn down by the years, others remarkably buoyed up by them, some religious, most seemingly not.

External differences were hardly significant however, against the deeper union of their shared experiences and their common commitment to the same cause, namely, that of the Jewish people.

Their courage and their heroism were inspirational. In the case of Isser Adler, his "story" inspired one of his sons, Yossi, and Yossi's wife Karen, to co-chair and to coordinate the commemorative event under the aegis of Mizrachi Bayit and Mizrachi Canada. Kenneth Stollon was Adler's co-chair.

It was an emotional, moving occasion, despite the fact, or perhaps because of the fact, that it was, essentially, free of the flourish, the fanfare and the "gala" flavor that often characterizes community evening events of this scale.

More than 500 people filled the social hall of the synagogue. There was barely any room to move. But that was actually part of the evening's poignancy. For, the families of the veterans were there to applaud, to hug and to kiss them. Children and grandchildren sat alongside their grandfathers and their grandmothers. Very few of the grandchildren restrained their expressions of pride and love towards their aged grandparents. And perhaps this, above all else, made the evening so touching.

Simcha Jacobovici, the award-winning film producer and documentarian, made the same observation in his keynote address. He was at the event however, not only as the keynote speaker but also to accept a medal on behalf of his late father.

Speaking in his deep, sonorous voice, and pointing to the large number of young children in the room, Jacobovici noted that "the entire miracle of Jewish survival" was embodied in the room that night. He meant it literally and metaphorically.

"I am touched by what is here and by what is not here," Jacobovici said.

He made the point that the room was filled with nearly 200 heroes from that history-making military campaign of 1948, and yet there were no displays of militarism.

"We prove ourselves in peace," Jacobovici intoned, "but we defend ourselves in war."

Looking directly at the veterans nearest to the podium, Jacobovici summed up the sense of joy and marvel that was palpable that evening in the room: "Thousands of years from now, people will be talking about your accomplishments. We thank you for what you did."

He spoke for everyone in the room.

***

On the very night that the veterans of Israel's War of Independence were being honored, many people across the world were commemorating the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht. November 9, 1938 was the night when the true nature of the Nazi evil was made manifest to the world.

One of our readers, Kurt Herzstein, sent us the following poem. Its pained, precise language evokes melancholy. I recommend it to our readers.

Kristallnacht:
A bitter reminiscence

Remember, remember,
The ninth of November,
Nineteen Hundred and Thirty Eight,
Make note of that date.

Alarm arouses,
They come from the street,
Invading houses,
With stomping feet
Pillaging, robbing,
Abducting men
When children are sobbing,
They are beaten then
They set on fire,
The holy places,
With grim desire,
And sneering faces.

The grieving dawn saw all the clashes,
The sacred parchments burnt to ashes,
The hallowed walls...a dying ember
.....remember.

Remember, remember,
The Ninth of November,
Nineteen Hundred and Thirty Eight
Remember the date.

by Kurt Herzstein
MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

BRINGING FORTH FOOD FROM THE LAND

New immigrants work the land at Meona in the Galilee in 1950.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

NCJW breakfast club helps fight child poverty

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Our mandate is to fight child poverty, says Marcy Fish of National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Toronto section.

NCJW's child poverty committee, of which she is coordinator, put those words into action, with the establishment in September of a thrice-weekly breakfast club at a building affiliated with the Kehilla Residential Program (affordable housing under the auspices of UJA Federation). Eighty percent of the 111 units in the non-profit building are subsidized.

The breakfast club, a joint project with Circle of Care (formerly Senior Care), is co-chaired by Rachel Ornoy and Diane Shiner-Feder. They currently feed 15 to 20 children between the ages of 5 and 12 (of about 40 in the building) before the children leave for school.

In addition to nutritious food like French toast or scrambled eggs, unsweetened cereal and fresh fruit, snacks like yogourt or granola bars are available to take to school; board games and books are also there for their use.

"Besides being a breakfast program, it's an outlet for these kids to socialize. They talk to each other and they talk to us," said Fish.

"The program has impacted the building positively," confirmed Lisa Lipowitz of Kehilla.

Funding and some supplies have been provided by NCJW chapters and by individuals. Some food items are provided by Feed the Children's warehouse, but more is needed, said Fish. "We are paying exhorbitant prices for perishables."

Children who go to school without eating breakfast don't learn as well, she noted.

The program is run by volunteers from Council and Circle of Care who buy, cook, serve and clean up on a rotating basis. One mother from the building is actively involved, and teen volunteers from Temple Sinai and Holy Blossom Temple participated until recently as part of a project.

Once the program was under way, an open house was held for residents, volunteers and local politicians.

Fish, who has been an NCJW member for over 40 years, has always been impressed by how the organization serves the Jewish and general community, as it does in the multicultural building. Child poverty was pinpointed as one of two areas of priority for NCJW (along with women's issues) at its biennial convention in 1997, and the child poverty committee was formed shortly afterwards.

Fish helps set up at the breakfast club one morning a week. "A lot of people don't like to get up that early, [but] when you see these kids, and how they react, it's a wonderful feeling."

They do have to encourage the children to eat something nutritious, she noted. "They like the sugary stuff."

Marilyn Gross, past chair of Circle of Care's volunteer coordination and services committee, cooks and oversees the other volunteers one day a week.

The project is part of Circle of Care's intergenerational program. Group members had been researching breakfast clubs in hopes of starting one of their own when they heard of the NCJW project and asked to come on board.

In addition to serving breakfast, sometimes the volunteers help children with homework. "We have a few retired teachers," noted Gross, adding that the children are "delightful. They seem to be very appreciative, and they seem to have a grand time. It's a good beginning to the day."

Their contribution is modest when seen as part of already existing services, noted co-chair Ornoy.

Eventually, Fish said, NCJW hopes to expand the pilot project to other locations. "The number of women using food banks in Toronto has increased by 55 percent. We are attempting to alleviate this as much as we can."

Rabbi Lau set to visit

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Rabbi Yisroel Meir Lau, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel, will be the keynote speaker at Ohr Somayach's first Toronto dinner and dessert reception.

The dinner, Dec. 1 at the Sheraton Centre, will honor Stephen Rosen, current president of Ohr Somayach and a long-time volunteer for numerous Jewish causes in Toronto.

Jeremy Cohen, Ohr Somayach's director of financial resource development, described Rosen as "a superlative leader, who wants to see good things happen," and who does many charitable works with little or no fanfare.

Cohen told *The CJN* that, besides being a fundraiser, the event is designed to "bring together old and new friends of Ohr Somayach," and to give the organization more visibility in the community.

Rabbi Nota Schiller, rosh yeshiva of Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem, will speak at the dinner. There will be special presentations to Howard Sitzer, talmid of the year; to the family of the late Rabbi Uziel Milevsky, in honor of his contributions not only in Toronto but elsewhere; and to Rosen.

Dinner is called for 5:45 and the reception for 8 p.m. Tickets are $500 a plate for both the dinner and the reception or $90 for the dessert reception.

There are two campuses, one at 613 Clark Ave. W. in Thornhill and one at 446 Spadina Rd.

For more information about Ohr Somayach, or to reserve for the dinner and dessert reception, call 905-886-5730.

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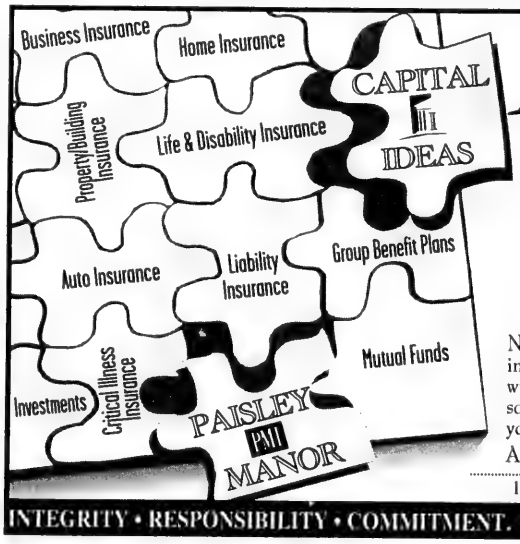

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West Bank Jews face tough times, says Hebron leader

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If the town of Hebron is any indication, Jewish populations on the West Bank face tough times ahead, especially in the wake of the Wye agreement, says the leader of the municipality's Jewish government.

"We've been shot at. We've been firebombed. We're being attacked all the time," said Avraham Ben-Yosef, director of Jewish Hebron's municipal council.

Ben-Yosef, who is referred to by others, as well as himself, as the mayor of Hebron, told *The CJN* in a recent interview that the town's 550 Jews strive for normal lives amid a sea of hostile Palestinians.

He said Jews are the targets, almost every day, of rocks, bottles and firebombs hurled from the city's Palestinian side.

In January 1997, Israeli troops redeployed from 80 percent of Hebron as part of the Oslo accords, allowing for Palestinian control. The remaining 20 percent, comprised of about 54 Jewish families, including some 150 yeshiva students who live and study there, reside within a two- or three-square kilometre area, administered by Israel.

Jews are vastly outnumbered by about 20,000 Arabs. In what Ben-Yosef calls greater Hebron, which includes Kiryat Arba, Arabs outnumber Jews 10 to one.

Ben-Yosef said there are Israeli troops protecting Jews, as well as the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH), a multinational force, but that Palestinians get away with regular attacks.

Avraham Ben-Yosef

That's because Palestinian security forces ignore – even engage in – attacks on Jews, and Israeli troops are forbidden from engaging in so-called "hot pursuit" of suspected terrorists in Palestinian territory, he charged.

The Hebron agreement has failed to spell out what happens when either side violates the rules on the buffer separating Arabs and Jews, Ben-Yosef added.

He said a grenade attack in Hebron on Yom Kippur that killed a rabbi and injured 14 Israeli soldiers was just the latest salvo in an ongoing war with Arab terrorists, a war that will go on, if not escalate, following last month's signing of the land-for-peace Wye memorandum.

"Hebron is a microcosm of what's to be expected," said Ben-Yosef, a 40-year-old New York native. The Wye agreement, which will cede a further 13 percent of the West Bank to Palestinian control, will mean another 10 to 18 Jewish communities in the West Bank "will be surrounded by armed Arabs. If what has happened to us is an example, things will be very difficult."

He insisted he was not in Toronto to raise funds.

"We're here for awareness and moral support. People are asking questions. We want people to put Hebron on their agendas."

He said the Israeli army offered Jewish residents bulletproof windows. When settlers pointed out the windows could never be opened, the army offered clothes dryers and air conditioners.

"We said no. Our goal is to live normal lives."

He and other Jewish residents have "no interest in throwing out Arabs. We really don't have anything against them on a personal level," he said, noting that as leader of the Jewish municipal government, he has "correct" relations with Palestinians.

"Our problem is with the Jewish notion of a Palestinian nation."

Instead of land for peace, he said, settlers want peace for peace.

He said the council of Jewish communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza – known as Yesha – has rejected the Wye accord as a surrender and abandonment by Israel.

But Ben-Yosef remains steadfast in his determination to remain, despite pressure from the United States to cease Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

"Our apartments are full," he said. "We have no intention of going. We're staying."

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Democracy's uneasy future

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Many of today's democracies suffer from human rights abuses, victimization of ethnic minorities, marginalization of the poor, questionable election practices, and ineffectual parliaments, says Arthur Schlesinger, former adviser to President John F. Kennedy.

The family of democracies is growing, Schlesinger said in a recent lecture, "but many countries purporting to be democracies are shallow."

Schlesinger made the comments in a talk entitled Democracy on the Eve of the 21st Century: Under Attack or on the Ascendancy? His speech was part of the 1998 Gerald Schwartz/Heather Reisman three-part lecture series at Holy Blossom Temple.

The optimism at the end of the 20th century is not unlike the outlook at its beginning, he said. "But the optimism at the onset of the century faded quickly into World War I, the Depression and World War II."

By 1941, there were only about a dozen democracies left on the planet, he said.

"Democracies cannot just be created. They are not a mechanically transferable form of government."

Democracies emerge from a set of social and intellectual preconditions such as a rising middle class, equality before the law, reasonable degree of literacy, commitment to education and a wide distribution of economic opportunities, Schlesinger said.

He highlighted the threat of religious fundamentalism to democratic states.

"Islamic fundamentalism seems especially hostile to freedom of expression, women's rights, and unlike historical Islam, to other religions. Nor is a fundamentalist revival confined to the third world... Fundamentalism carried too far, has ominous implications for democracy. Those who believe they are executing the will of the almighty can be merciless to non-believers.

In the end, Schlesinger concluded democracy has a future, but it won't be an easy one.

After surviving the 20th Century by the "skin of its teeth, [democracy] will not enjoy a free ride" in the next century, he said.

"Democracy in the 21st century must manage the pressures of race, technology, capitalism, and it must cope with the spiritual frustrations and yearnings generated in the vast, terrifying anonymity of global society."

While wars of the past century arose from aggression across national frontiers, Schlesinger argued that 21st century wars will more likely be between ethnic, religious, ideological and tribal factions within the same country.

Hedva Almog (left) and Masha Lubelsky believe in strong ties between Na'amat Canada and Na'amat Israel. They were here recently to meet with local Na'amat leadership. [Frances Kraft photo]

Na'amat links healthy society to Israeli peace

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When war and security are the main issues in Israel, social welfare and women's issues take a back seat, noted the president of Na'amat Israel, here last month on a one-day stop in her North American tour.

"If we want to be a healthy society, we must bring peace to the area," said Hedva Almog in an interview at Na'amat Canada offices in the Borochov Centre.

Almog was accompanied by former MK Masha Lubelsky, president of the Na'amat world movement and former president of Na'amat Israel. Both women were here to meet with representatives of Na'amat Canada.

"I think we must build the relationship between Na'amat Canada and Na'amat Israel, not to come and say, 'give us,'" said Almog. "I think it's a mutual relationship."

She noted that Israeli women have benefited from Na'amat Canada-sponsored projects including day care centres and a women's shelter in Tel Aviv. (Locally, Na'amat Canada provides school supplies to children living in shelters.)

Canadian women, in turn, have expressed interest in attending more seminars in Israel, Almog said. She has agreed to take responsibility for that, and a Spring 1999 leadership program is in the works.

A retired brigadier general with a 25-year IDF career behind her, Almog, 47, would prefer her children, ages 11 and 15, see the army be able to take on a peacetime role so they can "use their knowledge and qualities in fields like high tech, industry and education. If we want to be a healthy society, we must bring peace to the area."

That doesn't mean Israel shouldn't have a strong army, clarified Lubelsky, 62, whose English was stronger than Almog's and who translated for her during part of the interview.

Both women expressed optimism about the prospects for peace in Israel, although Almog suggested that perhaps peace will be reached among individual citizens before their leaders come to agreement. Na'amat has been involved in grass roots meetings between Israeli Jewish women and their Palestinian counterparts, Almog said.

Issues such as abuse, sexual harassment, pay equity and religious freedom are prime concerns of Na'amat Israel. In some cases, the organization offers legal aid. Likewise in Toronto, Na'amat runs a weekly legal clinic.

Partly as a result of Na'amat Israel's efforts under Lubelsky's 11-year national presidency, Israeli women now have the right to retire between ages 60 and 65. Previously, women were forced to retire at 60 and men could continue working until age 65.

Na'amat Israel, with 800,000 members from a variety of political parties, is a social service agency and the women's arm of the Histadrut, the Jewish labor organization.

"We believe that women must take positions in all levels of politics," said Almog, who was nominated by Amram Mitzna, mayor of Haifa, to run as his deputy for the coming term of office.

She termed it "disappointing" that there are less than a dozen women members of Knesset, out of 120 MKs.

Whether or not Israel has another woman prime minister is not the main issue, said Lubelsky. "We can have one woman become prime minister and nothing among thousands of other [capable] women."

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Saddam's retreat

As these words are being written, the U.S.-led, UN-authorized strike against Saddam Hussein has been called off, temporarily at least. Saddam's flurry of correspondence to the Security Council over the weekend appears to have contained sufficient capitulation to the demand to allow the unconditional return to Iraq of the UN weapons inspectors. As a result, Saddam has been granted yet another reprieve from military intervention against his capability to develop non-conventional weaponry of mass destruction.

Satisfied that Saddam has retreated from his most recent brink, and that he has agreed to complete compliance with the relevant UN resolutions on weapons inspections, the Americans and the British – the leaders of the UN allied coalition – are willing to keep their powder dry, for the moment. But they are not convinced that Saddam is being honest. Thus they will test and carefully study Saddam's fulfilment of his commitment to complete compliance.

Nor should they be convinced of his honesty, for he has never been honest in his dealings with the west in this matter, nor likely, in any matter.

His deceit toward the west notwithstanding, the vilest of his dishonesties are directed towards his own people.

He has impoverished them with his ambition. The Iraqi economy is in shambles because of his unwillingness to abandon his lust for power. He has deprived them with his megalomania. The incomes that do flow into the country earmarked by the UN for medical supplies and food have been diverted to the construction of his many private palaces and secret warehouses of hidden biological and chemical weaponry. And he has diminished the people with his despotism. They live without even minimal human rights, hear and read only Saddam-approved lies and are consigned to lives where truth, freedom and purpose are beyond reach, far away glimmers in far away lands.

The only long-lasting solution to the international instability caused by Saddam and to the domestic hardship he inflicts on his people is, as President Bill Clinton said at the White House last Sunday, his ouster. We hope that the will and the wherewithal exist among his people to remove Saddam from his palaces, permanently.

Reminder: It's false

Two weeks ago in this space, we wrote that the key election strategy of the Parti Québécois stands on a false premise. As noted commentator Lysiane Gagnon observes, to appeal to non-separatist, "soft" voters, Lucien Bouchard articulates a deliberately ambiguous policy on separatism. He repeatedly leaves the impression that he might somehow pursue a policy of "renewed federalism." Gagnon pointed out last weekend in her column in the *Globe and Mail*: "Bouchard often talks about a vote on 'sovereignty-partnership'... So this opens the possibility that the referendum would be about some kind of 'renewed federalism.'" The reason, of course, for the ambiguity by the premier is obvious. Again, according to Gagnon: "Polls always indicate that renewed federalism, whatever it means, is the favorite option of Quebecers."

But, let it be repeated, Bouchard is not interested in renewed federalism. He is interested in abandoned federalism. He never omits to be so explicit about federalism when addressing his party faithful, the hard core, dyed in the pure wool separatists.

With half the election campaign over and less than two weeks until the vote itself, it is important to remind readers of the falsehood that lies beneath Bouchard's carefully crafted ambiguity.

The only way federalism can be renewed for Quebecers, and thereby for the rest of Canada as well, is for a federalist leader to be elected premier of Quebec.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"And he (Esav) ate; and he drank; and he got up; and he left and he wasted the birth right." *Parshat Toldot*

Dry Bones
EITHER THE STUDENT STRIKE IS AN IDEALISTIC CRY FOR JUSTICE IN EDUCATION
OR IT'S JUST A CYNICAL MANIPULATION BY A POLITICAL MINORITY
SOLOMON, MY KING, YOU'RE SAYING IT'S ONE OR THE OTHER?
YES!
UNFORTUNATELY THIS IS AS FAR AS MY THINKING HAS GONE.

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Differs with Zolf on Winnipeg's Peretz Shule

Recently, I received an article called "Socialism and the Shul," by Larry Zolf (*CJN*, Sept. 17). Sitting here in my far-flung outpost in Moshav Lachish, Israel, I read and reread Zolf's account with wide-eyed wonder. We went to the same Peretz Shule at approximately the same time, but are we talking about the same school? His whole account of the Peretz Shule of the '40s reads more like science fiction than biography.

First may I state, that I was privileged to be a pupil of Zolf's father, Falik Zolf, my first great teacher of Jewish literature, the man who at this early stage of my development, felt that I had writing talent, and from the beginning, encouraged me to write. Since it was the Peretz Shule, I first wrote in Yiddish, whereas today I write in English and Hebrew. However, the first push was from Chaver Zolf, as we called him (and when he wasn't listening, we fondly called him "Floz").

Larry Zolf's statement "Mapam was the only Jewish party who made room for Yiddish in the scheme of things" is pure fiction. With the founding of the Jewish state, with the ingathering of the exiles, a concentrated effort was made by all to revitalize the Hebrew language, in order to bind together the immigrants from all the continents, in order to unite these Jews with a common language. Yiddish could not have been that common language and it played no part in any political party.

This goal of revitalizing the Hebrew language has been achieved. Today we also have a chair of Yiddish studies in the Hebrew University. The interest in Yiddish has now been revived to some degree.

Most of our parents who sent us to study Yiddish in the Peretz Shule, were not Orthodox religious Jews, but Jews who observed Jewish traditions and Jewish holidays. In the Peretz Shule, we daily studied the Tanach in Hebrew with Yiddish translation. We celebrated all the Jewish holidays. Every Friday night, we gathered in the shule for the Oneg Shabbat and loudly sang "Shabbess, zol zain tomid Shabbes." I have a fond memory of dressing up as Esther Hamalka on Purim and making my way proudly through the streets of Winnipeg, to get to the Peretz Shule Purim party. The Shule was never blatantly socialist or atheistic. At no time in the years that Zolf was our teacher, did he ever pass out in our classes, "lampoons and satires of socialism." Nor were we ever subject to anti-religious propaganda of any kind.

As for the statement, "my father secretly introduced bar mitzvah training to the Peretz School," I was quite amused. In this little school with its tiny classes, could anyone secretly introduce a program of "bar mitzvah training" without the whole school knowing about it?

I can only decry the snide remarks about Rabbi Meyer Schwartzman, who according to Zolf was "the rabbi who made the salamis kosher." Rabbi Schwartzman was a highly honored rabbi in the Winnipeg Jewish community.

Batya (Faerman) Fromm
Moshav Lachish, Israel

CJC did alert Jakobek about McNulty

I read with interest your article (*CJN*, Oct. 22) entitled "Toronto drops plans for McNulty park."

For the record, I believe it is important to clarify at least one important matter. Your article, while not quoting me directly, left the inference that Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region, may have in some way acted improperly by not informing me in advance of a media story in the *Globe & Mail* of the McNulty situation. In fact, I received an information package from CJC in early September, well prior to the article appearing in the newspaper.

I am grateful to CJC for providing the research materials that were necessary for me to make the proper decision in ensuring that a park was not named after an individual of McNulty's ilk.

Tom Jakobek
Toronto

Arafat must recognize Israel's right to exist

The stipulation that Yasser Arafat rewrite the odious parts of the Palestinian Charter which called for Israel's destruction is imperative. In addition, he should be called upon to repudiate all people who preach hatred for Jews. If he fails to do so, then his commitment at Wye Mills, Md., will have as much force and effect as the Iranian government saying it no longer calls for the death of Salman Rushdie, and yet takes no steps to prosecute organized groups within Iran that threaten to do exactly the same thing. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is absolutely correct in refusing to relinquish one further inch of the West Bank until the Palestinian Charter is amended in clear and unequivocal language recognizing the State of Israel's right to exist.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Assessing Netanyahu's performance

By YOEL MARCUS
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Author says, "Wye Accord deserves high marks"

Now that he has pushed the Wye agreement on the implementation of the second West Bank withdrawal through the government, Bibi can be compared to a problem student who performs poorly throughout the entire school year but who suddenly comes up with a mark of 100 on the algebra final.

How do we assess such a student? On the basis of overall performance during the year, or on the basis of the surprising grade on the final exam? And how should we interpret that surprising grade? Will this student continue to be a problematic non-achiever or does the exam herald the birth of a new, A-average super-scholar?

The answer to these questions, whether we are talking about a student or a prime minister, cannot be unequivocal, because we are also dealing with a personality problem. In both cases, the determining factor is not the overall performance, but rather, the end result.

The plain, bald fact is that Bibi got his cabinet to ratify Wye. True, the ratification was not carried out against the background of a dazzling fireworks display; however, the important point is that the cabinet approved it, and that it will be ratified by the Knesset with a crushing majority. No cabinet minister resigned from the government, and the sky did not fall upon Bibi's head. This does not, however, mean that from now on we will see a new Bibi or that he has been transformed into a great leader for our country.

It was said about the late minister of education and culture Zalman Aranne, that, for one day each month, he would go stark-raving mad; the only problem was that no one knew which day.

By the same token, one could say that Bibi has his moments of clear-sighted, brilliant decision-making; the only problem is that no one knows when, how and why those moments occur. For example, Bibi had a moment of decision-making clarity a year and a half ago in Hebron, and recently in the cabinet's ratification of the Wye agreement.

It is immaterial what conditions the government imposed when it approved the accord nor what the various ministers said in the cabinet debate over Wye. What is important, is that the government of Israel has agreed to hand over 27 percent of the "Jewish homeland" to the Palestinians.

Last week in Tel Aviv, right wing Israelis demonstrated their opposition to the Wye Accord. [Reuters/RNS photo]

In the course of his first two years as prime minister, Bibi has put in a poor leadership performance because of his personality problems, and because of his unpredictable behavior patterns, which stem from an obsessive fear of being turned out of office and from a basic lack of integrity.

His behavior has made him the least credible prime minister this country has ever had. However, the most serious problem is that, in the first half of his prime ministership, Bibi has displayed a chronic state of cold feet and has shown himself to be a leader without a compass.

This past week, one of the most centrally placed members of the cabinet said about Bibi: "I still cannot fathom what on earth he wants."

If Bibi was against the Wye agreement, why did he go to America in the first place? However, since he did go and did sign on the dotted line, why did he not launch a lightning offensive to obtain cabinet approval immediately upon his return to Israel? Why the delay? After all, the very same parties that are opposed to the withdrawal are also not interested in early elections. Why did he take so long before getting his act together? In doing so, he just gave his opponents more time to get their act together. Why did he have to wait until U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had to issue an ultimatum, and why did her boss, President Bill Clinton, in the context of a conversation about Iraq, have to prod Bibi to get the agreement ratified by the end of this week? And, after submitting the agreement to the cabinet for approval, why did Bibi hamstring himself by declaring that the "government would scrutinize each stage in the agreement?"

There are those who compare Bibi to Golda Meir. Actually, he more closely resembles Levi Eshkol, who was famous for fence-sitting and who, whenever possible, put off for the day after tomorrow what he could do today.

However, Bibi's chronic indecisiveness has carried a heavy price tag. Anyone who has had any dealings with him has quickly learned that the only language he really understands is force, and that he only acts if there is absolutely no other option. A year after Bibi promised Clinton a double-digit withdrawal, after he managed to antagonize the world's leaders and after he gained the reputation of being a liar, he has no other option now but to do what he could have done a year ago.

What has Bibi gained by this kind of behavior? He has chosen to forsake and to destroy the peace process' essential spirit of conciliation. Bibi the trickster, the schemer and the indecisive leader ultimately found himself at a point where he had to shift from virtual reality to the real thing. He kept on postponing until he had driven everyone up the wall, but, in the end, he came through with the goods. In all likelihood, he will drag the implementation of the withdrawal well beyond its three-month timetable. However, what is important is that, in the end, he will carry out the withdrawal. Period.

This week, Bibi made history because, thanks to him, the Palestinians will have 42 percent of the West Bank by spring. Labor chief Ehud Barak would not have given more. Bibi will no doubt be referred to in the school textbooks of the future Palestinian state not only as the leader who carried out the Oslo agreements he had "inherited" from Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres but also as the Israeli prime minister who weakened the right, and destroyed the Likud's ideology more effectively than anyone on the left could ever have done.

Who knows, perhaps Bibi might also become the first prime minister to dismantle the settlements, because, in Bibi's case, it is not the intention but rather the outcome that counts.

Protests were held even as the cabinet was conditionally approving the Wye Accord. [Reuters/RNS photo]

Opinions

What's new? Much too much

Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

Few countries rival Israel when it comes to generating the kind of news that captures headlines around the globe. It's a distinction most Israelis could gladly do without. But what the outside world sees in the media is only the tip of the iceberg, a mere slice of the daily diet of harrowing events, raucous debate and poignant sagas that are so much a part of Israeli society.

To open a newspaper here, or to tune in to the countless newscasts and public affairs programs on the radio and TV, is to be overwhelmed by the drama of life in the Promised Land – much of it played out in near fever pitch in the media. Given such non-stop intensity, it's a wonder the whole nation is not on tranquilizers.

If in many countries, the news is just another form of entertainment, in Israel it's anything but. What happens here matters deeply to people, affecting them directly. Too much is at stake.

In any given week, more hard news occurs in Israel than during half a year in Switzerland, or perhaps even Canada. Take one seven-day period earlier this month as an example.

It began with nation-wide ceremonies to mark the third anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, and ended with the peace process derailed by the latest Palestinian bombing attack, this time in Jerusalem. In between, a cavalcade of events unfolded in rapid-fire succession, of which the following is only a selection:

• A Tel Aviv rally in memory of Rabin attracted 150,000 people.
• The next day, at a televised state ceremony at Jerusalem's Mt. Herzl Cemetery, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu laid a wreath at Rabin's grave, hecklers screamed that he had incited to Rabin's murder.
• President Ezer Weizman warned that, based on recent indications, more political assassinations could happen.
• Israeli security officials voiced concern over a new Iraqi-UN crisis, adding that nearly one-third of the public is without proper gas masks.
• U.S.-Israeli relations worsened as Jerusalem delayed ratification of the Wye agreement with the Palestinians.
• The immigrant soldier killed in the jeep that protected children in a school bus from terrorist bombing was buried.
• Left- and right-wing activists, police and Palestinians clashed at the site of the controversial Jewish housing project at Ras al Amud in east Jerusalem.
• The shekel dropped to a new low against the dollar.
• There was an outcry over police brutality against university students during protests for lower tuition.
• An Israeli cabinet minister hosted a meeting during which three major churches in Jerusalem agreed – after five years of deliberations – to build a new exit at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, one of Christianity's most sacred sites.
• The Israeli Air Force launched attacks on Hezbollah bases in Lebanon.
• Municipal election campaigns were marred by unprecedented levels of violence against candidates and campaign workers.
• The Supreme Court made a historic ruling against the Orthodox monopoly of local religious services by ordering religious councils in major cities to accept Reform and Conservative Jews as members.
• Israel sent emergency aid to hurricane victims in Central America.
• A memorial ceremony was held on the fourth anniversary of a terrorist attack on the bus in Tel Aviv that killed 22 people.
• A Haifa judge was assaulted in court.
• The attorney general announced the decision to indict a former general security service agent for his failure to prevent the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.
• Netanyahu was lambasted for his statement implying that the votes of Arab citizens count for less than those of Jews.
• After talks with the Treasury failed, university students vowed to step up their protest campaign with a hunger strike.
• The government denied a CTV report that Mossad agents still use Canadian passports.
• Maccabi Haifa made soccer history with the defeat of the Austrian team to reach the Euro quarterfinal.
• Israeli researchers were involved in a major medical breakthrough in repairing damaged tissue.
• Two Israelis were arrested for spying in Cyprus.

Chock it all up to just another week in the life of Israel, part of the daily roller coaster ride of emotional highs and lows, according to the triumphs, tribulations and tragedies of the nation. There is virtually no let-up. If Shabbat didn't exist, it would have to be invented, if for nothing else, to stem the news flow once a week.

Wye: Guide for the perplexed

Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

The only aspect of the Wye Accord that is clear, is that the agreement itself is entirely unclear. The written memorandum, which was designed to end 18 months of deadlock, is ambiguous on the key issues, and is supplemented by a number of "oral agreements", which are subject to different interpretations.

The arguments over interpretation started immediately after the signing.

Many of the issues remain under dispute, including the oft-repeated pledge to repeal sections of the Palestinian Covenant calling for the destruction of Israel. Other key requirements, such as the arrest of suspected terrorists, and the criteria for judging the degree of Palestinian compliance with the prohibition on incitement and the efforts to prevent terrorism, were also left hanging.

While there is agreement on the amount of territory to be turned over to the Palestinians – the famous 13.1 percent – there was no agreement within Israel regarding the details and maps.

These problems are yet another reflection of the basic difficulties inherent in the overall concept. From the beginning of this process, the asymmetry between Israel and Palestinians posed a major challenge.

While Israel had something very tangible in the form of land to offer in return for peace (meaning, first and foremost, security), the Palestinians only offered intangibles, such as promises, pledges, and words. They can pledge to fight terror, arrest and try suspects, talk about the legitimacy of Israel and the need to live in peace with the Jewish state, etc. But the fear of Israelis is that once the Palestinians receive a substantial portion of territory, these pledges could easily be reversed, leaving Israel in a far more dangerous position.

To address these fears, the Palestinians need to convince Israelis, through actions as well as words, that the foundation for terrorism and hatred, such as the rejection of the legitimacy of Israel, is being dismantled.

The demand for a public debate and binding vote to remove the sections of the Palestinian Charter that call for the destruction of Israel is designed to convey the message that the goal of the destruction of the State of Israel has been dropped. But at Wye, Arafat balked at an explicit agreement to repeal these sections in a meeting of the Palestinian National Council, arguing that to do so under pressure would be humiliating.

In response, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, under American pressure, agreed to more ambiguous language. Verbally, the Palestinians accepted the Israeli requirements, but then, when everyone had left Washington, the back-pedaling resumed.

Instead of the public "reaffirmation" in the presence of President Bill Clinton, that had been expected, the process was transformed into a public meeting to be addressed by the U.S. leader, which Palestinian officials would merely attend.

The sections of the Palestinian National Charter that call for Israel's destruction would remain, as would the public impression that these goals were still accepted by the Palestinian leadership. In other words, instead of increasing confidence, the ambiguity of the Wye Agreement led to increased tension.

The issue of detention and trial of terrorist suspects was also bungled in the Wye memorandum. At the meeting, Israel handed the Americans and Palestinians a list of 30 key suspects who were involved in attacks against Israelis, and who are known to be in the areas controlled by the PA (including 12 employed by the Palestinian police). However, instead of demanding that they be detained immediately, Netanyahu left with an unwritten agreement that the terrorists would be arrested in stages, over a 12-week period.

Later, when the Cabinet and Knesset demanded guarantees of implementation, the U.S. government sent Israel a letter, insuring Arafat's compliance (without specifying how this would be accomplished).

When one of the terrorist cells dispatched suicide bombers to Jerusalem, many Israelis wanted to know why Netanyahu did not demand the immediate detention of the infamous 30 before he agreed to meet with Clinton and Arafat. The government's answers were not convincing.

Despite the fanfare, the Wye summit and memorandum were not successful in removing the central obstacles to the Palestinian-Israeli negotiation process. The asymmetries remain, but the era in which Israelis were willing to accept vague pledges and oral agreements from the Palestinians has ended.

In return for turning over tangible assets, in the form of territory, to the Palestinians, Israelis now demand tangible proof that the Palestinians are also fulfilling their end of the bargain. Without this essential structural change, exercises similar to the Wye summit are not going to break the deadlock.

The sanctification of Edith Stein

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

On Oct. 11, Pope John Paul II raised Edith Stein, who had been born a Jew, to the rank of saint. A lively discussion ensued, and it is time to lay it to rest.

Edith Stein was the 11th child of an Orthodox Jewish family in Breslau (today Wroclaw in Poland). When she grew up, she first became an atheist, then a student of philosopher Edmund Husserl. In 1922, at age 31, she converted to Catholicism, assuming the name of Sister Teresia Benedicta of the Carmelite order.

In Cologne in 1938, she was discovered to be a non-Aryan, and after Kristallnacht, she fled with her sister to Holland.

Already in 1932, Edith Stein had written to Pope Pius XI and asked him in the strongest terms to oppose the spreading plague of anti-Semitism. When the Germans occupied the Netherlands, the Dutch churches protested; Hitler's governor general suggested that if they would stop their critique, he would leave their non-Aryan members alone. The Protestants complied, but the Catholic churches did not and continued to condemn the Jewish persecution. A protest was read in all their churches in July 1942.

Shortly thereafter, Gestapo agents broke into the nunnery, arrested Edith and her sister, and gassed them in Auschwitz a week later.

The argument about Stein's sainthood can be simply stated: The Church, it was said, acquired her for herself as a Christian martyr, when in fact she was murdered by the Germans because she was born a Jew. She could therefore not be considered to have been martyred for her faith.

Jews have not been the only ones to criticize the sanctification; chief amongst the critics has been the Roman Catholic theologian, Hans Kueng. His point was that the Church had failed Edith Stein because it had undertaken no concerted action when she was arrested, and that her sanctification therefore lacked a moral basis.

I have followed the discussion with considerable interest and have come to the conclusion that both sides are right. Of course, Edith Stein was killed because she was considered a Jew. On the other hand, it was clear that she would have been left alone, as were Dutch non-Aryan Protestants, had the Catholic churches in Holland given in to the edict of the Nazi governor general. Therefore, killing Edith Stein was also meant as a blow to the Catholic Church. This was one of those moments in history when both Catholicism and Judaism were together attacked by the Nazi monster. Edith Stein was the convenient victim with which to hurt the Church. Killed as a Jew, but also as a Catholic, she satisfied the purposes of Nazi revenge.

She has become the first saint of Jewish origin since the early days of the Church, when many if not most Christians were born Jews. History takes its own course and does so in strange ways. Whenever the irrationality of Nazis comes into view, rational and unemotional considerations run into difficulties. I wonder what Nazis who still survive to this day think of it all. As for me, the matter is closed and belongs to those episodes of our past that are best left to memory.

The Kirshner File

Lavon affair rocked Israel

The gravest political scandal ever to rock Israel – the Lavon affair – turned on a bungled Israeli sabotage operation in Egypt in 1954. It shook Israel to its foundations, causing the resignation of a defence minister and then a prime minister.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Infinitely more serious than last year's Bar-On affair, which almost toppled Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud government, the scandal boiled down to one burning question: Who authorized the amateurish operation?

An accusing finger was pointed at two men: Pinhas Lavon, who had been appointed defence minister in January 1954, and Benjamin Givly, the director of military intelligence since March of that year. Their respective struggle to rehabilitate themselves consumed Israel and devoured reputations. The repercussions are still felt.

Shabtai Teveth, a respected Israeli journalist and biographer, wades into the controversy with a meticulously-researched book entitled *Ben-Gurion's Spy* (Columbia University Press).

It's a well told, though convoluted, story of foreign intrigue and domestic conceit. No one who reads it can ever again argue that Israel is a society governed solely by idealism.

The scandal is rooted in Egyptian soil. In July 1952, a cabal of army officers in Egypt staged a coup, overthrowing the corrupt monarchy. Less than two years later, one of its leading lights, Gamal Abdel Nasser, who had fought with honor in the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, seized control of the junta.

The development alarmed Lavon, a person whom Teveth describes as a riddle. Intimidatingly intelligent, Lavon had once been a pacifist and an internationalist. With his appointment as defence minister, he transformed himself into a hardline nationalist and an advocate of force.

Lavon had a jaundiced view of Nasser, believing that his efforts to improve bilateral relations with Britain were directly linked to his desire to facilitate the pullout of British troops from the Suez Canal area.

Lavon feared that such a withdrawal would have dreadful consequences. It would remove a valuable buffer between Israel and Egypt and thereby undermine Israel's security. With Givly's encouragement, Lavon formulated a plan – a reckless one, in Teveth's estimation – to head off Britain's departure from Egypt.

Disregarding all norms of transparency, the pair never bothered to inform the prime minister, Moshe Sharett, the cabinet or the military high command of their machiavellian scheme, which was predicated on a bombing campaign of Egyptian public buildings and British and American institutions in Egypt. Lavon and Givly hoped that the bombings would have the effect of undermining Western confidence in the Egyptian government and thereby forestall a British withdrawal from the Suez Canal.

With this in mind, they assembled a team of saboteurs, consisting mainly of Jews living in Egypt and led by Avry Elad (Avraham Seidenberg), a Viennese Jew who had reached Palestine as a boy in the late 1930s.

Lavon and Givly evidently assumed that the bombings in Cairo and Alexandria would be blamed on opposition forces like the Muslim Brotherhood or the Communists rather than on Israel.

It was not to be, and in a word, the operation was a disaster. Betrayed by Elad, who was subsequently revealed as a double agent, Israel's hapless agents on the ground were captured and put on trial. Furthermore, Britain went ahead with its withdrawal, the last of its soldiers leaving Egypt in June 1955.

The botched operation unleashed a firestorm in Israel. Who had authorized it? Who had ordered its implementation? The ensuing scandal engulfed Israel in chaos.

Givly claimed that Lavon had given the order. Lavon flatly denied the allegation. A ministerial committee was established to ascertain the truth. But Sharett, feeling betrayed by his defence minister, hewed to the belief that Lavon was the culprit.

In his diary, he wrote: "Let us assume that Givly acted on his own authority...even then, does moral responsibility not devolve upon Lavon, who incessantly advocated acts of madness, and inculcated the military leadership with the diabolical notion of igniting the Middle East (and) fomenting disputes...?"

By Teveth's reckoning, Sharett, who had succeeded David Ben-Gurion as premier in January 1954, never trusted Lavon and, in fact, sought his dismissal. Try as he might, Sharett could not get rid of Lavon. Ben-Gurion, Israel's eminence grise, believed that Lavon's removal would cause a major crisis in the ruling Mapai party.

In February 1955, however, Lavon stepped down, saying he had been subjected to a campaign of vilification. The matter did not end there. Lavon claimed that the Egyptian operation had been launched without his authorization or knowledge, and suggested that Givly was at fault.

Amid the acrimony, Ben-Gurion, who had resigned as prime minister in December 1953, returned to government service, succeeding Lavon as defence minister under the premiership of Sharett. In November of the same year, Ben-Gurion returned to his post as prime minister.

The plot thickened in 1956. Lavon, with Ben-Gurion's blessing, was elected secretary-general of the Histadrut labor federation, a position he used to promote his rehabilitation. Givly, meanwhile, left military intelligence, taking over the command of the Golani infantry brigade.

There were further developments. In 1958, the chief of staff, Gen. Haim Laskov, appointed a commission to examine "the circumstances and causes of the collapse of the (spy) network in Egypt."

The commission, though it failed to complete its task, convinced the government to charge Elad with perfidy. In August 1960, he was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment. The sentence was later reduced.

Even so, the scandal continued to simmer. Convinced that Givly had resorted to lies and forgery to defame him, Lavon took his case straight to Ben-Gurion. Lavon wanted nothing less than an immediate exoneration.

Vacillating, Ben-Gurion refused to take sides. He said that since he had never condemned Lavon, he could not now exonerate him.

Eventually, Lavon got his way. Ben-Gurion appointed a ministerial committee to investigate the affair. It exonerated Lavon. Ben-Gurion refused to accept the verdict and upped the ante by demanding that Mapai choose between himself and Lavon. Ben-Gurion won this battle of wills: Mapai's central committee voted to dismiss Lavon from his job at the Histadrut.

The storm clouds emanating from the Lavon affair continued to darken Israel's political landscape, and its ripple effects prompted Ben-Gurion to resign yet again in 1963.

Teveth, best known for his multivolume biography of Ben-Gurion, believes that Lavon and Givly were equally responsible for authorizing the operation in Egypt. As he puts it: "...there was a firm understanding between Givly and Lavon... that...operations in Egypt were possible and desirable..."

Teveth, moreover, argues that the Lavon affair highlighted the ethical and moral shortcomings of Israeli politicians, as well as military leaders, and thereby coarsened political discourse in Israel. Four decades after it aroused a nation, the scandal still haunts Israel.

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Guest Voices

By LEAH TEITELBAUM

Striking a balance in life

In the complicated process of unravelling what it meant to me to be a young Jew, the Holocaust and its lessons became the centre of my Jewish identity. "Never forget" were words that I lived my Jewish life by, and how could I forget? *The Diary Anne of Frank* and *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit* were some of my first books.

The walls of my house, which were lined with old photographs of family members who died in Nazi concentration camps, served as a constant reminder that I was the grandchild of survivors. The Holocaust was even embodied in my secular life. The Academy Awards praised *Schindler's List*, and governments built museums and erected monuments in remembrance. The Holocaust became an obsession which encompassed everything Judaic.

This summer, I participated in United Synagogue Youth Israel Pilgrimage/Poland seminar, hoping that my nine days in Poland would finally provide me with some measure of understanding of the Holocaust that I had longed for all my life.

As I stood outside Auschwitz, I realized that there could be no understanding, no explanation. I had already been to Sobibor and to Majdanek but without insight. I had only been bombarded with more images of the great indignity committed by man upon man, but this time, I could reach out and touch those images. My experience to that point had contributed to my confusion, heightening my search for answers to why and how. I was frustrated.

Life as usual seemed to be going on all around me. The other teenagers from my group were snacking on candy bars, flowers were growing in the fields, grass grew out of the ashes at Sobibor, but I couldn't breathe. I was suffocated by thousands of questions. When I discovered that I would never be able to answer those questions, I felt the burden of reading to understand things. And with that, I saw Judaism drained from me. Without my search for understanding which had dominated my Jewish life, what was left? Tradition, prayer and ritual meant nothing but aspects of Judaism to be preserved out of respect for the victims. My Jewish life was empty without the Holocaust and I was skeptical that I would ever find anything to fill that void.

The emptiness I felt in Poland, however, was quickly alleviated by my five weeks in Israel.

As my bus drove up the steep hill from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, my soul was elevated and renewed. Almost immediately, I was enveloped by the country's warmth and beauty, and felt a sense of community which I had never experienced before (feeling the sun reflect off the Jerusalem stone, hiking in the Galil, climbing Masada, spending a Shabbat on a moshav, touching the Kotel).

Every moment I spent in Israel uncovered the essence of Judaism which I had failed to see. Judaism meant perseverance rather than death; self-improvement and introspection rather than destruction; faith in the human spirit and the good of man rather than evil.

I no longer see my religious freedom to be preserved only to prevent the Holocaust from happening again, but rather as an integral element for the continuation of the Jewish community. I no longer see Israel only as a necessity as our physical sanctuary, but also as the centre of Jewish spirituality. I have reached a balance between remembrance and survival.

I still live my life by the words "never forget" but they have taken on a new role. I will never forget the horrors of the Holocaust, but I can not neglect the deeper meaning of Judaism which has survived despite the attempts to destroy it and in which I have found so much beauty and opportunity for personal growth.

Leah Teitelbaum is a high school student in Toronto.

Examining Wye on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Ever since the Wye River memorandum was signed last month, the World Wide Web has gone into hyper-drive keeping up with the developments in the peace process. The Internet excels in this area because it can deliver news and detailed analysis in a quantity (and sometimes quality) unavailable in most newspapers and magazines.

Also, the Internet allows you to examine, first hand, official documents that are mentioned in the media but rarely duplicated in their entirety. For example, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides an excellent resource of over 30 peace process reference documents **[http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/go.asp?MFAH00pq0]**. You'll find the full text of every document from the Balfour Declaration (1917) to U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 (1967) to the Camp David accords (1978) to the Wye River memorandum (1998).

The negotiations at Wye continued far longer than expected and nearly collapsed more than once. The *Jerusalem Post's* Danna Harman provides an interesting behind-the-scenes look at those gruelling nine days in Reflections on Wye **[http://www.jpost.co.il/Info/Wye/reporter.html]**: "Munching on chocolate chip cookies and intermittently nodding off to sleep, the exhausted negotiators stressed that this was the absolute best deal we could have gotten."

And for a bit of eye candy, take a look at a Photo Album of that week's negotiations from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Web site **[http://www.pmo.gov.il/english/policy/wye-3.html]**.

The day of the signing ceremony did not go off without a hitch. The reason for the delay on that final day was negotiation over the fate of Jonathan Pollard, a civilian United States Navy intelligence analyst. Pollard has been serving a life sentence since 1987, when he entered into a plea bargain and admitted that he had passed sensitive U.S. information to the Israeli government.

Netanyahu had hoped to gain a presidential pardon for Pollard, but in the end, Clinton agreed only to review his case. For several sites sympathetic to Pollard, see Mining Co.'s IsraeliCulture page **[http://israeliculture.miningco.com/library/weekly/aa102498.htm]**, including a passionate defence by Alan Dershowitz **[http://www.interlog.com/~abrooke/jp/1994/060094.htm]**. "No person in history has ever served as much time for spying for an ally…He should be free now."

The weekend after the Wye agreement, Joseph DiGenova, the former federal prosecutor who took on Pollard in the 1980s appeared on *This Week with Sam Donaldson and Cokie Roberts*. He argued that Jonathan Pollard remains a threat to American security and deserves to stay behind bars **[http://abcnews.com/onair/thisweek/transcripts/thisweek_981025pollard_trans.html]**.

"It would be outrageous to release Mr. Pollard. He has nothing to do with the Middle East peace process…Nothing matches what he did in terms of the compromise of the technical intelligence capability of this country and he put at risk human lives."

Finally, late that Friday afternoon at Wye, the Pollard issue was resolved and the agreement was signed.

The U.S. State Department's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs provides a detailed site with all the press briefings conducted throughout the summit **[http://www.state.gov/www/regions/nea/wye_summit.html]**. It includes a link to the signing ceremony when Yasser Arafat declared he would do everything he can "so that no Israeli mother would be worried if her son or daughter was late coming home, or any Israeli would be afraid when they heard an explosion." **[http://www.state.gov/www/regions/nea/981023_signing.html]**.

As with every Mideast treaty, the signing of the agreement is merely the first step. The real test is the implementation. Next week, a closer look at the Wye River memorandum from Israeli and Arab perspectives.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

A look at Rav Kirshner

***Kaaterskill Falls*, by Allegra Goodman (The Dial Press, $32.95).**

The setting of this low-key foray into the world of Orthodox Jews is a small town in the Catskills, the summer outpost of the devout followers of Rav Kirshner. During the winter months, members of the close-knit clan live in New York City's Washington Heights neighborhood.

Books
Bernard Baskin

The novel covers two years (1976 to 1978) and at its centre, exercising control over his followers, is the elderly, sick Rav, urgently preoccupied with the question of his successor.

The Rav "is a rationalist, interested in law, not myth. People do not flock to him with supplications, or for blessings on their enterprises. He is not the sort of Rav to whom men pour out their hearts, pleading for words of wisdom and glimpses of hope. He makes rulings on legal questions, dictates the standards of the community, but he is no counselor or magician to his people. It is not for him to pull happiness out of a hat, exorcise evil, or divine misfortune in the misshapen letter of a mezuzah."

Which of his two sons will follow him as leader? Isaiah, his father's secretary, is devoted, pious, and sensible – but stolid and unimaginative. His brother Jeremy, is brilliant, a professor of Italian literature at Queen's College. Although blessed with a profound knowledge of Halachah and its sources, clearly his brother's intellectual superior, he is at the same time worldly, egotistical and not interested in assuming his father's exalted position.

After his father's death Isaiah becomes leader, but Jeremy, unexpectedly, is willed his father's vast library. "The books smell of mildew. Jeremy can barely look at them, he feels for the books a kind of pity and disgust. They are stained and battered, and where they are edged with gold, the gilt is slick and soft with dust. Their companion volumes, his father's dark-covered sacred texts, are at the yeshiva, open on tables, studied and taught, discussed and still alive. These, here, alone separated from that library, lie readable but dead in their stacks."

What the Rav's decision means, how it is received by the brothers and eventually resolved, is one of the book's larger surprises.

Among the Rav's followers is Elizabeth Shulman, model wife and mother, but also well educated and modern in outlook who "spent her pregnancies with Jane Austin and Leo Tolstoy." She gives her five daughters traditional Hebrew names, but also elegant English ones. "They're very good children. They expect to marry scholars and then support them while they learn. But Elizabeth imagines someday her daughters could be scholars themselves – not of Talmud, of course, but perhaps Tanach. Or at other times she thinks one of them could become a writer, or an artist. Naturally, becoming a mother, keeping a Jewish home, is the most important thing. But somehow she can't see it as the only thing for her girls."

She is quietly and uncomplainingly divided in her allegiance – between the strong clinging demands of the group, and the call of a more exciting and rewarding outside world. To the consternation of some and the surprise of all she decides to open a store. "She feels the desire as intense as prayer." She manages to get the Rav's approval. Unhappily, she caters a birthday party with food that was not sanctioned in the licence provided by the Rav. His son, now the intractable leader, revokes the licence.

This is not a novel of dramatic action; there is little narrative pace or movement. But the author, at 31, with two books of well-received short stories to her credit, *Total Immersion* (1993) and *The Family Markowitz* (1996) is a literary phenomenon, a superior storyteller who writes with a keen eye for detail and undeniable empathy for her diverse characters.

All of her material has focused on Jewish concerns in a positive and knowledgeable manner. *Kaaterskill Falls*, no exception, is a pleasurable and enlivening read.

The spirit of the law

Business & Halachah

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

While Jewish law, especially as it relates to commercial practice, is essentially a legal system, its goal is not just compliance, but rather to make us into a holy nation. Holiness, however, is not necessarily expressed through the practice of Jewish law.

Nachmanides (13th century Spain) points out that one can be a scoundrel even if following the letter of each and every law. Technically speaking no Jewish law is violated when one eats like a glutton, sleeps away his day and cohabits constantly with his wife. Holiness, though, requires that we observe not only the letter, but also the spirit of the law. Therefore it is not surprising that Judaism expects its adherents to act beyond the letter of the law and waive some of our legal rights in dealing with our fellow man.

Nachmanides, in his biblical commentary, explains that it is impossible for any law to legislate every possible case. The Torah therefore commands that we must "do what is upright and good in God's eye" (Deuteronomy 6:18), which is a general imperative to "compromise and act beyond the letter of the law." So important is this concept of *lifnim meshurat hadin* that the Talmud claims that Jerusalem was destroyed because the concept was neglected.

A litigious society where everybody demands their full legal rights is one that cannot endure. Waiving some of our rights is an expression of our concern for our fellow man and hence serves as an antidote to *sinaat chinam* (needless hatred), which is the classic reason given for the destruction of our Temple.

In citing a classic example of *lifnim meshurat hadin*, the Talmud records the case of *poor* workers who after a hard day's work broke a valuable barrel of wine belonging to their boss. While strict justice would make the workers liable for their tort, Rava recommended that no claims for damages be brought against the employees. Furthermore he suggested that the poor workers actually be paid for their efforts even though the net effect of their activities caused a monetary loss to their employer.

Another example recorded in the Talmud requires a prospective seller of property to offer the right of first refusal to the abutter of the property. Since no loss accrues to the seller, why not make the neighbor happy. In fact the abutter who is not offered the property may, if he acts immediately upon hearing of the sale, pay the actual sale price to the vendor and claim possession of the property.

Rabbinic authorities have applied the principle of *lifnim meshurat hadin* to a wide variety of cases, ranging from ordering the return of a lost object, even when the owner had previously given up hope of recovering the item; to requiring severance pay, even though none was stipulated in the contract; to having a tenant, upon being offered suitable alternate arrangements, vacate the premises in order that the landlord can make repairs to the apartment. In the above cases it was to be expected that one voluntarily waives one's right in order to promote societal wellbeing.

Perhaps no greater example of acting beyond the call of duty can be found than that of Rav Safra. The Talmud relates that a heathen approached him with a monetary offer for his property. As Rav Safra was in the midst of reciting the Shema he did not respond. The heathen, believing his offer was too low, kept raising his price as Rav Safra continued in his prayers. Upon completion Rav Safra requested only the original low offer, saying that upon hearing that first offer he had in mind to accept it.

The Talmud records that God prays every day. In His prayers God prays that He will judge the Jewish people *lifnim meshurat hadin*, beyond the call of strict justice. *Imitatio Dei* requires that we do no less.

Beth Jacob synagogue will be hosting a conference on Money Morality and the Marketplace Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m., featuring Dr. Meir Tamari, former chief economist of the Bank of Israel and the director of the Centre for Business Ethics in Jerusalem. For details, call 638-5955.

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Ronen wants Swiss funds distributed evenly

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Of the estimated 16,000 Holocaust survivors in Canada, those who say they are in need will each get an equal amount, likely about $250, from the Swiss humanitarian fund.

This is the formula, subject to the approval of a special committee headed by Rabbi Gunther Plaut, suggested by Moshe Ronen, Canadian Jewish Congress president.

When the $2.5 million (US) allotted to Canada is divided among needy survivors, the net amount will not be large, Ronen said in a recent talk at Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation.

"We have written to the director general of the World Jewish Restitution Organization in Jerusalem asking for an explanation of how this figure for Canada was determined and if this amount can be increased," he said.

He added that he will also plead Canada's case when he is in Israel, this week.

16,000 survivors in Canada

Of 600,000 Jewish Holocaust survivors in the world, 350,000 live in Israel and 16,000 live in Canada. The total Swiss humanitarian fund is $185 million (US).

Though the CJC has not yet received any money, Ronen expects it will have the funds in a few months and by then application forms will be ready and a hotline set up.

"We hope it will be no more than a total of six months before we have the money all distributed," he told *The CJN*.

He expects that Rabbi Plaut's committee, which will be made up mostly of survivors, will decide against any detailed inquiry into every applicant's need. Many survivors may choose not to apply, he said.

Moshe Ronen

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Thornhill Conservative Synagogue

A committee is being set up to establish a new Conservative Synagogue in the area surrounding Dufferin/Yonge and Steeles/ Hwy. #7.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 24 at 9 p.m.

Those interested in becoming a part of this development are asked to contact Cliff Hendler. Tel: (416) 250-5050 [days] or (905) 764-8128 [evenings]. E-mail: chendler@shaw.wave.ca

November's a month to remember

(The following remarks were delivered on Nov. 4 at an event held by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority.)

The event tonight, which falls in the middle of Holocaust Education Week, reminds me of the fact that the month of November carries enormous importance for us. On November 2, 1917, Lord Balfour, the British prime minister and statesman, declared in a letter to Lord Rothschild that Britain favored the establishment of a national home for Jews in Palestine.

Diplomatically Speaking
Jehudi Kinar

On Nov. 2, 1898, exactly 100 years ago, Theodor Herzl was received by the German emperor in Jerusalem, and Herzl wrote in his diary: "That brief reception will live on forever in Jewish history, and possibly may entail world consequences."

Forty years later, Kristallnacht took place, and all of us here know how that night became the trigger to the Holocaust.

Ten years later, on November 29th, the UN accepted the partition plan for Palestine. The motion was carried by 33 to 13. If history had taken a different course and the State of Israel had been established in 1917 or 1938, the calamity would not have befallen the Jewish people. But one can't change the course of history, and for that reason we remember this year, the 60 years which have passed since Kristallnacht, and on the happy side, the 50 years since the establishment of the State of Israel.

The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, in cooperation with the Women's Division of State of Israel Bonds, have decided to pay tribute tonight to six women Holocaust survivors who have contributed, each in her way, to the community.

This is a laudable decision, as not enough has been said until today about the incredible strength and heroism shown by women during the Holocaust and immediately afterwards. Women who joined their husbands and other members of their families were so meaningful in pulling their next-of-kin through that hell on earth.

When men had lost hope for a future, let alone for a better future, their mothers, sisters, wives, daughters and girlfriends were the ones who instilled in them hope, often in spite of the bitter reality around them.

After the war, the remnants of this catastrophe of the Jewish people had to start their lives and the lives of their relatives from scratch, and made this a promising start.

Women have, throughout our history, been the beacons of hope on whom we could always rely to take leading positions. They had leading positions in the ghettos and the Resistance, in Europe, and in the reborn leadership of the Jewish community both in Israel and in the Diaspora.

So, tonight I have the distinct honor to meet with six individuals, six women who, after having built a new existence, have become so valuable to this community and to the Jewish people.

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Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	----------	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	4:30 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	6:15 & 7:30 AM	Mon.-Wed. Maariv 8:45 PM
Beth HaMinyan (C)	70 Ridge Hill Dr. (416) 785-3655	----------	9:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	4:30 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 & 9:00 AM	4:30 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:30 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Lodzer Centre (C)	12 Heaton St. (416) 636-6665	5:30 PM	9:00 AM	----------	9:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:15 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 & 8:00 AM	4:30 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	4:35 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	4:35 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	8:30 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

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Rabbi questions the value of supplementary Hebrew school

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The value of supplementary Hebrew school was questioned by Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl of Beth Tzedec Synagogue at a recent forum on Creating the Jewish Future.

The forum was sponsored by the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University, and chaired by its director, Michael Brown. The rabbi was one of three panelists.

It was also a book launch for *Creating the Jewish Future*, edited by Brown and Prof. Bernard Lightman.

Instead of supplementary schools, a greater emphasis should be put on Hebrew day schools and preparing well-trained teachers and volunteers for them, Rabbi Frydman-Kohl told an audience of 300 at Beth Tzedec.

There is already a significant increase in the number of children attending such full-time day schools, he said.

"The afternoon supplemental Jewish education schools...are held late in the afternoon when kids don't want to be there, when they are tired."

Rabbi Frydman-Kohl termed "Jello Jews" the group that should be targeted if there is to be a secure Jewish future. "These are Jews who come out of a mold. Sometimes the mold stands, wobbles or turns to mush."

The role of women is important for the future declared both the rabbi and Elizabeth Wolfe, a Toronto community volunteer and president of Kolel: a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning.

"The single most marginal group in the Jewish community is women, and one of the most significant aspects of the coming millennium is their legitimate pursuit of serious Jewish studies," said Wolfe.

In Orthodoxy, said Rabbi Frydman-Kohl, more women are studying Torah, while in Conservative, Reconstructionist and Reform synagogues, more women want to paticipate in services.

Prof. Morton Weinfeld of McGill University said he would like to see a moratorium on the word continuity in any discussion of the Jewish future. "I would change the label and the atmosphere of crisis around it. 'Will your grandchildren be Jewish?' is a call to arms. I would replace it with 'How and why are you being Jewish?'"

Bernard Ghert was honored with a plaque from York University for his role in sponsoring the first conference two years ago, which resulted in publication of *Creating the Jewish Future*.

1948 WAR VETS HONORED

Will Manolson (right), a veteran of Israel's 1948 War of Independence, was one of over 100 veterans of the war who were honored last week at a special tribute at Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation. All the honorees were awarded specially-struck medals by Israel's consul general, Jehudi Kinar (left). [Ron Csillag photo]

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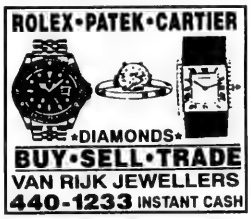

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Community Matters

Top Team Tackles Campaign Stretch

With just five weeks to go in the community Campaign for Fifty, UJA Federation has selected its most committed campaigners to secure millions of dollars from thousands of donors who have yet to pledge their support.

Campaign for Fifty Vice-Chair Glennie Lindenberg asked the expert canvassers to make as many calls as possible to community members while the campaign momentum is still strong. Over $31 million has been raised so far including $5.5 million of new and increased gifts.

Veteran campaigner Ubby Krakauer says he's prepared to do "whatever it takes." Krakauer, who reports many gift increases in recent months says, "luckily, most of the people I contact want to do the right thing." Other team members include Allan Rabie, Fay Gold, Michael Shiner, David Barkin, Lynn Catzman and Elaine Simkevitz. Howard Price, who is Vice-Chair of the Campaign for Fifty along with Lindenberg and Abe Glowinsky, applauded all of UJA Federation's dedicated volunteers and reminded them of growing Jewish needs in our community and all over the world.

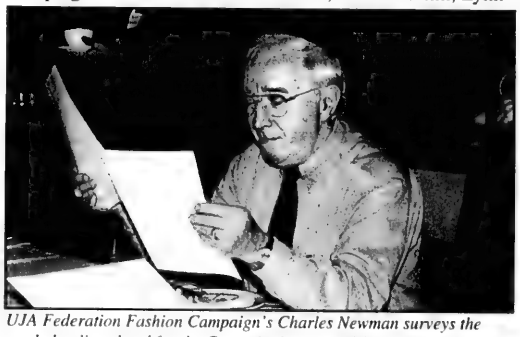
"It's going to be a very cold and bleak winter for Jews living in the economically ravaged former Soviet Union," reported Price. "UJA Federation funded programs are more vital in this part of the world than ever and that's why we're asking for increased giving."

Gordon Wolfe, Executive Director of Jewish Family and Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, offered an empowering message - "Tell the person on the other end of the phone that their support will mean no waiting lists for thousands who depend on JF&CS services including the poor and women suffering from abuse."

Wolfe said additional dollars will also help improve the lives of the more than 4,000 Jewish children living in poverty. "They're counting on us," he stressed.

UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty aims to raise $50 million anually by 2001.

"Keep feeding us cards to call" say campaign enthusiasts Robert Solomon (l) and Glen Shear.



UJA Federation Fashion Campaign's Charles Newman surveys the work that lies ahead for the Campaign's successful completion.

JEWISH toronto

UJA Federation's Construction Cabinet, chaired by **David Peltz** (above-left), **Peter Ekstein** (r) and **Phil Rubinoff (absent from photo)**, scored big points for hosting a sneak preview tour of the new **Air Canada Centre** sports complex scheduled to open next February. UJA Federation Campaign for Fifty Co-Chair **Larry Tanenbaum**, part owner of Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment, company President & CEO **Richard Peddie** and Vice-President, Project Director, **Tom Anselmi** escorted 80 enthusiastic guests through the 20,000 seat arena which will house the Leafs and Raptors. The group, which included UJA Federation volunteers and their children, also shot hoops and took slapshots on the arena floor and schmoozed with Raptors and Maple Leaf Mascots. **Inset - Larry Tanenbaum.**

Photos: Stephen Epstien

Exploring Special Needs

Children with special needs were the focus of nearly 1200 educators at this year's **UJA Federation Board of Jewish Education's professional development days.** Keynote speaker **Rabbi Dr. Aharon Hersh Fried**, Associate Professor of Psychology and Education at New York's Stern College, urged teaching professionals to reach out to special needs students by "making all our teaching special." The BJE's Yael Seliger says "the issue of how we extend our care and love for all our children is probably one of the most successful unifying issues that we deal with."

Dare to Dream

UJA Federation's final series of **Campaign for Fifty** telethons is just around the corner. Just a few calls to community contributors can help make dreams of a better life for thousands of Jews in need come true. **To sign up for telethon shifts, Dec. 6 - 14, please call (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.**

Israelis Celebrate Israel

The Israeli Association of Greater Toronto under the auspices of Yehudi Kinar, Consul General of Israel is hosting a gala evening celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary, **Sunday, December 6, 7:30 pm, City Playhouse Theatre, 1000 New Westminster Drive.** The event, sponsored by UJA Federation, will feature a screening of award winning Israeli film **Out for Love...Be Back Shortly**, with guest Director **Dan Katzir** and an Israeli art exhibit. Admission, **advance tickets only**, is $18 per person and includes cocktail and dessert reception. **Call (416) 635-5670.**

It's on the Web!

For complete information on the latest news about ***Jewish Toronto***, its organizations, activities and special events take a tour of our Website.

www.feduja.org

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Holocaust Education Week

'Ordinary Germans' analyzed

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Large numbers of ordinary Germans who killed Jews during the Holocaust were not simply coerced or following orders; rather they acted with energy and enthusiasm, Daniel Goldhagen said in a recent lecture.

"[German perpetrators] didn't do less than they had to – they did more than they had to. They pursued what they did with enormous zeal," Goldhagen, an associate professor of government and social studies at Harvard University, told a capacity crowd at the Adath Israel Congregation. His lecture was part of UJA Federation's 18th annual Holocaust Education Week.

Goldhagen said his controversial 1996 bestseller, *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust*, aims to "shift the focus of attention of study of the Holocaust [to] where it rightly should be; namely, on the human beings who committed these crimes."

Before the book's publication, he said, most research focused on the motivations of those at the top of the Nazi regime.

The actual killers, he said, were "moral agents" who chose to kill Jews out of a deep-seated anti-Semitism – "common sense" to most Germans from the mid-19th century onward – that saw Jews as an incalculable evil threat.

Goldhagen said his research, which focused on German police battalion killing units, shows the perpetrators represented a cross-section of German men who were "ordinary Germans in every sense of what it meant to be ordinary in the Germany of the time."

The draftees were typically in their mid-30s, had little martial experience and were not members of the Nazi party. And despite the fact that members of the units could be excused without sanction if they were uncomfortable killing Jews, very few were, Goldhagen said.

The only plausible explanation for the German perpetrators' actions, Goldhagen said, is "that they were anti-Semites of a Hitlerian variety," as were most ordinary Germans who were products of the same political culture.

Genocide

Goldhagen took issue with critics who say his conclusions are controversial. In all other genocides, he noted, it's assumed the perpetrators wanted to kill their victims.

"The only genocide [in which it's claimed] the perpetrators didn't want to do what they did is with the Holocaust and the German perpetrators…The critics are saying this is the only exception we know of," he said.

He stressed his findings do not focus on German national character or genetic predisposition, but on individual guilt and beliefs about Jews, which he said "can and have changed since the end of the war." He also stressed he did not study volunteer units from other nationalities who participated in the killing.

To write his book, Goldhagen relied on two major sources: the accounts of individual survivors and the accounts of thousands of former German police battalion officers investigated by the West German justice ministry in the 1950s.

He said both sets of accounts indicate that "ordinary Germans" who carried out Hitler's orders had "a great hatred for Jews" and were "executioners who believed the slaughter of Jews was right and necessary."

Goldhagen argued against theories which say German perpetrators were simply following orders, were victims of peer pressure, were "good bureaucratic functionaries," or were simply coerced.

The explanations, he said, share a common flaw: They assume the killers disapproved of what they were doing and try to explain how they were made to overcome this disapproval. He said the explanations also assume the police were like automatons that would involuntarily carry out Hitler's orders as if part of a machine.

Goldhagen rejected the theories on empirical grounds, since they don't explain why such large numbers of Germans participated directly in the killing – about 100,000, he estimates – nor do they account for "the immense cruelty and brutality which they visited on their victims."

Explanations of the perpetrators' actions must also account for what he called "a constituent feature of the Holocaust," namely the large number of photographs the Germans took "to immortalize their deeds."

The photographs typically depict scenes in which Jews were symbolically humiliated, as in the recurring image of old men being forcibly shaved at gunpoint. Goldhagen noted the pictures – taken in direct contravention of orders not to record the killing – circulated widely and found their way into albums confiscated as evidence by German authorities in the 1950s.

Goldhagen is currently working on a book about genocide in the 20th century.

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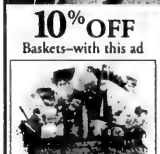

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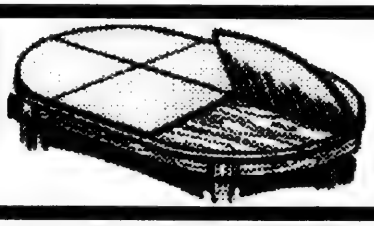

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Holocaust Education Week

German Jews called 'forgotten victims' of Holocaust

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — German Jews – 600,000 strong before World War II – are the "forgotten victims" of the Holocaust, a community-wide commemoration on the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht heard last week.

The Night of Broken Glass, on Nov. 9-10, 1938, signalled the beginning of the end for European Jewry, and the Jews of Germany became Adolf Hitler's earliest victims, keynote speaker Gerda Frieberg, a witness to the historic pogrom, told about 800 people at Beth Emeth Synagogue.

"Kristallnacht ended justice and humanity," said Frieberg, a concentration camp survivor and well-known Holocaust educator. "It was the night on which the 1,000-year history of Jews in Germany came to an end."

The shooting death of a minor official by a Jewish youth at the Germany embassy in Paris was used by the Nazis as a pretext to strike against the country's Jews. The following night, across Germany, throngs of angry mobs led by stormtroopers, whipped up by anti-Jewish propaganda, went on a rampage, smashing Jewish-owned shop windows, torching synagogues, ransacking homes and beating Jews.

It was the shattered plate glass that gave the pogrom its famous name.

When it was all over, 297 synagogues were burned, 7,000 businesses destroyed, and 30,000 Jews were rounded up for deportation, all under the watch of local police and Nazi thugs. And the government collected on all insurance policies.

Ninety-one Jews had been murdered. "They were the first victims of the Holocaust," Frieberg remarked.

Jews were then made to clean up the streets, and to add insult to injury, were forced to make "reparations" to the state worth one billion Reichmarks, she noted.

At the time, Frieberg's family lived in Breslau, which became part of Poland in 1922. But she recalls crossing the nearby border on that night to witness a synagogue on fire.

"The Torah scrolls lay smouldering outside. The leather-bound prayer books were still burning."

Thousands of anti-Jewish laws and measures, enacted within two years of Hitler's election, paved the way to Kristallnacht, Frieberg said.

Today, rebuilt German synagogues "are empty. But for us survivors, a synagogue is not just blocks and bricks. It is a victory over the Nazis."

Holocaust Education Week committee member Norine Golberg (right) passes a candle to Kristallnacht witnesses (from right) Herta Getzler, Jack Hahn and Gad Hofman. [Stephen Epstein photo]

Six other witnesses to Kristallnacht lit memorial candles, and dramatic songs were rendered by cantors Louis Danto and David Bagley.

The solemn ceremony marked the end of Holocaust Education Week in Toronto.

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Holocaust Education Week

'Camp sister' bonds continued after liberation: archivist

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Women in concentration camps often formed unique, sisterly relationships, says the archivist for the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York.

"This phenomenon of unrelated women bonding, calling each other sisters and sustaining the relationship after the war, is unique to women," Bonnie Gurewitsch said at a recent Holocaust Education Week lecture.

There were instances of men becoming close, she said, "but they did not label their relationships."

Women arrived at the camps feeling totally alone, and trusting no one except themselves, said Gurewitsch.

"They found other women, however, and made a commitment to them. These relationships formed family units that were more tightly knit than many natural ones. Their efforts to stay together created very strong bonds.The relationships were a substitute for their own families, which had been destroyed."

Each time a person tried to protect another prisoner, she said, that person risked her life.

She said there is no explanation for why certain women were able to overcome their mistrust of others, and bond with other women. "There is no accounting for chemistry. Some women, however, came from the same town and shared a cultural frame of reference.

"When these women were hairless and dressed in ill-fitting rags, they recognized each other and knew that they faced the same trauma.They shared a value system which became a spiritual and emotional support in a hostile environment. Even without possessions, clothes or body hair, they did not see each other as dehumanized.

"In such difficult times, these women lived in harmony. They would sit together and act as if they would come out alive, even though [inwardly] they did not believe it. They believed that by treating each other nicely, they could make life bearable. They created a social haven from the irrational chaos of the camp.They clung to one another to keep from being engulfed by the horrors."

Some women kept track of the Jewish calendar, said Gurewitsch, while others said prayers. "They drew strength from sharing religious experiences. When things looked hopeless, they repeated words of wisdom."

The camp sister relationship did not end with liberation, she said. "These same camp sisters cared for each other afterwards, and nursed each other back to health. The bonds strengthened in the aftermath of the Holocaust, when they had to heal their bodies and spirits."

Even those who have been separated geographically still speak to each other and visit often, said Gurewitsch. "They see in themselves a continuation of pre-war Jewry that had been destroyed. They do not see each other as refugees."

The lecture was sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation and National Council of Jewish Women.

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TULIP CEREMONY

Students at Brown Public School recently planted bulbs in Amsterdam Square, part of which is a tulip bed dedicated to Anne Frank. The annual fall tradition began in 1989. Government officials from Holland, Israel and Ontario attended the planting ceremony. [Joshua Goldhar photo]

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Israel makes strides despite conflict: author

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Most of Israel's achievements have been made in the teeth of conflict, says Sir Martin Gilbert, author of *Israel: A History* (Turner Books).

"Few, if any, nations have been threatened with extinction the day they became a nation," Gilbert said at a lecture sponsored by the Edward Bronfman Family Foundation, on the opening night of the Jewish Book Fair.

Furthermore, no other state found itself, on the day of its independence, besieged with people who wanted to live there, said Gilbert, the official biographer of Sir Winston Churchill.

"In 1948, hundreds of thousands of Holocaust survivors and Jews from Arab lands came to Israel, and the country had to accept them all. No state has ever doubled its population and then brought in more than its own numbers, in its early stages."

More recently, he said, immigration has also caused internal struggle. "It puts enormous burdens on the economy, and it causes animosity amongst people. Every group of immigrants resents the group that comes after it. Each group has grievances about how it is characterized."

The Sephardi population, he said, still has grievances about the way it was treated in the early days of its immigration. "It has built up a sense that the parents and grandparents have been treated as second class citizens."

The Sephardim have found a strong political vehicle in the Shas party, said Gilbert. "The party stands for political goals and a comprehensive internal social welfare system. It is not a Sephardi pressure group, but rather, a comprehensive and impressive organization."

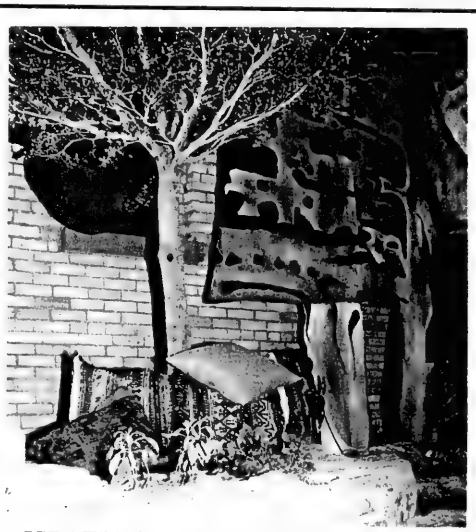
Other areas of internal conflict, said Gilbert, include the struggle between the Haredim and the rest of the Israeli people. "An ugly divide has emerged. Israel newspapers show pictures of police clashing with men in black hats."

In addition, Israel is one of the only nations, that has to live with terror as a daily part of its life, Gilbert said. "The mental anguish is palpable. It is appalling to be there on the day of a bomb attack."

But perhaps the most important struggle of all, said Gilbert, is that between Jew and Jew. "[Yitzhak] Rabin's assassination has traumatized many areas of Israel's society. It is unpleasant indeed to hear news commentators remarking that there is a prospect of civil war in Israel."

He said conflict seems to be Israel's perpetual state, "but however much the conflict, it has remained a light unto the nations.

"To this day, Israel has not forgotten the crucial support given by Machal [outside volunteers] during the War of Independence. Rabin attended Machal reunions every year, and told them that his generation will never forget what they did. This is the link between Israel and the Diaspora – one of the sustaining factors in Israel's struggles."



ISRAELI GARDEN AT ANNUAL FAIR

Gan Mi'kedem, an Israeli garden commemorating Israel's 50th anniversary, was featured at this year's Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, held in Toronto. The garden, designed by Evelyn Nepom and Marion Moore, incorporates olive trees, Hebrew, Arabic and English inscriptions, and terraces modeled on those of the Judaean hills. [Michelle C. Dunn photo]

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Rabbi ReVisions the Torah

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Torah has always been experienced through male eyes, says Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel: a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning.

"The religious experience of women has rarely been the lens through which Judaism is seen; what is perceived as legitimate," she said at the launch of her first book, *ReVisions; seeing Torah through a feminist lens*, (Key Porter Books), part of this year's Jewish Book Fair.

It is not wrong to cling to traditional religious commitment or to religious faith, she told the overflow crowd at Leah Posluns Theatre, calling the Torah "my family's spiritual diary, even if I don't like all the entries." But, she said in an emotional address, many women share her dilemna – "I love a system that has not always loved me back."

As a feminist and as a Jew, Rabbi Goldstein said, she feels marginalized as both. Quoting from her book, she said "I love Torah, but hate the sexism. I love its ethical qualities, its demands for justice, its care for the underdog. I hate where daughters are mistreated, and women are ignored."

The ambivalence mirrors the two creation stories in Genesis, she said. While everyone learns about what Rabbi Goldstein called "the rib!", where God puts Adam to sleep, and creates woman out of his rib, the first version, where man and woman are created from the same earth, "born equal as a gift of a genderless God," is ignored, she said.

She charged that the passages in Torah relating to childbirth and menstruation "make it hard to see the sacredness in them." Comparing the laws of family purity as they apply to women, with circumcision, she said that it appears that "women's blood defiles, but men's blood sanctifies."

The attitude reinforces the stereotypes of the "bad" and "good" woman, where the bad is sensual, and the good ignores her physicality, she said.

Once women ("and women-loving men") see the dichotomy, "can we remain faithful to a patriarchal religion?"

Rabbi Goldstein urged concerned Jews to "offer differences," such as creating new ways to celebrate the menstrual cycle, change language of prayers to reflect both the male and female aspects of God, to bring women into the mainstream of religious life.

She cited as examples that in most Conservative synagogues in Toronto, women are still not called up to the Torah except on their bat mitzvah, if at all, that the two female mohelot get far less business than their male counterparts, and that at the meetings of the Toronto Board of Rabbis, "I am not counted as a mezumin at benching in my own organization."

She rejected the notion that women should exhibit patience at the slow pace of change. "Five thousand years is long enough [to wait]," she said.

Women can take action to empower themselves spiritually, she said. Joking that they should "storm the bimah" to insist on participation in the synagogue ritual, Rabbi Goldstein suggested that women who are denied the opportunity to say Kaddish in a male minyan could form women's prayer groups or minyanim so that they can do so.

In reply to a question from the audience, Rabbi Goldstein said that she believes that the Jewish revulsion against paganism has stopped serious consideration of the female aspects of God.

She questioned whether limiting God to His male aspects only, renders Him "limited," rather than all-encompassing.

Jews must value people struggling with feminism in the Orthodox, chassidic or traditional worlds, she said, as well as continuing a dialogue with those who have less liberal attitudes.

"We can agree to disagree, so long as it is with respect for each other," she urged.

Toronto Star columnist Michelle Landsberg, a special guest at the evening, said that she "felt the profound injustice of patriarchism and sexism" in Jewish life and practice early in her life.

You discover, she said, that "your brother has a bar mitzvah but you don't count; that you have to sit behind a mechitzah, that prayers are saturated in words of male majesty, but you are not entitled to take part anyway, that you are not allowed to say Kaddish."

After a particularly upsetting visit to a Mea Shearim synagogue, she determined that "if the synagogue is the source of bigotry, I would never set foot in a shul with separate seating again. And I never have."

ב"ה

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Family land quest frustrates heirs

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto man is discovering just how thick Israeli red tape can be.

Mark Budman is having a difficult time proving that his family is the rightful heir to land his great-grandfather bought in Palestine in 1934.

Budman, a 32-year-old systems administrator, has spent thousands of dollars on an Israeli lawyer and has supplied Israeli courts and government departments with affidavits, petitions and probate orders – all to no avail.

"The government has asked for all kinds of documentation, and then doesn't recognize it," an exasperated Budman told *The CJN*, displaying dozens of letters and papers. "They say they are missing papers, and that they don't have what I have sent them.

"It's just been tons of red tape."

In the meantime, funds from the sale of the land are sitting in an Israeli trust account and are being whittled away by administrative fees.

Budman's story begins in 1934, when his great-grandfather, Abraham Solomin, bought 42 dunams (about 10 acres) of land in Yokneam, near Haifa, from the Palestine Land Development Company. Solomin, an ardent Zionist, had bought the tract from his home near Vilna, Lithuania, and registered half of it to his son, Moshe.

But both Solomins and their families were murdered in a Nazi *aktion* in November, 1941. No one left a will.

A decade later in Montreal, Moshe's brother, Lipo Solomin, laid claim to the land. In 1963, so did a distant relative living in Israel. The courts there awarded her one-third of the tract, but nothing else happened for years.

Lipo Solomin, Budman's great-uncle, died in 1971, and the matter was dormant until 1996, when Budman found himself in Israel on a study program.

"I was curious," he says, and headed to the Nazareth Lands Authority office armed with the lot parcel numbers.

He discovered that the government had seized control of the land in the 1960s, and that sometime after 1988, it sold four of the five lots at auction to a private owner. One small lot was given to the Jewish National Fund.

The government had placed the proceeds from the sale – about 121,000 shekels – into an escrow account. However, the sum is not tied to inflation, and administrative fees are eating into it.

"The whole purpose of this is not the money, but family curiosity," Budman insists.

He hired an Israeli lawyer a year ago, but he says the government is thwarting his case through inefficiency and bureaucratic torpor.

Mark Budman: Frustrated by Israel's red tape. [Ron Csillag photo]

"The government isn't denying that my great-grandfather purchased the land," Budman says. "Proving we're the rightful heirs is the issue."

He says the government has thrown up all kinds of obstacles: "They say they've lost or misplaced things. They want documents they already have copies of. They won't even say how much is in the account."

Budman's battle is with the justice ministry's Administrator General, which has been inundated with thousands of similar requests ever since Israel succumbed to public pressure last year and published lists of property and bank accounts reportedly belonging to some 10,000 Holocaust victims and their heirs.

He says the whole episode "still brings family members to tears.

"I'm not sorry I started this, but I am sorry Israel has been so difficult to deal with."

Budman says he would like to hear from other Canadians who have laid to claim to Holocaust-era assets in Israel. He can be reached at 483-1360 or at [budman@generation.net].

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From coast to coast

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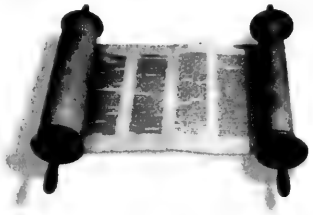

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Quebec faced with conservative options

Continued from page 1

The second issue is the undeniable trend to the right. Both leaders are conservative, Bouchard somewhat so and Charest to a much greater extent. Yet, when Charest let the cat out of the bag by praising Harris, he faced an outcry sufficient to force him to beat a retreat.

Since that incident, he has promised massive spending of completely hypothetical funds. Not to be outdone, Bouchard has engaged in a spending auction with him. Both claim that through some miracle, this would not endanger the "sacred" goal of "deficit zero."

The reality is similar to the one on the constitutional issue. The majority of Quebecers is not right wing at all. We are a society that believes in compassion and solidarity. Like other social-democratic societies, we know that we have spending limits, but we certainly do not want to reduce the role of the state in providing social justice.

The tragedy of this election is that a social-democratic society is being given two conservative options, one of which, represented by Charest, is a little more strident than the other.

The third issue is the low intellectual level of the debate. We have been used to a falling standard in many jurisdictions, but this campaign, with systematic camouflage practised by both parties and the unseemly "spending auctions," is proof that modern politicians will say anything at all to win.

The final issue is the difficult position the electorate faces with this type of campaign. The anglophones, frightened by the close outcome of the last referendum, have become the captive public of Charest. Even left-wingers are prepared to vote for him, some without illusions and some clinging to the hope that he will prove a compassionate conservative. Francophone federalists who are not socially conservative face a terrible dilemma, having to choose between a sovereigntist, conservative option and a federalist, more conservative one.

It is unhealthy for the anglophones to be marginalized in this way. It is equally unhealthy that the opinions held by most Quebecers in favor of some form of special status but not sovereignty, and in favor of real social justice, are given short shrift by the politicians.

CJC claims college breaches guidelines

Continued from page 3

of Ontario law. The school was allowed to grant only diplomas or certificates.

Then education minister Richard Allen stated the college was not authorized to grant any degrees in Ontario, and pledged it would be made to comply with provincial law.

This time, Tory MPP Jim Brown is drafting a bill that would amend the law and accredit the college to grant full-fledged undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Brown, who represents Scarborough West, was unavailable for comment last week.

Charles McVety, president of the college, denied the school proselytizes to Jews.

The program is "purely a theological exercise [to] understand the roots of Christianity, which are in the Old Testament," he told *The CJN*.

He said there are "no courses of any type" which minister specifically to Jews.

"We have lots of Jewish friends, and we're not happy with the misunderstanding this has caused. We're very respectful of not training people to target any group."

Win two free return tickets to Israel via El Al Airlines courtesy JNF. Details on pg. 21

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From coast to coast

Bagel Club reaches out to B.C. Jews with disabilities

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The Bagel Club, a social club for Jews in the Lower Mainland who have developmental and physical disabilities, is looking for new members.

Formed three years ago, the club gets 10 to 12 committed regulars for its once-a-month meetings at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver (JCC).

Lyle Lexier, one of the Bagel Club's charter members, says he'd like to see the Bagel Club expand. "I'd like us to have 20 members," he says. "And more meetings – twice a month."

David Benbaruj, a member for 2½ years, is also bullish on the Bagel Club. "I want more members and to go on more outings."

The club's members, mostly men between 35 and 55 with disorders like autism, aphasia and epilepsy, do more than just nosh on bagels at their Monday evening get-togethers. Bagel Club activities include celebrating Jewish holidays, going on outings and picnics, watching videos, storytelling and hanging out in the club's regular meeting room at the JCC.

The club's name was chosen by member Jory Fisher, after a similar (now defunct) group in Toronto.

Volunteer facilitator Pixie Steiner says adults with disabilities have a problem being accepted in the Jewish community. "The community doesn't know how to treat them, and they're not made welcome. I want attitudes to change."

It's important for Bagel Club members to know they belong somewhere, she says. "The club is a familiar group with Jewish content and activities... All the members know they're Jewish and it's important to them. They don't take their Jewishness for granted."

They don't take their Jewishness for granted

Sally Rogow, a Bagel Club volunteer facilitator and a professor emerita of the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Education, says the club is unique.

"What makes our group special is the pride of the members in having their own social club, their acceptance and support of one another, their appreciation of the helpers, and their honesty and openness," Rogow says.

Members rarely miss meetings, she says. "They celebrate one another's birthdays and other personal events, exchange personal information and support one another in their quest to live normal and productive lives.

"The members are... non-judgmental, non-critical and supportive. When somebody needs something, somebody else will help them."

Volunteer facilitator Debbie Havusha, a York University graduate who is originally from Ottawa, says her "dream is for the members of the Bagel Club to play a productive role in the Jewish community.

"I think they have much to give the community. For example, I can see the Bagel Club helping to sponsor a public community event with speakers."

Bagel Club regulars include Craig Beckman, Robert Beckman, David Benbaruj, Claudia Burke, Steven Cynader, Fred Dexall, Annie Eskenazy, Mark Estrin, Jory Fisher, Lyle Lexier and Trevor Minster.

For more information on the Bagel Club, contact Lyle Lexier at 604-436-2660 or [lylelexier@lexier.com].

Ottawa's new imam honored by shul

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — For the first time, an imam – a Muslim spiritual leader – was the guest of honor at a synagogue here.

Sheik Gamal Solaiman, the new imam of an Ottawa mosque, and Dr. Mukhtar Malik, president of the Ottawa Muslim Association, were guests at a recent Congregation Machzikei Hadas breakfast.

"This is the first occasion in the history of our community that the imam has visited a Jewish congregation. It is a historic moment," said Rabbi Reuven Bulka in introducing the guests.

"I hope that this is just the beginning of forging links between our community and the Muslim community here and across Canada," Rabbi Bulka said.

Imam Solaiman quoted from the Koran and emphasized the many interests and causes that the Jewish and Muslim communities share.

Although this occasion was a first in Ottawa, he said, it was far from a first in his own experience. In England, where he lived before coming to Canada, Imam Solaiman said he "shared a platform, on hundreds of occasions, with rabbis."

He is acquainted with both the present and past chief rabbis of England and has lectured at the Leo Baeck College, he said.

Without making light of the fact that Jews and Muslims have their differences, Imam Solaiman said, "These differences should not be obstacles or hindrances for people of good will, civilized people.

"Whether it is fighting hunger, discrimination or terrorism, there is a great deal that people can do together... Let us cooperate together on those questions which are of mutual concern to all of us."

Imam Solaiman thanked Rabbi Bulka and the members of the congregation for their invitation and indicated that his community would reciprocate when their new mosque is built.

President Hymie Reichstein thanked the sheik and presented him with a gift from the congregation.

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From coast to coast

Kristallnacht remembered

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — More than 150 people, one of the largest gatherings in recent memory, recently congregated at the Cenotaph at Halifax Grand Parade to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

Led by Federal NDP leader Alexa McDonough and Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor James Kinley, who lit memorial candles, the men, women and children from the Jewish and secular community held candles, heard speeches and sang Oh Canada and Hatikvah on a cool, clear night.

"Besides remembering the victims of one of the most horrid periods of history, we're here to affirm the better qualities of humanity on Dignity Day," said Jon Goldberg, executive director of the Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC). "Our program serves the following objectives: To affirm the better qualities of human nature, stand against intolerance, and remember Nazism's victims."

Leigh Lampert, a Dalhousie University law student, representing the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation (APJSF) said, "Today, it is unfortunate we still see violence, bombings and hate crimes throughout the world. We must bring an end to hatred and bigotry. We must speak out against those who are bigots."

Four Halifax students – Debra Freeman, Aaron Ginsburg, Lauren Abrahams and Sarah Barkow – who walked the March of the Living last spring, presented a verbal history of Kristallnacht.

Bill Gibson, a non-Jew from Halifax, an RCAF pilot shot down and imprisoned in Buchenwald, was among several diginitaries lighting memorial candles at the Cenotaph.

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פון שמואל אייכענטאַל

אין שטעטל כענטשין, וואָס ליגט אויף צפון פון באַרג „זאַמ-קאָוואַ גוראַ", האָט זיך דעם יאָר דער פרילינג איינגעשטעלט מיט אַ שפּאָרער צייט פריער ווי געוויינלעך. דעם יאָר איז דער ערשטער טאָג שבועות אויסגעפאַלן אום שבת. האָבן די שטעטלדיקע יידן זיך געגרייט צו אַ טאָפּלטן יום־טוב — שבועות און שבת. שוין אַ וואָך צייט, ווי דער רוב יידן איז פאַרנומען מיט די צוגרייטונגען. די יידישע הייזער זיינען אויסגעפּוצט מיט גרינס. די ריחות פון די ספּעציעלע מילכיקע שבועות־מאכלים שלאָגן אַרויס פון די אָפענע פענצטער.

לייזערל, דער אונטער־שמש, זאָגט אָן די פרויען, אַז עס דער-נענטערט זיך די צייט פון ליכט־צינדן. אויף דעם האָבן געוואַרט אַלע יידישע הייזער. די זון פאַו גייט אויפן מערב און סיזוערט טונ-קעלער. פון די יידישע פענצטער, ווי אָפּגערעדט, הויבן די ליכט אָן זיך איבערווינקען מיט די שטערנדלעך אויפן פאַרטונקלטן הימל. . .

אָבער די שטעטלדיקע יידן זיינען שטאַרק באַזאָרגט. אַלע סוחרים, דאָרפס־גייערס און באַלעגאָלעס, וואו זיי זאָלן נישט האָבן געווען, זיינען צוריק אין דער היים. דער איינציקער, וואָס פעלט, איז לייבקע „פאָנפאָ", דער באַלעגאָלע מיט זיינע „שקאַפּעס", וואָס שלעפן קוים זייערע אייגענע פיס. ער איז געבליבן פאַרשטעקט ערגעץ־וואו אין וועג. . . לייבקע פלעגט פירן פון שטעטל קאַמיענ-קאָ פאַרפרוידענע פליישן צו דער באַן. דאָרטן פלעגט וואַרטן אויף אים אַ קיל־וואַגאָן פון פרייסן־לאַנד.

אין שול גרייט מען זיך שוין צו דאַוונען מעריב, אָבער לייבקע איז נאָך אַלץ נישטאָ. חיים־בער איז דער „עלטסטער" אינעם באַ-לעגאָלע־אַרטעל. ווענדט מען זיך צו אים מיט פראַגן. ער האָט די זאָך נישט גענומען אַזוי ערנסט ווי די אַנדערע. אַלע ווייסן, אַז לייבקע מיט זיין „פאַראָבעק" מיעטעק טראָגן מיט זיך צוויי „שפּייערס", ווי אַלע באַלעגאָלעס.

נישט זאָגנדיק קיינעם, האָט חיים־בער אָבער דאָך געטראַכט: מען גייט שוין באַלד זיך לייגן שלאָפן און לייבקע האָט זיך נישט „געיאַוועט". אַפילו נישט געשיקט דעם שגץ. . . דערווייל האָט חיים־בער געפּרואווט זיך אין די אַנדערע באַרואיקן, ספּעציעל זיין פייגעלען. ער האָט זי ליב ווי סילעבן.

נאָכן אַדורכרעדן אַלערליי ענינים, איז דאָס פאַרליבטע פאָר-פאָלק צוריק אַוועק צום ענין, וואָס איז ביי זיי געלעגן אין די הער-צער. דער זעלבער געשפּרעך גייט שוין אָן ביי זיי זינט דעם ערשטן יאָר נאָך זייער חתונה, מיט אַרום 6 יאָר צוריק. מען וואַרט אויף אַ קינד, אָבער —„קיין קינד, קיין רינד". אמת, זיי זיינען ביידע נאָך יונג: זי אין די שפּעטע 20־ער יאָרן; ער אין די פריע 30־ער. דאָך, מער ווי זעקס יאָר נאָך דער חתונה און גאָרנישט. . . „גאָט גיט נישט!". . .

אויף דער היינטיקער שבת־שבועות־דיקער נאַכט האָט פייגעלע געלייגט אַ סך האָפנונג. היינט, ווען מען זאָגט „תיקון ליל שבועות", זיינען אַלע הימלישע טויערן אָפן — אפשר וועט איר געבעט אָנגע-נומען ווערן. זי האָט זיך היינט געוואַשן אין אַ באַליע מיט וואַרעם וואַסער און גענוצט דעם שמעק־זייף, וואָס ער ברענגט איר פון דער גרויסער שטאָט. זי האָט נישט אַראָפּגענומען אירע שיינע ברויך־גע-לאָקטע האָר נאָך דער חתונה. אגב איז פייגעלע געווען איינע פון די שענסטע פרויען אין שטאָט. נאָכן אָפּוואַשן ס'געפעס ווערט שטיל אין דער שטוב. פייגעלע מאַכט די בעטן. חיים־בער פאַרדעקט דאָס נאַכט־לעמפּל. זי ליגט שוין אין בעט אינעם נאַכטהעמד, וואָס זי אַליין האָט אויפגענייט פון אַ דינעם, כמעט דורכזיכטיקן זייד, וואָס ער האָט געבראַכט פון וועג. זי נעמט אָן זיין האַנט, שעפּטשנדיק דערביי אַ תפילה: „גאָטעניו, נעם אָן מיין תפילה אין דער הייליקער נאַכט פון שבועות און פאַרפיל אונדזערע האָפנונגען". . .

אויף אַ וויילע ווערט אַלץ שטיל, ווי די נאַכט וואָלט פאַרהאַלטן איר אָטעם. עס הערן זיך שטילע קלאַנגען פון אַ שווערן אָטעמען. דורכן אָפענעם פענצטער מיט פאַרמאַכטע לאָדנס האָט אַריינגע-שטראָמט די לופט פון דער מילד־וואַרעמער נאַכט. . . אָבער פּלוצלינג, אין מיטן דערינען, דערהערט זיך אַ קלאַפּעריי אין די לאָדנס, אַזש די שויבן ציטערן, באַגלייט מיט אַ האַרץ־רייסנדיקן יאָמער־געשריי: „חיימקע קרוין, פייגעשי, ראַטעוועט!. . . מ'זעמאָ פאַרלוירן. די ברוינע קליאַטשע האָט זיך אַוועקגעלייגט אַרום פינף וויאָרסט פון דער באַן, אין מיטן פעלד. . . אַ בראָך צו אונדזערע יאָרן. . . ס'גאַנצע פאַרמעגן ליגט דאָרט. . . פון פלייש עט ווערן אַ חַל!. . . געוואַלט! מאָ מאָ ניש צי וועמען צי גיין, אַחוץ צי ענק". . .

מען קען זיך קוים פאָרשטעלן אין וואָסער צושטאַנד דאָס האָט געטראָפן די צוויי יונגע מענטשן.

(פאָרזעצונג אין קומענדיקן נומער)

From coast to coast

Orthodox rebbitzen displays paintings at gallery

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — It may come as a surprise to learn that artist Simma Krames Goldreich,whose paintings are currently on view at the Gallery on the Bay, is an Orthodox rebbitzen.

Toronto-born and Hamilton-raised, Goldreich, 28, the middle of three children of Lester and Carol Krames, is married to Rabbi Yechiel Goldreich, a teacher at the Yeshiva of Hamilton-Irving Zucker College of Jewish Studies, and the mother of two girls aged three and one.

Goldreich remembers always drawing "when I was very little. But then I stopped and only went back to it when I went away to college."

She returned here after several years of studying and teaching in New York, where she obtained an MA in fine arts from Stern College and studied painting and drawing at the Brooklyn College of Art.

Goldreich finds that "being back in Hamilton has been so good for me…being away from everything, with no one to tell me what to do."

She shut herself up in the basement of her home and worked "in isolation. I needed to be alone," she says. After two years, she felt ready to show her paintings.

A dozen large canvasses and about 10 small still lifes make up the show entitled Icons of the Heart. In contrast to her earlier work, which dealt mostly with the Holocaust (a number of these toured North America, Europe and Israel from 1994 to 1998 as part of the M. Blajchman Collection of Holocaust memorabilia), her new collection reveals a very different Goldreich: bold, imaginative, enigmatic.

She works with acrylics and her paintings are large and striking, sometimes disturbing, sometimes humorous, invariably interesting, and often reminiscent of old black and white movie stills and the era of art deco.

She does collages, sometimes cutting up her own paintings and adding pictures from magazines, newspaper clippings or anything else that takes her fancy, developing her ideas as she goes along. And she likes to work from old black and white photographs, cutting them up and rearranging the pieces in a collage that she then uses as a model for a painting.

"You have to take risks, go with your ideas, your intuition," she says.

The still lifes, on the other hand, are charming little pieces titled *Vessels* – two or three jugs in various compositions and backgrounds.

Prices for Goldreich's paintings range $75 to $2,500; seven of them were sold within a couple of days of the show's opening.

The exhibition continues at the Gallery on the Bay, 231 Bay St. North, Hamilton, 905-540-8532, until Nov. 22.

Self portrait by Simma Krames Goldreich on the column at the Gallery on the Bay.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 23, is deadline for Dec. 3 issue and Monday, Nov. 30, is deadline for Dec. 10. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 19

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh event at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, davening 7:45 p.m. followed by a shiur on Women and Time-Dependent Commandments.

Friday, Nov. 20

OUR MUSICAL LEGACY

Four Centuries of Jewish Music, a Temple Sinai Oneg Shabbat presentation of Jewish music from the 17th century to the present, narrated by **Ben Steinberg,** featuring the Congregational Choir directed by **Milton Barnes** with soloist **Vigal Altschuler**. Services 8:15 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 21

JEWISH BUSINESS ETHICS

Soberman, Isenbaum and Colomby: Chartered Accountants and Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Congregation Conference on Jewish Business Ethics, Money, Morality and the Marketplace, with speakers **Meir Tamari,** former chief economist of the Bank of Israel, and **David Nitkin, Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz, Eli Rubenstein, Mark Schwartz**, 7:30 p.m. at the synagogue. **Rabbi Jay Kelman** 638-5955.

Sunday, Nov. 22

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Lynn Johnston, cartoonist of *For Better or For Worse*, receives the Jewish Women International of Toronto 1998 Woman of the Year Award, 10 a.m., Premiere Ballroom and Convention Centre in Markham, 9019 Leslie St. Reserve. 630-9313.

MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST

Beth Tzedec Men's Club breakfast 9:30 a.m., then at 10 a.m. social worker/family therapist **Richard Sugarman** speaks on ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) and Families.

ROAD RAGE

At Temple Sinai breakfast, psychologist **Lorne Korman** discusses Road Rage, 10 a.m. 487-4161.

DIMENSIONS OF PRAYER

Inner Dimensions of Prayer, a three-part prayer workshop led by writer on Jewish spirituality **Avraham Sutton,** 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Anshe Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrews St. Topics include The Unifying Theme of all Prayers, The Depths of the Shema, The Secrets of God's Names. 595-5723.

GRAND ORDER OF ISRAEL

Toronto Grand Order of Israel Society nomination and election meeting, 9:30 a.m., Ramada 401 Hotel.

GIFT AND CRAFT SALE

Na'amat Gift and Craft Sale has something for everyone plus hourly draws, clowns, balloons, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Lawrence Square Shopping Centre, 700 Lawrence Ave. W.

YIDDISHLAND CAFÉ

Workmen's Circle Yiddishland Café evening, Hakl-Bakl: A Mosaic of Yiddish Song and Music, 7:30 p.m., 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Performers **Lenka Lichtenberg, Michael Mandel, Anne Lederman, Martin Van de Ven, Sasha Luminsky** . 781-2081.

ORAYNU DISCUSSION

Oraynu Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism discussion by Prof. Barry Olshen, York University, on The Bible: Some Simple Theoretical Premises, 7:30 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. Reserve. 385-3910.

DISCIPLINING CHILDREN

How to Discipline Your Children Without Destroying Them is the topic of discussion, 8 p.m. at Jewish Russian Community Centre, 18 Rockford Rd. 222-7105, ext. 40.

THE LEADERS AMONG US

Rachael Turkienicz lecture series concludes with Deborah and

Continued on page 29

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700 g
599

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What's New

Continued from page 28

Barak, 8 p.m., Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. 229-2600.

PNAI MEETING

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) meeting, with **Baruch Liverant**, shaliach for Betar-Tagar, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 783-7872.

Monday, Nov. 23

BIBLICAL CONUNDRUMS

Carl Ehrlich series concludes with Eating Latkes in the Lion's Den: Daniel and the Maccabees (the Book of Daniel), 8 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue.

JEWISH PERSONALITIES

Jewish Personalities of the 20th Century series concludes with Rav Menachem Mendel Schneerson, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Tuesday, Nov. 24

SINGLES EVENT

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles (35-55) book review of *Colour of Water* given by **Ruby Newman**, 8 p.m. **Ferne Kirschner** 493-8338.

CASINO RAMA

Jewish Women International, Queen City chapter, trip to Casino Rama, leaves from Price Chopper parking lot (Bathurst/Steeles) 9:30 a.m. Reserve. 250-1330.

REBUKE

Rabbi Moshe Stern series continues with How Does One Fulfil the Commandment of Rebuke, Part 2, Shaarei Tefillah Congregation, 8-9 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 25

MEDITATION SEMINAR

Making Life Work for You, A Meditative Journey with spiritual teacher **Rabbi Laibl Wolfe**, 8 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, 83 Green Lane, Thornhill. 905-886-0420.

THE LOST TRIBE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue and Sisterhood evening with documentary director **Simcha Jacobovici**, 8 p.m. Topic: Quest for the Lost Tribe. 633-3838.

IN OUR OWN HANDS

The film *in our own hands*, the hidden story of the Jewish Brigade in World War II, 8 p.m., Temple Sinai. 487-4161.

JEWISH THINKERS

Modern Jewish Thinkers with **Prof. David Novak** continues with Abraham Joshua Heschel, 7:30-8:45 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

Thursday, Nov. 26

JEWISH LIFE ON CAMPUS

Jewish Life on Campus information session for parents, students and teens, 6:45-9 p.m., 4th floor Conference Room, Lipa Green building. Representatives from Ontario universities and colleges, students and campus professionals are participating. **Leanne Rosen** 635-2883, ext. 139, or **Aaron Katchen** 785-1465.

SECRETS AND LIES

Forest Hill Place screens the movie *Secrets and Lies* with a review by **Heather Kassel**, 2 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

YOUR INNER SPACE

The Journey to Your Inner Space, a Shabbaton and melaveh malka with author **Avraham Sutton**. Friday, Nov. 20 – 4:40 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat; 6 p.m., dinner, topic The Exile and Redemption of the Shchinah. Saturday, Nov. 21 – 9:30 a.m., Shacharit; 1 p.m. lunch, topic Jewish Cosmology: The Relationship Between the Prophetic Teachings of the Torah and the Latest Scientific Findings; 9 p.m., melaveh malka. Anshe Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrews St. 595-5723 or 921-6996.

JUDAIC ART, CRAFT SALE

Crafts by Judaic artists from across North America and Israel, preview reception with havdalah, klezmer music Saturday, Nov. 21. Art show and sale Sunday, Nov. 22 and Monday, Nov. 23, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. 905-707-7824.

WEIZMANN MEETING

Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute annual meeting, guest **Prof. Haim Harari**, president, Weizmann Institute of Science, Sunday, Nov. 29, Sutton Place Hotel, 10 a.m. to noon, followed by brunch. Reserve. 733-9220.

BIBLICAL PARTNERING

Biblical Partnering, Biblical Parenting with **Rachael Turkienicz**, Tuesdays, Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 8, 15, Adath Israel Congregation. Breakfast 9:30 a.m., study session 10-11 a.m. Babysitting (reserve). **Diane Brown** 905-889-8517 or **Claudette Edghill** 386-0756.

ART CLASSES

Drawing and painting, all levels, Nov. 26-Dec. 17 and Jan. 7-March 11, Beth Sholom Synagogue. Register. **Terri**, instructor, 487-7244.

BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM

Six-month program designed to give girls the opportunity to participate in educational and fun activities in a group experience in honor of their bat mitzvah. Includes field trips, volunteer work, challah baking, Jewish values topics. Begins January 1999. **Rhona Hall**, The Village Shul, 789-3897.

TORAH LIFE & LIVING

Torah Life & Living, Canada Toronto office welcomes **Lynette Latinsky**, executive assistant to organization director **Rena Schochet**. In addition to adding personnel, the office has moved to Finchurst Plaza, 305 Finch Ave. W. The organization helps people return to a stable Jewish heritage through the method of family intervention. 205-6999 or 905-709-6183.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Grandparenting in Families Where There has Been a Divorce, workshop Nov. 24, 7 p.m.

Dealing With Life Cycle Events, how to cope with your ex-spouse when you plan a bar mitzvah or wedding, workshops Dec. 1.

Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work, begins January; Looking Ahead group for recently separated and divorced individuals, begins Nov. 30; Social Skills Groups for Children age 7-adolescence, begins February.

NCSY PROGRAMS

NCSY (National Conference of Synagogue Youth) ongoing programs. 905-761-6279.

Free Torah High afternoon Hebrew school, three central locations. ext. 25.

BJC Sports Program every Saturday night at Bathurst Jewish Centre, 7:45-10 p.m. Track, gym, basketball, swimming, ext. 23.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Atlantic City Trump Plaza Hotel Nov. 22-25; Casino Rama Nov. 25; New Year's Eve dinner dance; bridge Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. Membership open. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip postponed to Purim. Chanukah entertainment in the planning. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club Miami trip, information and registration, **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 19, bingo; Nov. 26, video; Dec. 10, lecture with **Yonatan Kassel**, envoy to Habonim Dror; Dec. 19, Chanukah dance, to reserve call **Malka Colla** 630-5771. General information, **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia Dahary** 661-4689.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip: January, efficiency $1,280 Canadian, double occupancy; February, efficiency, $1,390 Canadian, double occupancy. Included entertainment, tax, pick up in Florida. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Kids Sing Israel – Every Sunday, 11:15 a.m., an hour of Israeli dance and songs for children of all ages, their parents and grandparents. Live music. **Patti Dolman** 905-881-6340.

At Osteoporosis Support Group meeting Tuesday, Nov. 24, pharmacist **Grace Jong** presents Medication Choices in Osteoporosis, 1:15-2:30 p.m. Resource person **Joan Turner**.

The Sonnee Cohen Memorial Lecture, pharmacist **Bill Cornish** speaks on Controlling Your Diabetes and Your Quality of Life, Thursday, Nov. 26, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Hearing Assistance Clinic with **Brenda Vernon** of the Canadian Hearing Society, Thursday, Nov. 26, 1:15-4 p.m., La'Briyut Wellness Centre. For appointment, ext. 105.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Nov. 24 is bingo. **Anna**

Movie Sunday, Nov. 22, *An Affair to Remember* , 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social Nov. 25 features a musical show with **Mike McConnelle** 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Toronto Jewish Film Society screens *The Nasty Girl, a* film about a Bavarian school girl who encounters suppression of historical truth in her town while researching the town's history during the Nazi years. Co-sponsored with Goethe Institut Toronto. Sunday, Nov. 22, 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario. For information, 924-6211. Accepting 1999 membership.

Books and Bagels Sunday, Nov. 22, welcomes **Morley Torgov** who reads from his latest novel *The War to End All Wars* , 11 a.m.

Textile artists **Sharon Epstein, Rochelle Rubenstein** and **Joy Walker** discuss their work, slide presentation, Thursday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Night health talk Nov. 25 focuses on Fitness Over 50, 7 p.m.

Senior's Club features The Time of Your Life: The Pleasures of Being a Senior, with **Laurie Hathaway**, senior consultant, Volunteer Centre of Toronto, Thursday, Nov. 26, 2 p.m. **Judy**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

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On Campus

Women discuss Talmud in Montreal Hillel House

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — If you happen to be in the Hillel House and see a group of young women in animated intellectual discourse, feel free to join in.

You'll be a welcome addition to what is being touted as the first student program in Montreal where Jewish young women from all observance levels discuss the Talmud in the same vibrant but intellectually disciplined manner as in a yeshiva.

Called Ashrei Yoshvei Baitecha (We joyously sit in your house), the Beit Midrash L'Banot program began this fall inside the Hillel House on Stanley Street.

"This is something unique to the city," said Sara Miller, a 19-year-old Judaic Studies student who is one of the program's facilitators.

"To be able to read a Judaic text by yourself – it's like a light-bulb going off in a comic strip."

According to Miller and to Shira Fine, 24, Hillel's director at Concordia University and John Abbott College, this is the main reason for the program's attraction.

There have been other study programs for women in the city, but Fine and Miller say this is the first one to approach it with a textual, instead of a lecturing, style.

> *'This is something unique to the city'*

What makes it unique is that the program uses the yeshiva practice of chavrutah, in which students are paired up, with one usually a bit more knowledgeable than the other, to allow for individual and even free-wheeling interchange.

In that way, participants truly "get into" their talmudic texts, using give-and-take exchanges with the class leader and with each other.

One big difference here is that for the neophyte or even not-at-all Hebrew-reader, texts are available with English translation on the facing page.

The classes have included discussion and study of the 613 mitzvot, the Book of Judges and Gemarah.

The program began after Miller and a friend of hers, Tobi Leibman, returned from periods of yeshiva study in Israel.

Late last winter, Miller and Leibman were lamenting the fact that Montreal had no real opportunities for textual study for women.

Leibman mentioned the same thing to another friend, Chava Shimon, who suggested that Leibman organize classes led by rabbis and/or teachers.

When Leibman got back to her, Miller went to Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz of the Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem Synagogue, who loved the idea, and eventually contacted Judaic scholar Norma Joseph, who has led her own Torah-study classes for women.

Joseph approached Fine to seek the use of the Hillel House as a relaxed setting for the classes, and with a grant from Hillel's student initiatives committee in Washington, D.C., the Beit Midrash L'Banot was born on Sept. 23.

The program has had about 15 students from all denominational backgrounds register so far for the four classes per week.

Although the program, which costs $15, is intended primarily for young women students, Fine and Miller are encouraging others to join, such as women who work downtown but who might want to attend a class during a break in their day.

More information on the Beit Midrash L'Banot is available by contacting Fine, at 845-9171, or through her e-mail address, at [hillel.montreal.qc.ca].

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November 17, 7:30 PM
Exploring preventative measures to keep young and old at their physical and mental best. Dr. Michael Gordon, Baycrest's Vice-President of Medical Services, gives tips on increasing the likelihood of successful aging. Dr. Carol Greenwood, a research scientist in the Kunin-Lunenfeld Applied Research Unit, provides the latest information on the importance of diet and nutrition in the prevention and treatment of age-related dementia.

The Stages of Aging
November 24, 7:30 PM
How does our brain change over time? Find out from two experts... Dr. Donald Stuss, Baycrest's Vice-President of Research and Director of the Rotman Research Institute and Dr. Cheryl Grady, a Rotman Research Institute specialist on cognitive functions in normal aging and in the presence of conditions such as Alzheimer's Disease. The 10 year old Rotman Research Institute has been acknowledged as one of the world's leading centres for brain research.

The Ada Starkman Community Education Series is generously sponsored by Beverley and Aaron Black

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Thursday,	**November 26**	**Kamin Centre (Atkinson)**	**at 9:30 a.m.**
Monday,	**December 14**	**Posluns Centre (Neptune)**	**at 1:30 p.m.**

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Palestinians jeopardizing Oslo: Netanyahu

By DAVID MAKOVSKY and YERAH TAL
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Repeated Palestinian statements about unilateral declarations of statehood on May 4 could lead to the "collapse of the Oslo agreements," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the cabinet, while Palestinian leaders warned that if Israeli land expropriations continue in the West Bank, the Palestinians will seek retaliation in the UN.

"We will ensure that the Palestinians adhere to what has been imposed upon them," said Netanyahu. "If they do not implement, we will not adhere [to Oslo]...The declarations of [Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser] Arafat and the heads of the Palestinian Authority (PA) demonstrate their willingness to bring down the Oslo agreements," the prime minister said.

"We cannot fulfil agreements when the other side, shortly after it receives land, declares it will violate the Wye agreements," he added.

Speaking to Fatah members in Ramallah yesterday, Arafat said, "Our great intifadah went on for seven years. If they [the Israelis] don't want to continue on the path of peace, we will start it all over again, but I tell them we have made the peace of the brave out of conviction."

He called on Israel to understand that a Palestinian state would be a bridge to peace in the region.

Before meeting with U.S. special Middle East envoy Dennis Ross, Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon reiterated that if the Palestinians unilaterally declare statehood, Israel "reserves the right" to effectively annex the remainder of the West Bank under its control.

Government sources said the prime minister is to receive a report from the Shin Bet security service on whether the PA has jailed 10 of the 30 suspected terrorists who are allegedly free. Israel sees this as a condition for its willingness to pull back from part of the territory after a special cabinet meeting. Israel in turn is to release 250 of 750 Palestinian prisoners it agreed to free from prison.

Ross met with Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, and arranged a meeting between Cabinet secretary Danny Naveh and Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat. But Ross, who has said he is not here to negotiate, is expected to leave tomorrow, leaving his deputy, Aaron Miller, in the area to oversee implementation.

Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), said in Moscow that the Palestinians were committed to refrain from making a unilateral declaration of Palestinian independence on May 4, 1999, but only on condition that Israel refrains from taking unilateral measures, such as establishing settlements or expropriating lands from the Palestinians.

British rabbi criticized

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — It's not easy being Britain's chief rabbi.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks is at the centre of a communal controversy over his decision to attend a reception to mark the 50th birthday of Prince Charles last Friday evening.

Rabbi Sacks, head of the mainstream Orthodox United Synagogues movement, made the 30-minute journey to Buckingham Palace on foot from the Marble Arch synagogue in London's West End.

He defended his decision on the grounds that it was established protocol for chief rabbis to accept direct royal invitations.

While conceding that "the importance of keeping Shabbat together with the family is fundamental," Sacks said that "we only make an exception [for the] expression of Jewish loyalty to the country and its head of state."

As chief rabbi, he would "always accept invitations from the Queen on state occasions," adding that "Prince Charles has long been a friend of the Jewish community and recently showed his support by attending a service to mark Israel's 50th anniversary."

Just before the event, he said he would attend the palace reception only to pay his respects to the royal family and then leave to spend the rest of the Sabbath with his wife.

"Buckingham Palace has been marvelous in understanding the limitations," he said.

Concern that Rabbi Sacks had accepted an invitation to attend the birthday party of the heir to the British throne on Shabbat was expressed in a stream of letters to the editor of the *London Jewish Chronicle*.

"I would never contemplate attending a function and leaving my wife on a Friday night," wrote Ronald Michaels. "I believe that we are taught to remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy."

Israel still wary about Iraqi deal

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Israel has "no illusions about Saddam Hussein's intentions," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement after President Bill Clinton said the resolution of the crisis depended upon UN inspectors returning to their jobs.

The statement added that Saddam's "willingness to live up to his commitments is in doubt and therefore we must continue to follow developments and be ready for every possibility in the future."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai sounded a more upbeat note, saying that Israel hopes the return of UN inspectors to their regular work "will permit significant monitoring that will prevent the development and production of weapons of mass destruction and long-range missiles.

"We believe and know that the United States, the UN and the nations of the world will do all in order to prevent creation of such dangers to the region."

At the cabinet meeting last weekend, Netanyahu said he told Clinton during their phone conversation last week, that even though Israel is not a part of this crisis, "Israel is responsible for vouchsafing for the security of its citizens and therefore it reserves the absolute right for self-defence."

During the cabinet meeting, Tourism Minister Moshe Katzav complained about the U.S. travel warning to Israel, calling it "hasty and needless."

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Israel & the Jewish World

Modern Orthodox re-examine role of movement

By AVI MACHLIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Modern Orthodox leaders in Israel are trying to launch a movement to build bridges across the widening religious-secular gulf.

Some 200 Israeli rabbis, academics and activists gathered last month at Kibbutz Lavi in the Galilee to rethink the role of religious Zionism and modern Orthodoxy in Israel.

It has been 23 years since a similar conference was held. Although the organizers of the recent meeting said it was apolitical, they appeared to be motivated by several trends affecting the modern Orthodox:

• the shift by the National Religious Party (NRP) – the religious Zionist party – from a moderating political force to one of the most steadfast opponents of land-for-peace deals with the Palestinians;

• haredi groups gaining political power while successfully luring many secular Jews and modern Orthodox towards Judaic fundamentalism;

• the increasing permissiveness of Israeli secular culture, which makes it much more difficult to reconcile Orthodoxy and modernity and is also persuading many young people to remove their yarmulkas.

Organizers insisted the convention was intended to promote unity on social and religious issues among the modern Orthodox who make up about 10 percent of Israel's Jewish population. Pessimistic participants, however, fear the gathering, which wrestled with such issues as the role of women in Orthodox Jewish life, may actually further divide the community.

Most participants support Meimad

While politics were not on the agenda, organizers acknowledged that more participants were supporters of Meimad, the small, centre-left modern Orthodox movement that supports trading land for peace with the Palestinians, than of the NRP, the political backbone of West Bank settlers.

In its early years, the NRP was a moderate political force that often formed alliances with Labor-led governments. Its transformation into a far-right group during the past 20 years, say experts, has also weakened its influence as a moderating force on social and religious issues.

There are few moderate Orthodox members in the current Knesset, but there are some 14 haredi Knesset members. And the NRP's nine members focus almost exclusively on holding back the peace process.

Rabbi Yehuda Amital, head of the Gush Etzion Yeshiva and a Meimad founder, chose to discuss politics in his address opening the conference, despite the organizers' intentions. He lashed out at the use of Halachah to justify political goals, such as opposition to the Oslo peace accords.

"It doesn't take a lot of imagination to think what may happen in a young person's mind when these beliefs are shaken," he said, referring to the transfer of West Bank land to Palestinian rule.

"In the eyes of the younger generation, the Halachah in its entirety has become something that has no connection with reality," said Rabbi Amital, who was a minister without portfolio in the previous government of Shimon Peres.

The transformation of Halachah into "dangerous slogans" that fail to emphasize traditional Judaic values, Rabbi Amital said, has created a severe crisis of faith among religious youth.

Nevertheless, the Lavi talks remained focused on social-religious issues, and after three days of discussions, participants agreed that:

• Orthodox-secular relations must undergo a fundamental change, aimed at forging unity instead of trying to attract secular Jews to Orthodoxy;

• Orthodox rabbinic leaders must complement their training with a broader education and deal with social issues such as domestic violence and socio-economic disparities;

• Orthodox solutions must be found to reconcile the changing role of women in the modern world.

According to Menachem Friedman, sociology professor at Bar-Ilan University and an expert on Israeli Orthodoxy, the push by women to attain a larger role in Jewish life will make it virtually impossible to promote unity within Israel's modern Orthodox community.

Neo-Nazi grounded

By ZOHAR BLUMENKRANZ and DALIA SHEHORI,
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The head of a German nationalist extremist organization was prevented from boarding a Lufthansa flight to Israel yesterday after the Interior Ministry announced he would be refused entry to Israel.

The case began last week, when Joachim Siegrist, head of the group German Conservatives, was scheduled to head a delegation of 33 right wingers to Israel. The group included Third Reich veterans, young nationalists and senior representatives of the extreme right in Germany.

While the group's plane was in the air, Israeli authorities informed Lufthansa that it would not allow the delegation to enter Israel. Lufthansa landed the plane in Istanbul and let the group disembark. Siegrist was not among the passengers.

Siegrist apparently decided to travel alone and made reservations for a flight from Frankfurt to Tel Aviv. Last week, Lufthansa was informed by the Israeli Embassy in Bonn that Siegrist was trying to come to Israel on another Lufthansa flight.

The Interior Ministry continued to refuse his entry.

In light of Israel's statement, Lufthansa's legal department informed Siegrist that he would not be allowed to embark on the flight.

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Jerusalem hosts GA

Continued from page 1

On tap, were seminars, interactive workshops, lectures and field trips throughout Israel to view first-hand the key social issues facing the Jewish state, as well as the programs and facilities set up to address them.

Staple agenda items from previous GAs, such as fundraising strategies and professional development, took a back seat to discussions on Israel and Israel-Diaspora relations.

One area to come in for discussion was directing funds raised in North America for use in specific projects in Israel. Although more of an issue in the United States than in Canada, agency professionals have witnessed a recent trend where donors ask that the money they contribute to community fundraising campaigns "go to programs that are [their] priorities," Maerov said. "There is a growing need for donors to feel a link to the recipients...and to be part of the decision-making process."

Delegates will address other key issues, including religious diversity in Israel; policy and planning on the environment; senior care; civil rights, Jewish values and the law; and building economic bridges between Israel and North America.

"The whole objective is for us to hear from Israelis where they're going and to hear from them how they'd like us to help them," he said. North American delegates can also learn much from Israelis, particularly on educational matters dealing with Jewish and Zionist identity. "They can help us sharpen our curricula," Maerov said.

"We're looking at different issues as it affects Israeli society," said Janice Langer, president of the Jewish Women's Federation. "Personally, I'd like to see how they deal with women's interests. I look forward to participating in that discussion. We as Jews can sit down and talk as equal partners."

"In terms of issues," said American UJA President Richard Wexler, the GA "deals with...the real relationship for the 21st century for North American Jewry and the Jews of Israel."

That relationship will be codified at the final event of the GA when each of the participants will sign a covenant stating their communities' intention to fortify and maintain Jewish unity worldwide. Jews around the world will be able to sign on via the Internet at [www.ga98.org].

The GA, also known as "the parliament of the Jewish people," is the largest annual gathering of North American Jewish communal life. It is being held for the first time in Israel to help celebrate the Jewish State's 50th birthday and to symbolize the significant contributions of North American Jews to building the state.

Some Canadian delegates have scheduled side trips both before and after the GA. The Toronto contingent will visit Kiev, capital of Ukraine, for two days prior to the assembly. There, they will meet with potential olim, visit seniors and students studying Hebrew and participate in a ceremony at Babi Yar, the site of a Nazi massacre of Jews.

Zundel sues Chretien

Continued from page 1

wind of the conference while in Ottawa for a round of get-acquainted meetings with parliamentarians. He brought the proposed news conference to the attention of Multiculturalism Minister Hedy Fry, who in turn discussed it with other MPs. All parties quickly agreed to a motion barring Zundel from parliament for the remainder of the session. Instead of a press conference in the heart of parliament, Zundel held a media scrum in the sidewalk outside the building.

Government House leader Don Boudria called Zundel's suit "a little odd to say the least." He questioned the legitimacy of the legal action, saying "you can't sue parliament or for how a person votes in parliament. Otherwise, parliament cannot function."

While the suit "didn't stop me from sleeping," Boudria said he had referred the issue to parliament's legal counsel. He expected other MPs would do the same.

Ronen said he relished the opportunity to lock horns with Zundel in a legal setting. He has instructed Congress' legal counsel to study the suit with a view to issuing a counter-claim against Zundel.

"If he wants to litigate, we're prepared to litigate on all the issues. He'll find himself in a position to answer tough questions that we'll ask," Ronen said.

Although "there does not appear to be serious grounds that are actionable [by Zundel]...our position is that he is continually in breech of the right of Canadians and in breach of the Criminal Code provisions on hate promotion," Ronen said.

Congress, Ronen acknowledged, did try "to prevent Zundel from using parliament as a springboard for his hate."

That is consistent with Congress' goal of "preventing him from exercising his determination to spread hate and intolerance. It's a fundamental obligation of our right as a human rights organization, and it's completely within the framework of Canadian society, its interests, the Criminal Code and human rights legislation," he said.

If the situation were to repeat itself, he'd do it again, Ronen added.

Advertisement

STRUB'S Pickle Corner STRUB'S

Vol. 1, No. 7 • November 19, 1998

Hello! How are ya'? What's cooking? I can't believe how fast the days are flying off the calendar. It's Grey Cup time in Canada and Thanksgiving in the U.S.A. (and it's almost Chanukah, to boot). Remember to include Strub's Pickles as part of your celebrations and family get-togethers this festive season.

Letter of the Month

Dear Pickle Guy,

Can Dill Pickles and Tomatoes be eaten straight from the jar, or should they be rinsed in cold water first? I insist they should be rinsed, but my daughter refuses to do so. Who's right and who's wrong? —*Sincerely, R.G., Thornhill, ON* (with a similar letter from D.P., Ormeaux, QUE)

The Pickle Guy Replies

This is not such an unusual question. The brine of the full-sour pickles and tomatoes is actually a little stronger than the pickle itself. Those who like to get the complete pickle experience always eat their pickles straight-from-the-jar. Many other people are a little more sensitive to the brine, and decide to rinse the pickles quickly under cold water before they are served. I usually recommend rinsing when serving to very young children for this very reason.

But, to answer your question, I am pleased to say that YOU ARE BOTH RIGHT! In other words, you can have your Strub's and eat them too. I will be sending a Pickle Guy hat and T-shirt to both R.G. and D.P. for their insightful letters.

Remember, send your letters, pictures, and postcards to me:

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c/o Strub's Pickle Corner
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e-mail: STRUBPICKL@AOL.COM

I answer **ALL** my mail, and if I use your letter in "Pickle Corner", I'll send you one of my "Pickle Guy" T-shirts and Hats. Thanks, and talk to you next month.

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The Canadian Jewish Book of Remembrance
A Progress Report

Three years ago, a group of veterans, led by Oscar Adler, decided to form the **Canadian Jewish War Memorial Association**.

Since that time, they incorporated the association, developed promotional material and began soliciting support.

Their main objective is to publish a **CANADIAN JEWISH BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**. It is estimated that it will cost approximately $70,000.00 to publish the book for the Canadian Jewish community. $18,000.00 of this has already been raised.

The major problem will be to gather the names of all the Canadian Jewish War Veterans who served in the Canadian Armed Forces during the 20th Century. We already have names from the Royal Canadian Legion Jewish Branches, the Jewish War Veterans Association of Canada and various B'nai Brith Lodges, as well as veterans and their families.

We ask for support from the Jewish community or any other organization that can help us gather the names of these veterans.

The Association has two goals. The first is to complete their project and the second is to make this Canadian Jewish Book of Remembrance as complete as possible. It will take a lot of support from the Canadian Jewish community to achieve these goals.

The Canadian Jewish War Memorial Association asks anyone in Canada who is related to, or knows the name of any Jewish Canadian who:

- **LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE SERVING IN THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES OR**
- **ANY JEWISH CANADIAN WHO SERVED IN THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES**

to send their names, regimental numbers and units to Oscar Adler, President, Canadian Jewish War Memorial Association, 640 Sheppard Ave. E., Ste. 602, Toronto, Ont. M2K 1B8, or telephone 416-225-4276. Tax receipts will be issued for any donation of $18.00 or more.

Aussie-Israel relations suffer 'rupture': Cotler

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Irwin Cotler remembers the last Maccabiah Games well. Invited to join the Canadian delegation, Cotler was close by when the footbridge over the Yarkon River collapsed during the Games' opening ceremonies.

Four Australians who plunged into the toxically polluted Yarkon River were killed, and about 70 others were injured.

More than a year later, the wounds from that tragic event have not yet healed. On the contrary. In Australia, youth athlete Sasha Elterman, who has undergone 26 surgical procedures, has again been hospitalized due to the fungal meningitis she contracted after falling into the Yarkon.

And for the loyally Zionistic Jewish community, relations with Israel have cooled considerably. In fact, said Cotler, "what was an inspirational component of the Israel-Diaspora relations has turned into a rupture of Israel-Diaspora relations."

Cotler, a law professor at McGill University and a human rights activist, visited Australia recently.

Cotler said he found "the close knit Australian community, with its almost mythic view of Israel, has been disappointed. Their pain is due to a tragedy that was caused by criminal negligence, and they feel that since then, Israel and has been dragging its feet" in getting to the bottom of it.

The question of responsibility for the collapse is "not a matter limited to the families of the victims. I saw it as pervasive. It's an important issue in Australia-Israel relations.

"There was a palpable anger to Israel among some of the people in the audience" at a UJA event, not just towards the Maccabi World Union (MWU), which organized the games, he noted.

In the aftermath of the collapse, criminal charges were laid against five individuals, including the bridge's engineers and contractors, and the former chair of the Maccabiah organizing committee, Yoram Eyal.

After intense lobbying from Australia, the Knesset set up an independent committee to study the bridge collapse. The criminal trials and the committee's deliberations are ongoing.

For Australian Jews, the bridge collapse is especially painful because it was preventable, Cotler said. Australians he met asked, "How could this negligence have been allowed to occur?" They also asked, "Why is it taking so long for justice to be done and why are there no MWU resignations?"

In Australia, Colin Elterman, Sasha's father, has been one of the most outspoken critics of the MWU. Responding via e-mail to written questions from *The CJN*, Elterman stated he believes the Australian and Canadian Maccabi organizations should "not attend the next Maccabiah unless issues concerning MWU are properly resolved."

He called on MWU president Ronaldo Bakalarz and chair Uzi Netanel to resign. He also called on Maccabi Canada to pressure MWU officials to resign and to try "to ensure that the Pan-American Games to be held in Mexico next year will be MWU-free."

Elterman's lawyer, Derrick Zabow, said the victims are seeking the support of North American and Israeli delegates to the General Assembly, hosted by UJA Federations of North America, when they meet in Israel this week. He's asking the delegates to call upon local Maccabi

Overhaul

movements "to press for a thorough overhaul of the MWU" as well as to "galvanize Diaspora support for the Australian Jewish community, who have been sorely unsupported by world Jewry."

Meanwhile, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry and the Zionist Federation of Australia have entered the fray. They recently asked the Olympic Committee of Israel (OCI), which is planning to send a delegation to Sydney to prepare for the 2000 Olympics, to "not include in any of its delegations to Australia members who are associated with the MWU leadership."

Maccabi Canada president Roy Salomon, who participated in a MWU reconciliation effort in Australia last February, said, "We're aware of the feelings in Australia."

But he said they are a result of misplaced anger brought on by "misinformation." Contrary to the perception in Australia, the MWU has always been intensely concerned over their loss, Salomon said.

"I understand the emotions of the people in Australia. This was a major tragedy... There are inquiries being held and I think judgment should be reserved until the facts are finally out," Salomon said.

"We've sent thousands upon thousands of kids to Israel. We've been involved in the Pan Am Maccabi Games, involved in the Youth Games. There have been so many wonderful experiences without incident, injuries or death. This was a tragedy and we're trying to get to the bottom of what happened.

"Nobody's interested in hiding anything. It's just a matter of letting the facts come out."

The Week in Israel

Nov. 9

• A government employee was accused of trying to sell secret government files to a member of a Russian organized crime ring, Israel Radio reported. Ludmilla Kleinman was arrested after authorities were tipped off by a police officer in whom she confided.

Nov. 10

• Right-wing politicians began meetings to discuss the creation of a new bloc opposed to making any territorial concessions to the Palestinian Authority (PA). Legislators from the Likud party, National Religious Party, Tsomet and Moledet, and non-parliamentary groups are among those attending.

• Two Israelis were wounded, one of them seriously, in a shooting attack on the car in which they were travelling south of Hebron.

Nov. 11

• The Labor party edged ahead of the Likud in municipal elections, winning mayoral races in three of the country's five largest cities, Tel Aviv, Haifa and Be'ersheva.

• Ehud Olmert of the Likud was re-elected mayor of Jerusalem for a second term. Religious parties won nearly half of the seats on the council.

• Israeli planes attacked suspected Hezbollah targets in south Lebanon for a third consecutive day.

Nov. 12

• The IDF opened 65 24-hour-a-day gas mask distribution centres, with the number expected to increase soon to 150. The move came as security officials concluded that an American strike on Iraq seemed inevitable.

• Israel published plans to build 1,025 housing units at Har Choma.

Nov. 13

• Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel announced a two percent interest rate hike in a move that surprised and angered the financial community.

• Israel and the PA held a joint exercise to simulate operations at the Dahaniyeh airport in the Gaza Strip. A senior air force control officer said they were ready for the airport to become operational.

Files from the JTA and Ha'aretz

Russian legislator's anti-Semitism fuels debate

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — As the controversy over anti-Semitism within the Russian Communist party continues to fester, some newspapers are accusing Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov of supporting the Communists' ultra-nationalism.

Liberal politicians have been clamoring for the party to be banned after its leaders refused to officially censure Communist lawmaker Gen. Albert Makashov for anti-Semitic remarks he made at mass demonstrations last month.

Critics allege that the party's failure to censure Makashov publicly – the leader of the party, Gennady Zyuganov, said he was "reprimanded" – reflects the party leadership's private endorsement of Makashov's publicly stated sentiments.

But Primakov, who has kept silence on the matter until last week, said that he opposed banning the Communist Party.

Primakov added that one has to "be careful with such statements," apparently referring to comments by business tycoon Boris Berezovsky, former prime minister Yegor Gaidar and ex-Deputy Premier Anatoly Chubais, who called for outlawing the Communists.

While most legal experts argue that it would be either technically very difficult or "unproductive" to outlaw the Communist party, two leading daily newspapers criticized Primakov's stand, saying that in fact he was endorsing the party leadership in its attempts to defend Makashov.

The leading business newspaper, *Kommersant Daily*, said this week that Primakov's reaction suggests that the "Duma and the government are moving in the same direction – not only on economics but also on the ethnic question." The paper described Primakov's reaction as "dishonorable."

Some analysts speculate that Primakov's stand was due to his desire to win broad support for next year's budget, which is expected to arrive soon in the Duma, the Communist-dominated lower house of Parliament.

Meanwhile, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church also criticized Makashov. Patriarch Alexy II said, "Any attempts to foment [interracial] hatred destabilizes the already precarious accord in society."

In a related development, Russia's prosecutor general Yuri Skuratov announced this week that his agency had found evidence which demonstrates that Makashov's statements incited ethnic strife. He did not clarify, however, whether his office would ask the Duma to strip Makashov of parliamentary immunity.

An unrepentant Makashov continues to make anti-Semitic statements.

This week he appeared on a television talk show and said Jews are "bloodsuckers," and in an interview with an Italian newspaper he said Jewish participation in government, business and mass media should be subject to a special quota corresponding to its proportion of the population.

Teen charged with stabbing soldier

By RICHARD ALLEN GREENE
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PRAGUE — Czech police have charged a teenage skinhead with stabbing a Jewish soldier.

The 17-year-old suspect was charged under the country's hate crimes laws with attempting racially motivated murder and promoting fascism. Since the accused was a minor at the time of the alleged crime, he faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

The executive secretary of the Federation of Czech Jewish Communities said he believed the attack was the first anti-Semitic criminal act since the fall of communism in 1989.

"It's a very alarming incident," said Tomas Kraus.

The Czech press reported that the youth stabbed the 22-year-old soldier at a Prague restaurant in the early hours of Nov. 8. The soldier was reported to be in stable condition in a Prague hospital.

"There are two victims," said Kraus. "This young Jewish man – and the one who attacked him. He is a victim of a certain ideology, and to be in prison for 10 years will ruin his life."

Kraus said the incident could be a result of the failure of the Czech justice system to punish crimes against Romanies (Gypsies).

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Filmmaker goes in search of Israel's 10 lost tribes

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Throughout history, there has been a great deal of speculation about the fate of the lost tribes of Israel, one of the great mysteries of Western civilization.

Seven years ago, Simcha Jacobovici, the two-time Emmy award-winning filmmaker, embarked on a quest for the lost tribes.

The 10 tribes had been exiled from the kingdom of Israel, and dispersed by their Assyrians conquerors in the eighth century BCE.

Drawing on two years of investigation by four full-time researchers, Jacobovici headed to Asia with a film crew in the spring of 1997 to solve the 2,700-year old mystery.

"Nobody thought we would find the lost tribes. But people thought the quest would be a real-life-Indiana Jones story so they were willing to fund the project."

Unfolding in remote places like Afghanistan, India and Pakistan, Jacobovici's adventures are documented in his latest film, *Quest for the Lost Tribes*, which will premiere at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre at 255 Front St. W., Nov. 22, at 7 p.m.

The film is being presented by the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation and the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre (RJCC).

Proceeds from the screening will fund medical equipment for a new facility for women and infants at the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre in Jerusalem as well as support the RJCC.

Jacobovici said that after the death of King Solomon, the Jewish state split in two – the northern kingdom of Israel which was made up of the tribes of Reuven, Simeon, Issachar, Zevelun, Menashe, Ephraim, Dan, Naphtali, Gad and Asher, and the southern kingdom of Judea where the tribes of Benjamin, Judah and Levy were situated. Most Jews today claim descent from the Judean or southern tribes, he noted.

"What happened to the other 10 tribes? This is a question that is fundamental to Christians and Jews," Jacobovici said recently.

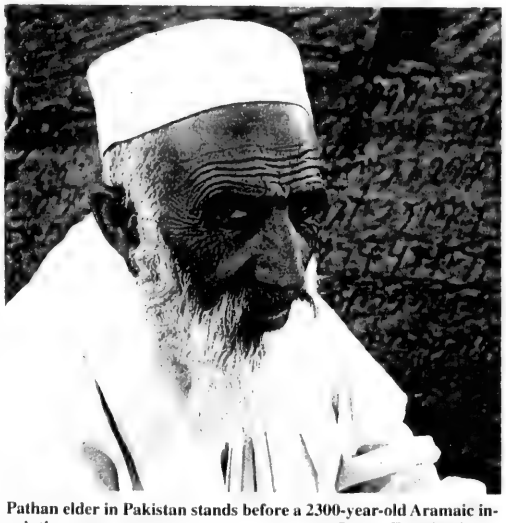
The return of the lost tribes is bound up with events in both religious traditions, he noted. "According to Christian doctrine, there is no second coming of Jesus until all the lost tribes are found. General Jewish belief is that the return of the tribes will herald the Messianic times."

The Bible was an important source for his quest, Jacobovici said. "We looked at the Bible, and used it as a treasure map, looking for tribes where the Bible pointed us to.

"We didn't expect to find them in caves. We hoped that we would find people with an Israelite memory...with Israelite customs, and maybe even people desiring to return to Israel and Judaism because that's what the prophecy says will happen at the end of days.

"So, in a sense, the film is a documentary documenting the apocalypse. If we're right, then we've actually captured on film the tribes of Israel returning to their 2700 year old roots. If we're right, we've captured on film prophecy unfolding."

He said the film takes "the audience on a journey to some of the most exotic and dangerous places on earth – India, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan...Each place has a different story. Any stereotype of Jews will be blown to pieces."



Pathan elder in Pakistan stands before a 2300-year-old Aramaic inscription. **Steven Epstein photo**

Jacobovici's interest in the lost tribes stem from his involvement with Ethiopian Jewry during the early '80s, and his curiosity about Rabbi Eliyahu Avichail's work with the B'nai Menashe of India, he said.

"When the chief rabbi of Israel ruled that the Ethiopian Jews are from the Israelite tribe of Dan, and if Rabbi Avichail is right that he's found the tribe of Menashe, I thought, is it possible that two of the 10 tribes have started a process of return?"

He was thus inspired to search for the other tribes, a pursuit that was grounded in historical research and sound archaeological and anthropological evidence, he said.

"It's going to be very controversial," he said. "Most historians claim the tribes assimilated 2700 years ago, and here we are saying not only did they not assimilate, but there's a whole hidden history of the Jewish people that we have not even begun to scratch the surface of."

To order tickets, call 781-3584. Tickets are $36 for the general admission which includes a pre-screening reception at 6:30 p.m. The $180 patron ticket includes tax receipt and post-film gala.

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Choir keeps flame alive

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir was formed more than 70 years ago, when Toronto's Jewish community was concentrated around Spadina's garment district.

Still going strong, it is the subject of Allan Collins' sentimental documentary, *Keeping the Flame Alive: The Story of the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir*, to be aired by Vision TV on Nov. 24 at 10 p.m.

The 32-minute film, buttressed by archival file footage of the Spadina district and of Jewish factory workers at work and on strike, focuses on a concert performance by the choir of *Fantasy on a Jewish Theme*, composed and conducted by Milton Barnes.

From its inception in 1925, the choir was closely attuned to the temper of the times, confining its repertoire to songs which distilled the struggles for a better life and a better society in the face of persecution and exploitation.

Thanks to one of its conductors, an Austrian refugee from Nazism named Emil Gartner, who was killed in an automobile accident almost 40 years ago, the choir became an institution in the city.

At the height of the Cold War, Paul Robeson, the great African-American soloist, accompanied the choir at Massey Hall. What a moment it must have been.

Keeping the Flame Alive, which unfolds to the infectious rhythms of The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, draws on the reminiscences of, among others, Barnes and Bella Shek, an immigrant from Eastern Europe who joined the choir just two weeks after her arrival in Canada.

In passing, David Buchbinder, a band member, expounds on the nature of klezmer music.

Keeping the Flame Alive is a modest but enlightening confection.

Store runs out of new Torgov novel

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In preparation for the launch of Morley Torgov's novel *The War to End All Wars*, staff at Chapters Books on Bloor Street West set a pile of more than 200 books near the table where Torgov would be signing copies.

Shortly after the party got under way, that section of the store became filled with the Toronto lawyer-author's fans, who scooped up all available copies of the book, and then stood in line for him to autograph them.

Many also took the time to shmooze by the wine bar or the hors d'oeuvres tables.

As befitting such a high-profile literary event – Torgov is an accomplished novelist and winner of the Leacock Medal for humor – numerous celebrities were present. They included his publishers Malcolm Lester and Barbara Koven, his literary agent Beverley Slopen, author-critics Robert Fulford and Martin Knelman, children's entertainer Bram Morrison (of Sharon, Lois and Bram), lawyer-politico Lionel Schipper, actor-director Al Waxman, literary agent Bella Pomer and author Joe Kertes, who is also a Leacock winner.

Torgov stopped to say a few words. He began writing the book in 1981 but left it, he said, to write two other novels. When he returned to the unfinished manuscript, "I grew to develop a healthy contempt for it," he joked.

Torgov thanked Slopen "whom I refer to as my literary dominatrix. The abuse I took from her you would not believe. But somehow she has cajoled me into writing five books and I want to thank her for that."

He also praised Lester, "whose faith in my writing is an example of faith beyond anything religious that I have ever seen."

Then the author of such titles as *A Good Place To Come From* and *The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick* returned to the book-signing table.

In the end, the store ran out of copies of *The War to End All Wars* before all the readers who wished to purchase the book were satisfied.

A compelling story of a battle between two competing Jewish

Morley Torgov

merchants in a small town in Michigan in the 1920s, *The War to End All Wars* is published by Malcolm Lester Books and sells for $26.95.

Morley Torgov reads from The War to End All Wars *at the Books & Bagels literary event, Nov. 22, 11 a.m., Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., Toronto. Admission $8; members free.*

Israel visit moves entertainer

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although Sharon Hampson is not religious, she found her first visit to Israel a powerful experience.

The popular children's entertainer – best known for the past 20 years as part of the award-winning trio Sharon, Lois & Bram – spent three weeks in Israel recently with her husband, Joe, also a musician.

Being in such a strongly Jewish environment was "probably the most profound thing," she said. She was raised as a secular Jew, but feels her Jewish heritage very strongly, she said. Her husband is not Jewish, although she suspects he sometimes forgets that, she added.

Among her most affecting experiences was a visit to the Western Wall, where she inserted notes on behalf of people who were ill. A few years ago, she was the beneficiary of such a note, following a bout with breast cancer.

Sitting on a comfy couch in an open area just off her kitchen, Hampson discussed her trip and shared thoughts on travelling and life, interrupting the interview briefly to check on beets she was cooking for a salad. Still tanned from the Middle East sun, she wore no makeup. "I spend so many hours in makeup. For me, the best part is washing my face."

For Hampson, connecting with local people makes a trip memorable. "If you don't make a human connection, the experience lacks something," she said.

The Hampsons rented a car for a do-it-yourself tour that included Bethlehem, Haifa, the Dead Sea, a stay in a kibbutz guest house and swimming with dolphins in Eilat. Their itinerary also included a stop in Petra, Jordan.

Through the Hampson's travel agent, who put Sharon in touch with Israeli consul Irit Waidergorn, the couple met Israeli children's entertainer Chani Nachemias at the Tel Aviv studio where Nachemias films her television show. She also appears on brief spots to address issues like abuse and different ways of observing Jewish holidays.

In conversation, the Hampsons learned that Nachemias has a staff psychologist to frame appropriate answers for children's questions. "They get tons of letters," said Sharon.

Sharon, Lois & Bram's *Elephant Show* and *Skinnamarink TV*, the trio's new show based on wacky goings-on at a fictional television station, are not seen on Israeli television.

Hampson didn't fear for her safety in Israel, but she found it "a huge adjustment" to see Israeli soldiers with guns at every turn. "More poignant," she added, "was the youth of the soldiers and the size of the guns." One young female soldier, sucking a lollipop, epitomized the contrast for her.

Continued on page 39

Win two free return tickets to Israel via El Al Airlines courtesy JNF. Details on pg. 21

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

TWO EVENTS AT WORKMAN'S CIRCLE

Attend one or both of the following events this weekend at the Workman's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W., east of Bathurst. Tickets for each are $12 in advance, $15 at the door. 635-0720 or 781-2081.

• Baritone **Tweed Macdonald** and actress-singer **Gloria Valentine** star in the second Black & Jewish Variety Show and Dance. Also featuring soprano-pianist **Fern Dworkin**, song stylist **Acadia Thomas** and pianist **Nina Shapilsky**. Refreshments. Nov. 21, 9 p.m. Doors open 8 p.m.

• **Hakl-Bakl:** A Mosaic of Yiddish Song and Music, a Yiddishland Café event, features **Lenka Lichtenberg, Michael Mandel, Anne Lederman, Martin Van de Ven** and **Sasha Luminsky**. Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m. Doors open 7 p.m.

* * *

Judaic Arts: The Sephardic Kehilah Centre presents an art show of exclusive crafts by Judaic artists from across North America and Israel, Nov. 22 and 23, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. $6. Gala preview reception is Nov. 21, 8 p.m. $18. 7026 Bathurst St., one block north of Steeles. 905-707-5824.

[Right] Be'er Miriam – Miriam's Well Matzah Cover – is among the works displayed at the Sephardic Kehila Centre.

* * *

Community Theatre Roundup:

• Stage Centre Productions presents *The Grapes of Wrath*, **John Steinbeck's** play about the Joad family's experiences as they journey from Oklahoma to California in the dust bowl 1930s. Continuing at the Fairview Library Theatre, 35 Fairview Mall Dr., to Nov. 25. Adults $16. 299-5557.

• The Yorkminstrels, North York's premier musical theatre company, presents **Cole Porter** and **P.G. Wodehouse's** *Anything Goes*, Leah Posluns Theatre, Nov. 28 thru Dec. 5. $19. 291-0600.

• Etobicoke Musical Productions presents the popular musical *A Chorus Line*. Burnhamthorpe Auditorium, 500 The East Mall, Nov. 20 to Dec. 5. $18. 248-0410.

• Solar Stage Lunchtime Theatre presents the Canadian Rep Production of **Thomas Cone's** *Cubistique*. Directed by **Ken Gass**, this 1920s production is set in an elegant Paris salon where two women reminisce and rekindle a deep-seated jealousy. Weekdays at 12:12 and 1:11 p.m. to Nov. 27. 40 King St. W. in the Scotia Plaza, Concourse level. $7.50 368-8031.

* * *

Literary Scene: It's going to be a busy week for Toronto Yiddish poet and translator **Simcha Simchovitch**.

On Nov. 15, **Simchovitch** was one of four writers – the others are **Rivka Basman** and **Isaac Luden** of Israel, and **Moshe Shkliar** of Los Angeles – who were scheduled to receive the Zhitlowski award for their recent contributions to Yiddish literature.

And on Nov. 18, Simchovitch is due in Ottawa to be honored, together with 49 other survivors of the Holocaust, at a special ceremony and reception at the West Block of the Parliament. Besides marking the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the commemoration acknowledges the contributions all survivors have made to Canadian society.

Chosen by a variety of organizations, the 50 survivors symbolically represent the nearly 20,000 survivors who came to Canada after the war. Simchovitch, a former curator of the Beth Tzedec Museum, was nominated and supported by the Toronto Labor Zionist Alliance of which he is a longtime member.

* * *

Arts in Brief:

• Toronto's Temple Sinai presents Four Centuries of Jewish Music, an Oneg Shabbat presentation of music from the 17th century to the present. Narrated by composer-in-residence **Ben Steinberg**, the program features the congregational choir directed by **Milton Barnes**, with soloist **Cantor Yigal Altschuler**. Nov. 20.

• A video profiling Toronto shopkeeper and theatre impresario **Honest Ed Mirvish,** which aired as part of the CBC's *Life and Times* series last season, is available as a home video. Produced by Random Factory Producers in association with the CBC, *The Life and Times of the World's Most Unusual Shopkeeper* follows Ed's remarkable career from his roots in Virginia to the present. The video is available in all Mirvish establishments.

• The "talent ladies of Castlefield Avenue" are holding their sixth annual exhibit and art sale. To view the work of the Castlefield artists, simply park your car on Castlefield between Avenue Road and Bathurst Street and visit each of the various houses along the street marked with balloons. Nov. 20 to 22.

• Toronto ventriloquist-writer **Judy Shier** performs her original fable *How the Skunk Lost His Colors* and tells a story about **Moses Mendelssohn**, this week at the Labrador Arts Festival.

• *Office Hours*, a play by **Norm Foster** and directed by **Eli Lukawitz**, takes a wry look at corporate Canada through the eyes of various offbeat characters. With **Samuel Owen** and six others. Studio Theatre, Ford Centre, to Nov. 17 to 29. $24. 489-7217.

•**The Nasty Girl:** The Goethe-Institut Toronto, the Bloor JCC and the Toronto Jewish Film Society present a screening of *The Nasty Girl*, a film about a Bavarian school girl who encounters aggressive behavior in her town while she is researching the town's history during the Nazi years. Jackman Hall at the Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. W., Nov.22, 5 and 7:30 p.m. $7.50. Call 924-6211.

•The fourth annual show and sale of one of kind clay featuring works of art by **Elaine Mandell, Barbara Shore, Elsa Ruth Skuy** and **Becky Wener** takes place Nov. 22 (11 a.m. to 10 p.m.) and Nov. 23 (1-10 p.m.) at 221 Pleasant Ave. North York.

[Left] An example of clay artwork by Becky Wener, one of four artists participating in the fourth annual show and sale.

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Jeff Burns

Record company exec promotes Canadian artists

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

MARKHAM — Jeff Burns, president of Shoreline Records Inc. has marketed some of Canada's most innovative recording artists.

Burns, 47, originally a guitar player for the local band, J.B. and the Casuals, started in the music business as a record store clerk, right out of high school. When the store was bought by A & A, a division of CBS Records, Burns rose to head of promotion.

By 1968, Burns had become Ontario promotions manager for MCA Records Canada, and in 1970 he was hired as vice-president of GRT Records, a Canadian company whose artists included Ian Thomas, Lighthouse, Moe Koffman, Prism and Dan Hill.

A decade later Burns moved to CBS Records, now Sony, as a vice-president. In this position, he oversaw all recording projects and secured releases for the domestic roster.

Burns left Sony in 1989, and after starting his own record company, Justin Entertainment, became partners with Tim Towle in Shoreline Records, named in honor of Burns' passion for power boating.

"The Canadian music scene is very tough. In order to compete you have to have the support staff, a good distributor and of course, the right product," Burns says.

Two exclusive deals

Shoreline recently signed two exclusive Canadian distribution deals, one with Sony, the other with Koch, an American company with 16 affiliates worldwide.

On the international scene, Burns is free to negotiate deals with other record distributors on behalf of his artists, and plans to do this in January '99 at MIDEM, the music festival, held in Cannes.

"Shoreline is one of only a handful of Canadian independent record companies that offer in-house consulting, marketing, publishing and national distribution," he says. "An artist with an independent, will get more attention than with a multinational.

Shoreline has signed an eclectic array of acts including model turned pop diva Nico Matisse; urban dance artist Sugar J. Phillips; former Sony recording band Hemingway Corners; Long Tom and the Dusty Danglers; and Vibrolux, whose CD tracks have been featured on the television shows *La Femme Nikita, Due South, Once A Thief* and *Ooh La La.*

Country is well represented by new talent Danny Alex and Canadian country music award winner, Patricia Conroy. Shoreline's most successful signing to date is acappella favorite, The Nylons. Their CD, *Fabric of Life* has sold over 30,000 copies.

Burns sees his future roster growing slowly, but surely. "I am comfortable with the responsibility of evaluating the potential of an established act or going with my gut feeling when signing a new artist. Since leaving Sony, I have become self-motivated. I prefer to be on my own, and not be entangled in piles of paperwork and politics."

Israel visit moves Sharon Hampson

Continued from page 37

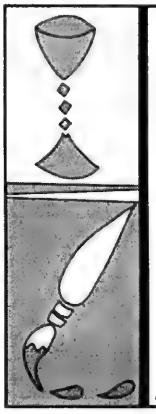
Their only hesitation about going to Israel was due to the decline of the Canadian dollar, Hampson said. But since her experience with breast cancer, she's realized that "you have to seize the moment."

A call to a New Israel Fund representative, whose name had been given to them, resulted in an invitation to see some of the fund's beneficiaries.

When Hampson said her main interests were women's health and children's issues, she and her husband were taken to a women's health organization in Jerusalem that, coincidentally, was dealing with breast cancer issues – informing and empowering women – similar to those being dealt with by Willow, the breast cancer resource centre Hampson was involved in establishing here. "We had a fantastic conversation," she reports.

In Jerusalem's Old City, Hampson was struck by the combined presence of Jews and Arabs. "I thought, 'Oh boy, if these guys could only get it right, anything would be possible in the world.' They're in the market side by side, across from each other, and they're somehow managing, so it makes you feel like there's some potential."

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



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Proper care the key to healthy feet for school kids

By ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — With the school year well under way, parents should keep a close eye on the well-being of their children's feet, a prominent podiatrist says.

Once settled into daily classes and activities, kids may develop poor foot hygiene habits and use improper footwear, Neil Naftolin says. And because young feet can adapt to unhealthy conditions, a lack of care over time can have long-term consequences and heighten hereditary foot problems.

Naftolin, a past president of the Ontario Podiatry Association, says the best advice for children's foot care is the same as for good dental and optical health: proper maintenance and routine checkups.

"If your children do not complain about their teeth, you would still bring them to the dentist for a regular checkup to prevent deterioration and reinforce beneficial dental habits. [It's] the same principle for healthy feet," he says.

"A number of foot afflictions that adults suffer start in childhood but can be readily prevented, yet most parents do not look into their children's foot care until a problem occurs," Naftolin says. "Even then, they may think the pain is normal, and not seek the proper attention to treat it."

While seeing a podiatrist is useful, Naftolin says children can also learn healthy habits to reduce common problems.

He says athlete's foot can be minimized by keeping feet dry. He recommends toweling off excess moisture between toes and under feet when washing after gym or other physical activities. Applying an anti-fungal foot powder may also help.

For children who perspire profusely, use cotton blend socks rather than synthetics.

Having a change of shoes at school is another good idea. Using one pair for gym activities and another for walking will promote better foot hygiene. Leather shoes are also suggested for children with excessive perspiration, foot odor or recurring athlete's foot.

When choosing children's footwear, Naftolin says parents should look for quality and avoid inexpensive sneakers or loafers with little or no support.

Running shoes are the best for everyday use. He says both high and low cut shoes provide similar support, although high cuts provide more ankle stability.

Naftolin adds that as children grow, they may need new shoes as often as every three to six months. He says shoes should not be worn beyond that time.

"Kids often wear their running shoes like an old pair of blue jeans. Over time, the shoes lose the level of support and shock absorption they are supposed to provide," he says.

For winter, parents should pick firm boots that have good arch support and a firm heel counter (the part of the shoe that surrounds the heel).

Naftolin says children and their parents should take an active role in monitoring foot development and become aware of what symptoms could mean.

For instance, children are more susceptible to viral warts during the warmer months of the school year. Warts on the sole of the foot may look like thick skin and are often mistaken for callouses, which are uncommon in children. If neglected, warts can be painful and spread.

Naftolin says complaints of tired feet or sore legs during periods of increased activity are frequently signs of foot problems, which can often be controlled with proper shoes and prescribed custom insoles.

Active children between ages eight and 13 may develop calcaneal apophysitis, a chronic pain caused by inflammation of the growth plate at the back of the heel bone. The condition can often be treated with proper shoes and orthotic devices.

Other problems like ingrown toenails may result from improper cutting or hereditary development. Naftolin says parents should monitor how children cut their nails to ensure they don't rip them or cut them too short. A common treatment – simple in-office laser surgery – is used only if the problem recurs.

Resources:

• Parents can obtain more information on children's foot conditions and a referral to a local podiatrist from the Ontario Podiatry Association, 416-927-9111.

• The American Podiatry Association Web site is at [http://www.apma.org/topics/ child.htm].

• The Foot Care Direct! – Information Source Web site at [http://www.footcaredirect.com/].

• Naftolin's own Web site contains plain language definitions and frequently asked questions about common foot problems and ailments [http://www.geocities.com/hotsprings/4016/.html].

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Bar-Ilan U focuses on the mechanisms of diabetes

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The focus of diabetes research at Bar-Ilan University in Israel is on why some human cells become insulin resistant, according to two diabetes researchers working at the university.

The hope is that the research will lead to better treatment of the disease, they said at a recent meeting of the Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

"We're focusing on the mechanism of the disease, why it develops in the first place," said Dr. Efrat Wertheimer, who is from is from the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University, but is currently working with Prof. Sandford R. Sampson of Bar-Ilan's Faculty of Life Sciences.

"Insulin is a treatment, but it doesn't tell us why the disease develops," said Wertheimer said.

In particular, the Bar-Ilan research is bearing down on what effect insulin has on skin, which is a factor in so many complications of the disease, Sampson said.

"The skin is directly affected by insulin. We're working on the hypothesis that insulin has a role in other tissues. In short, we're looking for a new approach to diabetes," he said.

The importance of treating diabetes was underscored by Wertheimer, who said a 10-year study of 1,500 patients with early diabetes showed that complications to eyes, feet and other organs was reduced 50 to 75 percent when the level of glucose was kept down.

In a question and answer session, Wertheimer said the newest treatment for diabetes lowers insulin resistance but the mechanism is not understood.

There is no new specific treatment for wound healing, she said. The "pins and needles" pain felt by some patients in their feet is the result of a reaction to abnormal blood supply caused by the disease.

Complications are the same from both early and late onset diabetes, she said. Doctors try to avoid giving insulin in the the case of late onset diabetes, relying instead on pills and diet.

In other business, Les Scheininger, president of Canadian Friends, said a major expansion of the Bar-Ilan property at Ramat Gan to 150 acres is underway.

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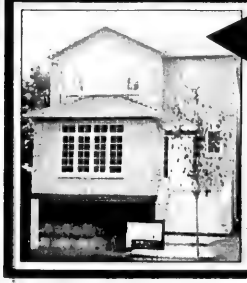

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3 bdrm., large LR/DR, master/semi-ensuite, sep. ent. to fin. bsmnt., private drive/garage. Prime street! Ellie Parker*

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Reno. w/skylights, 4+1 bdrms., 2 ensuites, w/o rec. room, den & family rm. on main flr., dble. garage. Cheryl Graff*

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60 x 120 lot – quiet street, 2 storey, 4 bdrm., gas heat, mn. flr. fam. rm., 2 pc. & laundry, fin. rec. room. Cheryl Graff*

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YORK MILLS/BAYVIEW $699,000
Reno. kit./baths, skylight, 5 bdrms., 2 ensuites, blue pearl granite foyer, hrdwd. flrs., w/o rec. rm., pool. Cheryl Graff*

SANDFIELD/MISTY $1,098,000
Spectacular contemporary w/pool, 6 bdrms., study, fam. rm., picture floor to ceiling windows, park setting. Cheryl Graff*

1ST AD! OLD COLONY $2,100,000
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Tridel's 265 Ridley (Avenue Rd & Wilson), 2 bdr., panoramic city view, sec., conv. to shopping, restaurants, schools, 401 & subway, $269,000. 782-0581. No agents please.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath/Steeles, 2 bdr furn apt. to share,n/smkr,$440/m 665-9967

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Bath/Lawrence, newly reno'd bsmt. 1 bdr. apt. 416-783-3849.

Bathurst/Sheppard - Sunny, bright, 2 bdrm., underground. pkg. Call 416-635-5031.

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lge. lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., immed. 416-783-0542, 416-787-9451.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Deerfield Beach, villa, 2 bdrm., 2 baths, fully furn., 3 mos. min., $1200/mo US + utilities. Call 416-222-7166 or 954-421-1378.

Designer decor furn. condo, Hallandale, Towers of Ocean View, 1 bdr + conv. den., lge. liv/din. rm., 1 1/2 bth., eat-in kit., balc., fully equipped TV, VCR, microwave etc. Avail Jan. - Mar. Min. 2 mos. Eves, 233-3161 or days, 487-4161.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Ft. Lauderdale, Margate - on golf course, 2 bdr., 2 bth., eat in kit., lau., golf/canal view, heated pool, close to all, beautifully furn & equipped. 905-479-1888.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

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Oceanfront, two sep. suites w/ensuite and walk-in closets, large liv./din. area, strictly kosher kit., newly decorated, excel. facilities, exquisite boardwalk.

Hollywood, 1 bedroom + den, photos available. $850 US/mo. 416-221-9254.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 3 mos min. 905-731-0609.

MIAMI BEACH - Burleigh House 71st & Collins Ave. on ocean. 1 bdrm.+ Florida room, 1 1/2 bth., liv./din. area + kit. All amen. $1300 US/mo + util. Avail. immed. Full seas. pref. Call Neil 905-738-0754 ext. 222

Miami Beach condo. Ocean front for rent. Fully equip. Call 305-226-7688.

N. Miami Bch 2 bdrm., Jan. 15, $1200 US/mo. 905-882-5474.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

N. Miami Bch, Dec. Special (3-4 wks). Lux. 2br., 2 bth., sleeps 6, kosher fully equipped white kit. $1900 US. 905-731-4396.

N. Miami Bch, on ocean, studio effic., furn., heated pool, near Radisson, shopping, avail. now. $1200/mo US. 416-730-8772.

Pompano Beach - Beautiful, reno'd furn apt., 2 bdrm., 2 bth. Avail. Jan, Mar, Apr. 781-9784

SINGER ISLAND - Mid. Jan. Lovely 2 bdrm., 3 bth. Immac. ocean front. Min. 3 mos. $3000 US per mo. or longer term negotiable. Owner 403-486-5577.

Three Islands, 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, fully equipped, great view, Jan. - Apr. 416-481-9152.

Wk/Mo/X-Mas. Luxury villa, **Ft. Laud.** 3 br, 3 ba., home theatre, spa, sports, kids rec., ideal for family/2 couples. 416-445-6200.

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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Alexandra Towers, Hollywood Looking for 2 bdrm. apt., 2 - 3 weeks in March. 416-638-2550.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Beit Shemesh - English speaking community, 3 1/2 bdrm. apt $140K US. Call 416-663-5540 or 972-4-834-5798.

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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Homes are now needed in the Thornhill, Richmond Hill & North York areas

Atlanta Jewish Community Center seeks an **Early Childhood Director** for small preschool. 3 years + experience in Early Childhood or Education with good organizational and management skills. Excellent professional environment and benefits. c/o H. Pavloff, 1745 Peachtree Rd., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309, Fax: 404-898-9612, E-mail: zabmotik@aol.com

Atlanta Jewish Community Center seeks **F/T Teachers.** Early Childhood Education or related degree. Teaching or childcare exper. a plus. Professional environment, excellent benefits pkg., Internal Training Institute. c/o H. Pavloff, 1745 Peachtree Rd., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309, Fax: 404-898-9612, E-mail: zabmotik@aol.com

Jewish Day School requires Hebrew and General Studies teachers. Knowledge of Special Education essential. Fax resume to 416-633-4783.

Temporary, part-time (one day a week) book-keeper with computer skills needed for non-profit organization. Accuracy and efficiency required. Please fax resume to 416-636-9897, attention S. Peleg.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady, exper., refs. avail. Aggie - (416) 252-8661.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907**
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Nannies/caregivers for elderly & disabled seek live-in or out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

Solid, exp. Polish cleaning person for houses. 416-699-3265.

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255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

F/T live-out nanny. 2 kids, refs., legal, central TO. 416-789-3070

Light housekeeping/companion wanted, live-in pref., drivers licence essential. 416-663-6731

Nanny F/T needed for busy family in Thornhill. Legal, live-in, flexible. 3 kids (7 1/2, 5 1/2, 14 mos.) Debrah, 905-761-6811.

Nanny/Hskpr, P/T Mon.-Thurs., 3:30-8pm,Bath./Egl. Must speak Hebrew. Call Shelley 402-8379.

English speaking, n/smoking, live-in housekeeper, Thornhill area. 905-731-4072.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

A lady w/3 yrs. exp. of HCA in hospitals & homecare seeks F/T or P/T job. 416-782-5415.

Health Care Aid avail. to care for elderly. Refs. 416-740-5197.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Shoshana's Nursing Service. Reasonable rates, 493-2095.

258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

Exp. cargegiver for elderly, Orthodox lady. References. No Saturday calls. 416-398-8847.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H
SOULMATES wants to wish a "Mazel Tov to all of our newly weds in 5758."
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Call **905-709-3868**
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Bringing People Together, a confidential & comfortable way to meet, photos. 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1650 registered. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Goldshlager/Liebergott - Ava Gelbart and Gideon Goldshlager are thrilled to announce the engagement of their son, Dr. Jason Goldshlager to Marcy Liebergott, daughter of Mary & Norman Liebergott of Montreal. Proud grandparents are the late Morris Gelbart, Bubie Paula & Max Blum, the late Joshua Goldshlager and Chava Goldshlager of Tel Aviv, Israel.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Cultured, sensitive Iraqi Jewish man seeks English - fluent, petite, slim, assertive Sephardic female, 30-45. CJN Box # 7116.

Do yourself (or someone you know) a favour! Tall, slim, easy going, responsible, 39 yr old executive male seeks slim, Toronto area Jewish woman to age 35 (no kids yet) for long term relationship. You may be an academic or a professional but in either case are intellectually & physically appealing. Down to earth, warm, adventurous and independent, you might share an interest in travel, photography or tennis with this considerate man of integrity. **Please reply** (with recent photo if possible) **to CJN Box #7121.**

Frum, good midos, responsible, accomplished, prof., male, divorced, 55, wishes to meet female counterpart.CJN Box 7117

Handsome, successful, athletic,caring,SJM 40's, from warm, loving family seeks traditional/observant SJ lady 27-37 with great loving heart, inner strength, elegance & matching form/beauty for lifetime with passionate, dynamic, NYC mensch, refined prof. Desires sharing active, rich Jewish family life pleasures. CJN Box 7119.

Looking for love in all the wrong places! SJF mid 50's, very sexy, pretty, 5'6", independent, non-smkr. I work out. Seeking a classy mensch, tall, non-smkr., 55-65, very well groomed, dancer would be good. CJN Box # 7118.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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OR call **1-888-400-3283** ***Ext.#*** **65**

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Women seeking Men

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Divorced Jewish female, 48, affectionate, romantic, compassionate, mother of 2 sons, age 21 & 23. Seeking a romantic male, financially secure and will show me all the possibilities life has to offer. AD#1660

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, enjoy movies, travel, romantic walks, music, dining & dancing. Seeking a male, 50+, sincere, honest, mature, thoughtful. AD#1689

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, never married, 38, petite, down to earth, easy going, very laid back, good values. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, 36-42, for best friends and life partner. AD#1734

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, warm, sincere, attractive, romantic, slim, 5'4", brunette, enjoy reading, theater, movies, being by the ocean, dining & dancing, flea markets. Seeking a male, 35-44, intelligent, handsome, financially secure, romantic, must believe being best friends is the basis of a great relationship. AD#1662

CHICKEN SOUP
Single female, 33, warm, canng, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving, enjoy long walks, movies, cycling, tennis, theater, dancing & dining, especially chicken soup Seeking a non-smoking Jewish male, with similar interests and values. AD#1651

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, brunette, nurse, warm, sensitive, intelligent, sincere, caring, enjoy the theater, travelling, dining & dancing, intelligent, romantic, successful, for long term meaningful relationship. AD#1641

FABULOUS FORTY'S
Single mom, 40ish, 5'2", slim, attractive, fit, hazel eyes, blondish hair, professional, enjoy skiing, sailing, running, tennis, cooking. Seeking a professional male, 44-50, single dads OK, with similar interests and a good sense of humour. AD#1693

TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish female, attractive, slim, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, travel, music, long walks. Seeking a male, 50+, secure, mature, honest, and thoughtful. AD#1639

LOVES TO COOK
Single, slim female, early 40's, intelligent, professional, fit, blondish-brown hair, hazel eyes, attractive, enjoy sailing, running, tennis, skiing, loves to cook Seeking a male, 44-53, with similar interest. AD#1642

ROMANCE IS FOR TWO
Single female, slim, attractive, 5'6", fit, active, a teacher and a painter, enjoy cycling, hiking, long walks, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a male with good sense of self, sense of humour, and very intelligent, sincere, honest. AD#1649

RESPECT, LOVE, JOY
Professional Jewish female, 38, warm, sincere, intelligent, a bit determined, looking for a relationship based on respect, love, joy, consideration, passion, and loyalty, communication and family. Seeking a male, honest, playful, family oriented, emotionally available, open minded. AD#1645

ROMANTIC LADY
Single Jewish female, 5'6", attractive, enjoy movies, theater, long romantic walks, travel. Seeking a Jewish male, professional, intelligent, proud of his heritage. AD#1727

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, attractive, intelligent, kind, caring, many varied interests. Seeking a male, 68+, educated, honest, caring, sincere. AD#1599

FLORIDA BOUND
Middle aged female, enjoy sports, travelling, dining, hopes to move to Florida, especially during the winter. Seeking a male with similar interests and outlook. AD#1650

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Slim female, warm, self employed, wonderful, sensual, enjoy movies, music, informal dining. Seeking s slim male, 38-48, 5'8"+, with similar interests. AD#1632

SPONTANEOUS
Tall, pretty female, early 30's, brown hair & eyes, easy going, good sense of humour, spontaneous, enjoy music, long walks, watching films. Seeking a male with similar interests. AD#1630

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish female, unique, charming, honest, kind, caring, young in mind, body & spirit, enjoy outdoor activities, sports. Seeking a male who lives life to the fullest. AD#1652

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single female, young looking, teacher, 47, spirited, loves to laugh, 5'3", 118lbs, kind, has 2 teenage children. Seeking a male, kind, non-smoker, honest, successful, emotionally stable, 40-55. AD#1607

LOVES TO LAUGH
Single mother, 47, slim, attractive, professional, youthful, spirited. Seeking an emotionally and financially secure male, non-smoker for friendship, possible relationship. AD#1611

SPEAKS RUSSIAN
Single Jewish female, attractive, intelligent, kind, honest, non-smoker, good cook. Seeking a Jewish male, that speaks Russian and is in the similar age group. AD#1626

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

Men seeking Women

FRIENDSHIP
Single male, 5'7", 180lbs, semi-retired, blue eyes, sincere, thoughtful, easy to talk to, romantic, reliable, dependable, humorous. Seeking an attractive female, 50-64, that is slim, trim in body and mind. AD#1653

A NEW BEGINNING
Young looking male, 53, 5'9", 180lbs, professional, successful, healthy, enjoy long walks, good food, dancing, theater, movies. Seeking a female for partnership. AD#1654

INTEGRITY
Senior Jewish male, 5'7", 180lbs, presentable, romantic, down to earth, humorous, blue eyes. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 50-64, that is kind, caring to share love, understanding and integrity. AD#1657

HANDY MAN
Single Jewish male, 32, 6'2", good heart, honest, caring, intelligent, funny, enjoy travelling, camping, playing pool, country drives, trying new things for an internal relationship with the right person. AD#1659

ACTIVE JUNIOR SENIOR
Single male, mid 60's, 5'6", non-smoker, Anglo-Jewish background, enjoy music, theater, outdoors, travel, public affairs. Seeking a semi-dependent, warm, educated, outgoing, caring lady, 50+. AD#1690

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 6', enjoy movies, dining & dancing, exercising, good conversation. Seeking a lady with similar interests. AD#1643

STYLISH GENTLEMAN
Single Jewish male, very stylish, blue eyes, dark hair, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, music. Seeking a female, 18-40, with similar interests and outlook. AD# 1742

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

GOOD TIMES
Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship. AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING
Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator. Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate. AD#1625

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single male, 36, 5'8", handsome, fit, well-established, non-smoker. Seeking a slim, stylish, attractive, lady, no children, non-smoker, with traditional Jewish values, 28-33. AD#1634

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity. Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

CLASS OF '98
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit. AD#1584

NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional. Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, satire & Jewish values. AD#1595

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel. Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and chidren in the future. AD#1597

SEEKING A COMPANION
Single male, 31, 5'10", medium build, brown eyes, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, outdoor activities, quiet evening at home. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1615

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives. Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests. AD#1616

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking. Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family. AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead. AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing. Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times. AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times. Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour. AD#1545

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Truly unique. Very attractive, slim, classy, well educated, romantic, energetic and active widow who is a young 58. Seeks youthful, financially and emotionally secure, cultured, and educated Jewish gentleman 60-70 who desires an enriched serious relationship filled with love & fun. CJN Box 7120.

Young looking senior female widow seeks female or male friendships for theatre, movies, dinners, etc. CJN Box #7122.

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

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White Morigeau conv. change table & child's dresser. Good cond. $100/ea. 905-731-0174.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

I will buy your coins, stamps, gold, silver, diamonds, watches & antiques **for cash. 605-1640**

Turn your mens & kids designer label used clothing into cash. I will pick up at your home. circles@on.aibn.com or call 905-945-5539.

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Turn you old car into renewed hope. Donate your used car to benefit Jewish special education and receive maximum tax credit.Free towing.787-1101

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335 UNVEILING

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Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Zionism re-visited: Consensus no longer exists

By MARTIN KROSSEL
Special to The CJN

Opinion

A little over 20 years ago, I was part of a group that put out a Zionist newspaper, *Israel Weekly Perspective*, for students on Toronto's university campuses. Most of the paper consisted of articles about Israel from other sources, such as the *New York Times*, that we thought most of our readers would not get a chance to see.

My contribution was to write an editorial for each issue presenting "Israel's side" on stories that had been in the news that week. The need to present "Israel's case" arose out of our perception that Israel was unduly embattled on the world stage, and that it was not being treated fairly by the mainstream press.

Those were not happy days for the Jewish state. It had just gone through the trauma of the Yom Kippur War. At the United Nations, Israel was regularly being censured for various actions and policies, and the resolution equating Zionism with racism had just been passed in the General Assembly.

We felt that news accounts were typically slanted against Israel. Columnists and editorial writers were unfairly blaming Israel for prolonging its conflict with the Arabs and Palestinians, by jealously holding on to territories captured in the 1967 war and thus denying the Palestinians the right to establish a state of their own.

For our part, we argued that, in the absence of a demonstrated Arab willingness to make peace with Israel, the Jewish state could potentially be committing national suicide by surrendering the territories.

We also steadfastly opposed the granting of any diplomatic status to the PLO, since we thought this would legitimate its war of terror against Israelis and Jews around the world. We never doubted the justice of our case. This confidence was based largely on how Israel's history had been passed down to us by our parents. We also knew that the stands we took in the 1970s reflected the positions of an almost universal consensus among Jews in Israel as well as the Diaspora.

The consensus no longer exists.

Adi Ophir, of Tel Aviv University's Institute of Philosophy of Science and Ideas, recently asserted that, collectively, our parents lied to us. He said he no longer believes that Israel is a force for good in the world. He was speaking at a conference on Reflections on Zionism's Successes, Failures and Prospects at 100, held at New York City's New School for Social Research. Along with the New School, the other conference sponsors were the YIVO Institute of Jewish Research and the Dorot Foundation.

The session at which Ophir spoke, entitled Post-Zionism?, was clearly the one where the most sparks flew. On the surface, the basic tenet "post-Zionism" seems harmless. It is premised on the notion that Israel has already achieved the objectives of its intellectual founders, and is now in search of new agendas.

But post-Zionism's undercurrent is much more ominous. Zionism's success allows intellectuals, for the first time, to examine Zionism's past. Such examination reveals that the movement's pioneers were not the heroic figures they are often made out to be. They made mistakes, and some of their decisions were highly questionable from a moral standpoint.

Most of these revisionists shift the primary blame for the Middle East conflict from the Arabs to the Zionists. For instance, Avishal Margalit of the Hebrew University's Department of Philosophy claimed at a session on Zionism and the Arab World that the Arab-Israeli conflict itself might have been avoided had the Jews built cities, and not tried to reclaim agricultural land, thereby dispossessing the indigenous Arab population.

Easier to vilify Israel's leaders

Post-Zionism's claim of objectivity is disingenuous; it is history tied to a contemporary political platform. If the old Zionists could be seen as oppressors rather than victims, it becomes easier to vilify today's Israel leaders. Arabs can be absolved from any responsibility for reconciliation between Palestinians and Israelis. Thus, Margalit maintained, the increase of Arab terrorism after Olso was solely a reaction to Baruch Goldstein's 1994 massacre of civilians in a Hebron mosque.

Significantly, Margalit never addressed the question of whether a violent response was justified. Nor did he comment on whether it was legitimate to hold all Israelis responsible for Goldstein's crime, even though it was widely, although admittedly not unanimously, condemned across Israel's political and religious spectrum.

The extent to which Israel's current leadership was demonized was perhaps best demonstrated in an almost off-hand remark by Margalit. He charged that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had signed the Wye Mills accords only to secure his own re-election. Once he secures a new term in office, Margalit predicted that Netanyahu will kill the peace process in the final status negotiations.

On the other hand, Margalit accused the Israelis of demanding the impossible from the Palestinians. One could not expect Yasser Arafat to control terrorism, while denying him the opportunity to establish an independent state, Margalit said. The Palestinian masses could not be expected to accept a bargain that was so one-sided.

The conference was marked disturbingly by an almost total lack of balance. No speakers vigorously celebrated Zionism's achievements. Only Leon Wieseltier, literary editor of the *New Republic*, was willing to declare the Zionist project to be on the whole just, despite moral lapses of some of its leaders.

In a well-rounded concluding lecture, Shlomo Avineri of Hebrew University's Department of Political Science noted that the gap between aspiration and accomplishment has existed in every democratic society, and that gap is just as small in Israel as in other places. Yet even Avineri talked about undoing some of the outcomes of the Six Day War, namely that Israeli history embodied cosmic messianism.

But Wieseltier and Avineri were the only contributors who had anything good to say about Zionism. The inclusion in the program of intellectuals and writers who view Zionism and Israel with more sympathy would have made the conference's presentation of Zionist and Israeli history much more complete.

The University of Toronto's Derek Penslar, in chairing the panel on post-Zionism, asked its members to differentiate between post-Zionism and the old anti-Zionism preached by those who wanted to destroy the Jewish state. The panelists largely evaded this question.

Ophir did claim that post-Zionism is merely a label placed on the theories of scholars who examine Zionism critically in order to delegitimize their criticism of the movement. Yet Ophir himself called Israel an apartheid society. Just 20 years ago, that kind rhetoric was used only by Israel's fiercest enemies. At this conference, attended by many who teach Jewish studies, it produced not one word of protest.

Ophir said he wanted to end the monopoly in Israel of those who would not tolerate any criticism of Zionism. But no such monopoly exists.

Zionism's critics have jobs in Israel's universities and are well entrenched in the country's intellectual circles. That means that future generations of Jews in both Israel and the Diaspora will be taught and influenced by many people who believe Zionism's impact to have been morally questionable. That sobering prospect should frighten those of us who care about Israel's future.

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New book a valuable resource for hockey aficionados

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — *In the beginning, the powers that be created the National Hockey Association (NHA). And the NHA was tumultuous and without consensus, so the powers that be caused a great wind to stir that blew the 8-year-old league beyond the face of the deep. And the owners saw that it was not good that the people should live without their winter sport, so they created the National Hockey League. And they saw that it was good...*

If hockey wasn't a religion in this country, then it wouldn't have needed its very own bible. Though not something to bow down to, and far from divine in inspiration, *Total Hockey* (Dan Diamond and Associates, published by Total Sports, $64.95) is a veritable hockey bible and Britannica rolled into one, a valuable resource for anyone who takes the game of hockey seriously.

At 1,878 pages, it contains stories, stats, opinions, analysis and trivia, lots of trivia, that should keep hockey aficionados busy for years.

A coffee-table book that the beer-chugging, game-watching set will love, *Total Hockey* will also appeal to the more cerebral followers of Canada's national pastime. It's fun, but it doesn't shy away from addressing controversial issues plaguing hockey, like fighting and labor disputes.

Hockey maven Dan Diamond

It also introduces some thought-provoking new features. Treading where only radio call-in shows and specialty magazines have gone before, the book attempts to answer the age-old question, who's better, Howe or Gretzky? Who had a better year, Gordie Howe in 1952-53 when he scored a career-high 49 goals, or Wayne Gretzky, who bulged the twine 92 times in 1981-82?

Unanswerable by mere mortals, you may say. Nevertheless, the book's hockey mavens have advanced an objective approach in a bid to solve that conundrum. Called "adjusted scoring," it's an attempt to evaluate players' accomplishments in different eras to determine how they would have done had they all played in one 82-game season.

It takes into account a host of factors, including the goals per game scored in the league each season, and it gives extra weight to goals scored in a tight, defensive campaign. Diamond concludes that Howe's "adjusted goal" total would be 78 in an 82-game season, Gretzky's 74. Yikes! The Great One is not as great!

Taking that analysis farther, managing editor Eric Zweig compares a host of star players spanning more than 70 years of NHL history. Mario Lemieux faces off against Jean Beliveau, statistically speaking, while Bobby Orr, Cyclone Taylor and Paul Coffey butt heads. Other matchups include Steve Yzerman and Max Bentley, Raymond Bourque and Dit Clapper, Bobby Hull and Howie Morenz. It makes for some interesting reading.

Diamond, 44, said he has wanted to create a true hockey encyclopedia since the early 1980s when he established Dan Diamond and Associates (DDA), and won the contract to update and modernize the NHL's annual *Official Guide & Record Book*. Seventy-two writers from eight countries contributed to *Total Hockey*, including Diamond, Zweig and Igor Kuperman, a former Moscow journalist, now in the hockey operations department of the Phoenix Coyotes.

Fifty thousand copies were published last month, and a second print run of 10,000 copies has already been ordered, Diamond said.

Other DDA publications include the *Annotated Rules of Hockey*; *Full Spectrum, a History of the Philadelphia Flyers*; *Forever Rivals, Leafs vs. Canadiens*; and the *Official NHL 75th Anniversary Commemorative Book*.

Diamond, a native of Winnipeg, has always been interested in writing and publishing. In high school, he served as editor of his high school yearbook. Later, he published *Eye on Winnipeg* and *Winnipeg Magazine*.

As a youngster, he'd always followed the game of hockey, even though Winnipeg didn't have a professional franchise. At the time, the national team under Father David Bauer was headquartered in Winnipeg, which exposed hockey fans there to high level international competition, he recalled.

He developed tremendous respect for European hockey, which was reinforced when the World Hockey Association's Jets built its mid-1970s team around Bobby Hull and Scandanavian imports like Anders Hedberg, Ulf Nilsson and Kent Nilsson.

In 1980, he moved to Toronto where he got a job with Key Publishing. Working in the circulation department, he was approached by a supervisor and asked if he could help the NHL get rid of its unsold guidebooks, which at the time were bulky, expensive and a money-loser.

Familiar with the book and seeing an opportunity, Diamond readily agreed. He drew up a business plan to completely redesign the hockey guidebook.

The league accepted his proposal, and in the first year, sales figures jumped from 6,000 to 40,000 copies. He's been publishing the guidebook ever since.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Test your *Total Hockey* I.Q. with this quiz:

1. Name the members of the following lines: the HUM Line, the Brat Line, the Boilermaker Line.

2. This Jewish Sudbury-born goaltender played only two games over three seasons in the early NHL, spending most of his career in the minors. Name him.

3.This Jewish Montreal-born defenceman was a second all-star in 1952 with the Rangers. Name him.

Answers:

1. Detroit's mid-'60s HUM Line consisted of Paul Henderson, Norm Ullman and Bruce MacGregor; the Leafs' Brat Line of the 1970s included Tiger Williams, Jack Valiquette and Pat Boutette; Chicago's Boilermaker Line (1948-50) consisted of Roy Conacher, Doug Bentley and Bill Mosienko.

2. Joe "Kelly" Ironstone didn't see any action as a spare goaltender for Ottawa Senators in 1924-25. He played one game for New York Americans in 1925-26 and in 1927-28 he played one game for the Leafs, earning a shutout.

3. Hy Buller, known as the "Blueline Blaster," played most of his NHL career with the Broadway Blueshirts but was traded to the Habs in June 1954. He decided to retire at age 28 instead of reporting

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Landlords and tenants

By JONATHAN SHIFF

From the time of the British Mandate, the law books in Israel have included a statute called the Law for the Protection of the Tenant. Once common, this arrangement no longer applies except in very specific circumstances, such as where the tenant has made special payments called "key money."

In fact, in many instances, tenants suffer the most due to the law, while at the same time, few property owners would dream of granting someone protected tenancy.

The following are some examples which illustrate the pitfalls of entering into protected tenancy arrangements. All are taken from real cases with which we have dealt:

Residential Tenants' Dilemma: Our client's parents were an elderly couple who lived as protected tenants in downtown Jerusalem. After the husband died, the widow had to make a decision about the apartment. Her choices were stark: She could try and find a buyer for her tenancy, but the amount she would receive – roughly half the value of the apartment, which she would then have to split 66-34 with the landlord – would not provide her with enough funds to live elsewhere.

She could try and sell her rights back to the landlord, but the result would probably be even worse, since he did not have to agree to take the property back at a realistic price. She could have a child or grandchild move in with her and inherit the rights after her death, but all her children and grandchildren had other homes, and so were ineligible under the law.

In the meantime, the place fell to ruin since the elderly woman had no financial incentive to fix it up, and the landlord did not do so either, since he was interested in encouraging her to leave. In the end, the woman lived the rest of her years in a slum, and after she died the landlord got the apartment back for free.

Commercial Tenant's Trap: Alexander and Max owned equal shares in a small company which manufactures transformers for industry. They rented their factory and warehouse in 1949, paying key money to be protected tenants. Over the years, they lost their copy of the lease.

After Max died, his son, Uri, joined the business in his stead.

Today, Alexander is 85 and wants to retire. After almost a year of negotiations, they have agreed on a price, and Alexander is set to retire on January 1. While the lawyers were working out the contract, Uri went to the landlord to pay the rent, and asked for a copy of the lease. To the partners' astonishment, they learned that if one sells out to the other, the remaining partner will lose his rights to the property. Naturally, the property was a significant factor in setting the price, and now the deal has come apart. Alexander is prevented from retiring, and Uri is stuck with a partner he doesn't want.

Landlord Blackmailed: ABC Co. owns a property in what will eventually be a nice neighborhood.

The property consists of a parking lot and a shabby old building, which have been rezoned to permit the erection of offices and hotels as part of the refurbishment of a historic part of town. On the top floor lives a protected tenant who has always paid pennies a month for rent.

By law, the company cannot evict the tenant without finding her an alternative place to live. It has found her several possibilities, all of which are nicer than her current home but which she has rejected as being unsuited to her needs. The last home was rejected because it did not back onto the main street and was therefore "too quiet". Clearly, she is holding out for a large cash payment. The company is taking her to court, with the likely result that a settlement will be found in which she gets an apartment, the lawyers all get paid, the company loses money and the neighbourhood languishes a couple of years longer.

The above stories are merely the tip of the iceberg. While there are good reasons to assist tenants, the law, as it is currently written, creates a distorted set of economic incentives, leading to a situation fraught with litigation and strategizing more than creating a protected pool of rental housing.

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ZUCCHINI PARMESAN LATKES

2 lb. zucchini
1/2 lb potatoes, peeled
1/2 tblsp lemon juice
1 cup chopped scallions
1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
1 tsp chopped garlic
3/4 cup chopped parsley
1 tsp salt
1/2 tblsp pepper
2 tsp sugar
1/3 cup flour
2 med. eggs
oil for frying

Grate the zucchini and potatoes and toss in the lemon juice to prevent browning. Squeeze zucchini and potatoes through towels or a sieve.

Add scallions, cheese, garlic, flour and eggs and toss to make sure that the ingredients are well mixed.

Heat 1/2 inch of oil in pan until hot and add thin silver dollar size spoonfuls of batter, frying over high heat until golden and crispy. When serving, sprinkle with a little more salt and the remaining chopped parsley.

About Life

Dear Ella,

I am 38, single and a woman. This seems to be an absolutely killer combination where my family is concerned.

I have a rather large family, and therefore there always seems to be a wedding, bar mitzvah or birthday party happening. I hate attending, because all I ever hear is "Marilyn dear you look wonderful, have you met someone yet?" First of all you should know I am 50 pounds overweight and I know when they say I look wonderful I feel like crawling under the table. Second, I can't stand the pitying looks I get from the family, as I am the only one walking in dateless to these affairs.

I am basically happy with my life. Sure I would like to find Mr. Right, but I have many friends and have not found him yet, So...? Why does this have to be a fate worse than death? How can I deal with these insensitive relatives?

Pesky Pity Parties

Dear Pesky Pity Parties,

You have to realize that some of these people don't believe you can possibly be happy without a spouse, because that's the way they were raised and that's the way society has taught them to think.

There are many happily married people and also many married people who are miserable, but hey... they're married, so it doesn't matter! This is an attitude that has been around for many years. Your family did not create it, so try not to blame them.

What you have to do is know in advance what you're stepping into and be prepared. Psych yourself before you go to these affairs and answer their questions if you feel you want to or just change the subject quickly. They'll get the hint.

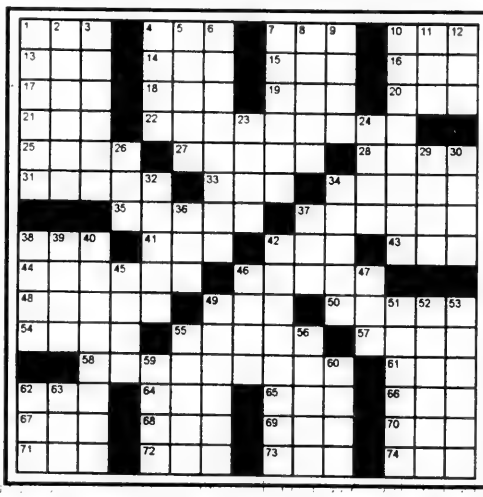
You can also say politely, "I'd rather not discuss that topic" and move on to something else. Keep in mind, they mean you no harm.

One last thing I'd like to address is the 50 pounds overweight and feeling that you can't accept a compliment issue.

That is obviously a self-esteem problem. Please don't fall into the "thin is in" trap. Don't measure the person you are in pounds. You are an important viable part of our society and you are beautiful at any weight.

Be proud.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. 1,200
4. Makes a "fey" a "pey"
7. Movie studio
10. Existed
13. Got ya!!
14. Cheer
15. Solomon's mine find
16. __ a boy!!
17. Plagues
18. Employ
19. Reason for shiva
20. Chadash (Eng.)
21. Imitated Deborah
22. Future era
25. Ellis or Emerald
27. Passover sign
28. "Cheers" star
31. Use for Tzedakah
33. King David?
34. Shepherd's workplace
35. Nosh
37. Howard
38. Abraham J. Heschel
41. Noah's craft
42. American Mossad?
43. Nimoy casually
44. Idols
46. Lasker's game
48. Blood __
49. __ Carte
50. Ta'am (Eng.)
54. Eilat, old style
55. Prepare shiva clothes
57. Eighteen
58. Massacre site
61. Sighs
62. Sopher need
64. Chatchke (Eng.)
65. 551
66. Mishpucke (Eng.)
67. Usurious instrument
68. Larry Sherry stat
69. Needs chicken soup?
70. Afula to Degania
71. Noodge
72. Israeli dreidel letter
73. Baseball Berg
74. Title for Montefiore

Down

1. Actress Marlee
2. Lox companion
3. Shammas
4. Buddy Rich instrument
5. Desert cool spots
6. Gangster (2 wd.)
7. Chanukah town
8. Moan
9. Haman or Amalek
10. Journalist Walter
11. Enjoyed Latkes
12. Tiberias to Tel-Aviv (dir.)
23. Like Pharaoh's chariots
24. Mt. Gilboa flower
26. Koch or Land
29. "Day" Writer
30. Magic Carpet base
32. Tref crawler
34. Sukkoth
36. Supply with Uzis
37. Bear false witness
38. Competent
39. Jonathan Pollard's residence
40. Prophet
42. Baal Shem Tov followers
45. Samson's triumphant site
46. Tribe
47. Pouch
49. Ritual honor
51. Uses his lulav
52. Sesame sauce
53. Disney exec
55. Dinah
56. American shalom
59. Gait
60. Chmielnitski
62. Patriarchs
63. Neither's partner

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. *(Last week's answers are on page 39.)*

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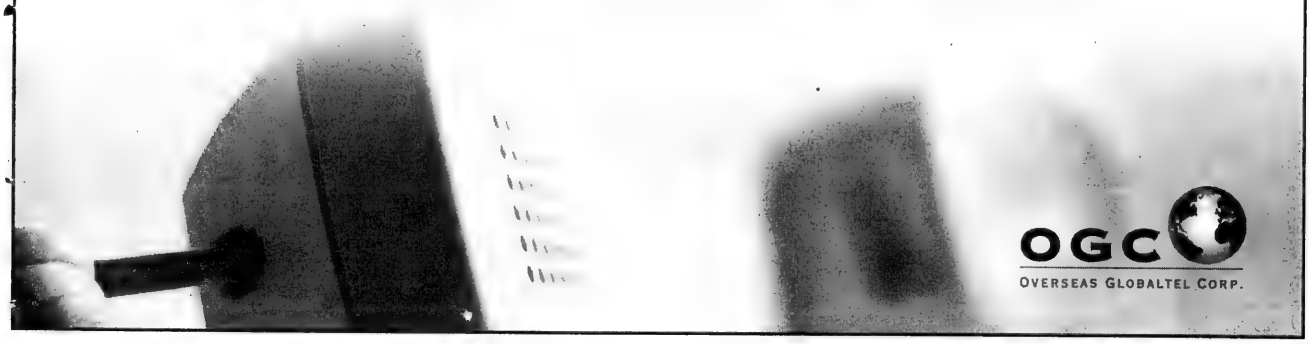

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This Week

National

Federal Government pays tribute to 50 Holocaust survivors *Page 3*

Popular Toronto shaliach resigns as director general of Keren Hayesod. *Page 5*

Branson hospital to get interim long-term care beds. *Page 7*

On Campus

Observant community secludes itself from klal Israel. *Page 22*

Party Planner

Come celebrate: Music, fashion and more. *Section B*

Arts

ROM opens multi-media exhibit about Rothschilds. *Page 32*

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Kislev 8, 5759
Havdalah: 5:31

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Settlers, PA slam Israel

Both sides criticize Wye implementation

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Just days after Israel began to implement the Wye agreement, the Jewish state has drawn fire from West Bank settlers and the Palestinian Authority.

The settlers' complaints came after Israel carried out the first of three further redeployments in the West Bank called for under the accord.

Palestinian officials focused on another Israeli action taken that day – the release of 250 Palestinian prisoners.

Last weekend, settler groups responded to the redeployment by setting up encampments at two West Bank sites.

In one incident, settlers gathered on a hilltop near the settlement of Itamar, saying they wanted to expand the community.

And near the settlement of Sebastia, several dozen people gathered at an abandoned rail station, saying they would establish a museum and yeshiva at the site. The Israeli army responded by sealing off the area around the station.

Meanwhile, settler leaders complained about the inadequacy of the army's defence plans for Jewish settlements affected by the redeployment.

The leaders charged that the plans were outdated and that greater emphasis should be placed on security on roads that link the settlements.

Army officials responded that they were working in full cooperation with the settlements and that plans were being drawn up for each community affected by the redeployments.

In the redeployment, Israel transferred two percent of the West Bank, or some 44 square miles, from sole Israeli control to joint control with the Palestinian Authority. Israel also handed over 7.1 percent of land in the region to sole Palestinian control.

Continued on page 30

ISRAELI TROOPS REDEPLOY

Palestinian security commander Fayez Arafat (left) reviews maps given to the PA by the Israelis that mark the extent of the first stage of Israel's troop redeployment from the West Bank. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Upbeat end to GA

By MORDECHAI BEN-DAT
CJN Editor

JERUSALEM — Relationships were the main item on the agenda of the 67th General Assembly of the UJA Federations of North America (GA) that concluded here last week, specifically the myriad, complicated relationships between the Jews of Israel and their co-religionists in North America.

It was the first time the GA was held outside North America.

In honor of Israel's jubilee, the conference was held in Jerusalem. Judging by the upbeat reactions of the conference delegates at the International Convention Centre throughout the four-day gathering, it may not be the last.

Sunny Tavel, a delegate from Ottawa, seemed to capture the mood of the delegates when she told *The CJN*, "We needed a new connection to Israel and to hearing the story of her people. It was very important to hear it this way."

Continued on page 29

INSIDE

The Chinese-Jewish connection goes back to the eighth century.
Please see story on page 9.

Poland to return billions in Jewish property — please see page 30

The News in Brief

CANADA

CJC Protests To Russia

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has written to Russia's ambassador to Canada, Vitaly Churkin, to protest the recent "shocking" anti-Semitic outburst of a Russian legislator.

Congress says it is unconscionable that Albert Makashov would call for the killing of Jews. Also "dismaying" to CJC is the Russian parliament's failure to censure Makashov.

Grafstein Speaks On Stein

OTTAWA — Senator Jerry Grafstein recently addressed Canada's Senate on the canonization of Edith Stein, a Jewish-born nun murdered at Auschwitz. Stein's elevation to sainthood has caused controversy in Jewish circles.

"It is too early to judge," said Grafstein. "[But] it is not too soon to ask questions."

Kristallnacht Remembered

VANCOUVER — Dr. William Seidelman, a Toronto physician and expert on the role of doctors and medicine during the Third Reich, was the keynote speaker at the community's commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

A Vancouver native, Seidelman recounted how doctors readily accepted Nazi doctrines on race and participated in the pre-war euthanasia program of the physically and mentally infirm, and in the forced sterilization of 400,000 Germans.

ISRAEL

Three Soldiers Killed

JERUSALEM — Three Israeli soldiers were killed and four others wounded by a roadside bomb in southern Lebanon last week. The bomb exploded about 100 feet from the soldiers' outpost in the security zone. Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack, which it filmed from a distance and broadcast on Lebanese television.

Israel Closes Theatre

JERUSALEM — Israel has closed a Palestinian theatre in eastern Jerusalem to prevent an election of the main wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The Oslo accords bar the Palestinians from conducting political activity in eastern Jerusalem.

Ethiopians Protest

JERUSALEM — More than 1,000 Ethiopian immigrants staged a demonstration here last week to demand that Israel accept all those remaining in Ethiopia who wish to settle in Israel. The Israeli government shut down its immigration program in Ethiopia last summer, but several thousand seeking to make aliyah remain behind, many of them in poor health.

Pollard's Request Rejected

JERUSALEM — A petition filed by convicted spy Jonathan Pollard was rejected by an Israeli court last week. Pollard had asked Israel's High Court of Justice to block the release of Palestinian prisoners until he was freed.

Pollard claimed President Bill Clinton promised to release him last month during the negotiations that led to the Wye agreement.

WORLD

Rabbis Attend OU Meet

EAST BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Israel's two chief rabbis, Yisrael Meir Lau and Eliahu Bakshi-Doron; the chief rabbi of Great Britain, Jonathan Sacks; and Israeli Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon are expected here this week for the Orthodox Union's (OU) centennial convention. Over 1,000 participants are expected to attend the event, where rabbinic and lay leaders will explore a host of issues affecting American Orthodoxy.

Russia Responds – Sort Of

MOSCOW — Russia is drafting a law to ban political parties that support political extremism, the nation's justice minister announced last week. The move came after the lower house of parliament refused to censure a Communist lawmaker's anti-Semitic remarks. But it remains unclear whether the drafted law will make any specific mention of anti-Semitism.

Frank Publishing Upheld

AMSTERDAM — A Dutch court has ruled in favor of a newspaper that published newly discovered pages of Anne Frank's diary in August. The Swiss-based Anne Frank Fund had charged that *Het Parool* had committed copyright infringement and should apologize for quoting the newly found pages.

Jewish Targets Attacked

PRAGUE — The Czech Republic was hit with the second act of anti-Semitic violence in less than one week. Earlier this month, headstones in a cemetery in the eastern Czech town of Trutnov were spray-painted with the words "Death to Jews" and with Jewish stars hanging from gallows. Damages were estimated at $8,000. The vandalism came just days after a teen-age skinhead was arrested and charged with stabbing a Czech Jewish soldier in Prague. As of last week, the soldier was in stable condition.

Life Sentences Upheld for Former SS Officers

ROME — Italy's highest appeals court has upheld life sentences imposed on two former Nazis convicted of helping to carry out the worst Nazi atrocity on Italian soil.

The court rejected an appeal to overturn the sentences handed down by a lower appeals court in March against former SS officers Erich Priebke and Karl Hass, both in their mid-80s.

The two were sentenced for their role in the March 1944 massacre of 335 Romans, including about 75 Jews, at the Ardeatine Caves south of Rome. The massacres were ordered by the Nazis in retaliation for a partisan attack in Rome the day before that killed 33 German soldiers.

Last Monday's ruling may be the last word on the Priebke affair. Discovered in Argentina in 1994, he was extradited to Italy 18 months later. Priebke was tried twice on charges of involvement in the Ardeatine Caves massacre.

The verdict of the first trial, which freed him, was annulled after protests from relatives of the victims. In the retrial, he was sentenced to several years in prison. He appealed, and last March the appeals court increased the verdict to a life sentence.

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Vol. XXVIII, No. 46 (1,373)*

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Ottawa pays tribute to 50 Holocaust survivors

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The federal government joined forces with a coalition of Jewish groups last Thursday afternoon to pay an unprecedented and moving tribute to 50 Holocaust survivors who have made Canada their home.

The 50 survivors from across Canada, together with their families, were recognized in Parliament's visitor's gallery by the Speaker of the House, and lauded by all parties for their contributions to their adopted homeland.

The group was chosen to represent the thousands of survivors who came to Canada to rebuild their lives, and in so doing, enriched the country with their involvement in the arts, science, politics and every facet of community involvement.

The Jewish coalition, dubbed Zachor (Remember), was composed of B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress, Canadian Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre, the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association and the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem.

Joel Dimitry, the son of survivors and a former chair of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, welcomed the group to the late afternoon ceremony, held in Parliament's west block, and recognized the attendance of Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray, defence minister Art Eggleton, multiculturalism minister Hedy Fry, and Israeli consul general Jehudi Kinar.

"Our families are the fortunate few who survived," stated Dimitry, "and in our survival, we vowed to bear witness and never to forget.

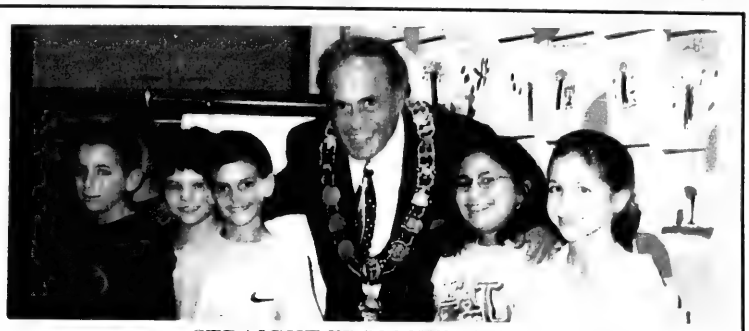
"We have survived the worst, but we have given back the best."

Gray brought greetings on behalf of the government, adding that "one feels humble in the presence of survivors of the Shoah.

"The federal government is proud, and the people of Canada are proud to be here with you today... We say to you the honorees and to all survivors: Yasher koach. May you be strengthened and through your lives may you strengthen us all."

There was applause when Gray said war criminals "must be accountable for their crimes. War

Continued on page 6



STRAIGHT FROM HIZZONER

As part of their recent careers theme, Bialik Hebrew Day School grade 3 students (from left) Roey Fishman, Zev Smith, Cory Lastman, Samantha Lastman and Jaclyn Tanz heard about the mayor of Toronto's job from...the mayor of Toronto, Mel Lastman.

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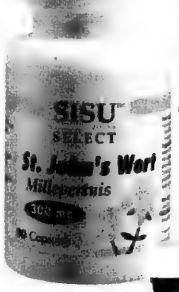
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From the editor's desk

Canadians Celebrate

It was early evening and already dark last Wednesday night when the buses left Jerusalem.

Travelling west a handful of kilometres outside the city limits, through the pine-covered hills protecting the ancient/modern capitol, we arrived after a short ride at Mevasseret Zion, a picturesque bedroom community of houses and apartments, with red-tiled roofs built in neatly terraced rows upon the hillsides.

Crisp and cool, the air was our lens toward heaven, magnifying the imprint of the stars upon the cloudless, night sky.

One by one, busload after busload of Canadian delegates to the Jerusalem GA of '98, and other Canadian visitors, were deposited at the doorway of the Red House, a banquet hall restaurant with a white canopy roof.

Greeting us as we alighted the buses were a score of singers and musicians in flashy red and white Maghreb costumes. They formed a gantlet greeting line that we ran through, while on both sides of us drums pounded an incessant beat of urgent anticipation.

Tambourines hissed rhythmic punctuation to the pounding drums, and the women ululated and shrieked songs of impending celebration.

More than 350 Canadians were about to have a party.

The Red House was now converted into a banquet hall, jampacked and crammed with Canadians sitting 10 to a table. There was hardly room to move between the tables, but one had to move to get to the food that was heaped in cornucopious amounts on special stations set up on both sides of the room. There were different ethnic cuisines from which to choose – Moroccan, Yemeni, Israeli and Russian – and a baker's dozen variety of breads. And there were drinks too, soft and hard.

Even though the room was large, we were tightly packed, table abutting table, chair touching chair.

At the front of the room was a stage, and after brief, official greetings, the first entertainment burst onto the stage accompanied by the loud beat of the incessant drum.

The Chai Folk Ensemble from Winnipeg was, that night, completing the third leg of a three-city tour of Israel. The talented Winnipeg teens sang and danced on the stage. Their energy was high, their enthusiasm infectious and their motion, an invitation. The party was on.

We sang along. Many stood where they could, clapping out rhythms, swaying with the beat.

The young performers enticed us with their joy. We felt an almost surrealistic happiness. We were a community of celebrants under the white canopy of the Red House.

When the ensemble finished, we went to the buffet. These Canadians were a happy group.

"What's been your opinion of the GA?" the reporter wanted to know.

"What a wonderful feeling it is to be in our homeland with so many of the people with whom we share our everyday lives," said Susan Jackson of Toronto.

"It was stimulating, a wonderful networking experience. Being here on the 50th anniversary makes it extra, extra special," said Mark Rosen of Halifax.

"It was a very emotional experience," said Beverley Lasky of Hamilton.

"It's been wonderful and really inspiring to be with people who are so committed and so active," added Pearl Grundland of Toronto.

The stations of food were crowded with the milling of hungry, but happy Canadian revelers.

After a while, the food beginning to digest, more entertainment entered on stage: two singers in vaudevillian yellow jackets, tugging on our already overflowing hearts with every famous folk and modern Israeli song in the emotional songbook. They sang. We sang. They sang. We sang and danced.

The happy Canadians formed into circles of dance wherever a space could be found in the crowded room. There was one circle, then two then three. Then the circles joined and became a ribbon of dancing Canadians, reeling in celebration, winding and weaving through the room, around tables and even onto the stage.

"What's been your opinion of the GA?" the reporter asked some of the younger Canadians.

"It was amazing. I got real insight into Israeli society, especially with respect to problems of absorption and integration," said Michael Naiberg of Toronto.

"It was very important that the GA explored issues relevant to both the Diaspora and to Israel. The goals of the conference were very much worth pursuing," said Ami Wise of Dalhousie University.

"It was an amazing GA. I thought it was wonderful. It's much different to dance in Israel than anywhere else," said Jessica Casiro, of Joseph Wolinsky High in Winnipeg.

The party had to end, of course. The musicians, the singers, the technicians, the waiters and the chefs had to go home. And because of that, so did we.

One by one, we returned to the buses, mellow, moved and fatigued by the evening of splendid celebration. What stayed in the reporter's mind on the short journey home was what he was told by the young high school student from Winnipeg: "It's much different to dance in Israel than anywhere else."

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

FROM TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS

Immigrants to Israel from Russia and Ethiopia get to know each other.

[Vera Etzion/ Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Former shaliach resigns from Keren Hayesod post

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Baruch Gur, who served as a popular shaliach in Toronto for two years, has resigned as director general of Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem.

Baruch Gur

Keren Hayesod channels funds raised throughout the Diaspora (except Canada and the U.S.) to the Jewish Agency for Israel, the country's central provider of services for new immigrants.

In federated Canadian Jewish communities, funds raised through UJA campaigns flow to the Jewish Agency through United Israel Appeal.

Gur stepped down effective Nov. 17 following a Nov. 6 newspaper article in the Hebrew daily *Yediot Achronot* that apparently questioned his lifestyle and personal spending, and alleged he misappropriated Keren Hayesod funds.

Gur resigned 10 days later.

He is not the subject of a police investigation, and police have not indicated they wish to question him, *The CJN's* Edgar Asher reports.

A statement from UJA Federation of Toronto said the allegations against Gur are being investigated by both the Jewish Agency's comptroller and its legal advisor. The Keren Hayesod board of directors will respond after receiving the investigation findings, UJA added.

Gur served as Keren Hayesod's shaliach in Toronto from 1996 until earlier this year. He was a popular speaker and expert on Jews in the former Soviet Union.

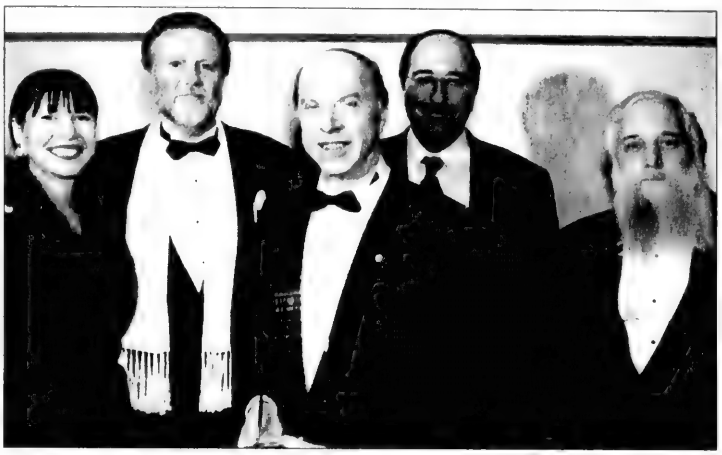
He returned to Israel earlier this year to assume the organization's top job.

As head of the Jewish Agency's East European unit in the late 1980s and early '90s, Gur became a major architect of Operation Exodus, in which over 500,000 Jews from the former Soviet republics immigrated to Israel.

UJA in Toronto praised Gur's "dedication and uncommon commitment to the Jewish people," and commended his decision "to place the interests of Keren Hayesod above his own."

CORRECTION

In the photo, Dressing Up For Books, in the Nov. 19 issue, Victor Spier's name was incorrectly spelled. The CJN apologizes for the error.



LESLIE DAN HONORED IN N.Y.

Toronto philanthropist Leslie Dan (foreground) was honored in New York this month by Chabad's Children of Chernobyl (CCOC), which, since 1990, has airlifted over 1,600 children to Israel from areas contaminated by the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident. Dan was joined by (from left) his wife, Anna; actor Jon Voight; Israel's ambassador to the U.N., Dore Gold; and Yossi Raichik, director of CCOC in Israel.

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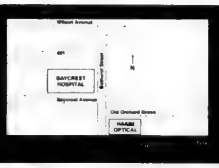

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Swiss reject CJC request

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A request by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) for more money for needy Canadian Holocaust survivors from the Swiss humanitarian fund has been turned down.

The rejection came in a letter to CJC from Eli Spanic, director general of the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) in Jerusalem.

There are some 16,000 survivors in Canada, but most are not expected to apply for the funds. CJC officials estimate that the one-time payments to those who do will be only about $250 (US) each from the $2.5 million allotted to Canada from the $185-million Swiss humanitarian fund.

The plea for more money for Canadian survivors was made by Moshe Ronen, CJC president. The WJRO letter ends any hope that the needy survivors will get any more than the amount already allotted.

Spanic did say, however, that if more money becomes available, the issue will be re-evaluated.

The humanitarian fund is separate from the $2.1 billion awarded by Swiss banks to cover property and other restitution claims of families of Holocaust victims. CJC is not involved in the collection and distribution of this money.

CJC expects to distribute the humanitarian funds within the next few months and application forms are being prepared.

Israel to identify survivors

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Any Canadians who believe they may have relatives among the 500 Holocaust survivors in Israeli mental hospitals, have been given the right to find out.

The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has won the right to be an intermediary with the Israel Ministry of Health in disclosing the names of survivors in hospital, Moshe Ronen, CJC president, told *The CJN* in a telephone call from Israel.

"Up to now, Canadian relatives have been stonewalled in their attempts to find out the names of patients," Ronen said.

He said the new agreement was reached after Israeli justice minister Tzahi Hanegbi authorized Shumuel Tzur, administrator general and public trustee of the State of Israel, to meet with him and CJC vice-president Jack Silverstone.

The issue was originally raised by Gustava Weiner of Montreal, who was denied information about hospital patients when she went to Israel for that purpose.

The matter of whether mentally ill survivors have been denied money due to them from German reparations, is now front-page news in Israel, Ronen said.

Tzur has denied any knowledge of patients being told they could not have benefits from the reparations, Ronen said. "He told us he would have allowed them, and that the actions were taken by private trustees for some of the survivors. Apparently, there is a conflict between the private trustees and physicians who care for the patients."

Of the 1,000 patients in Israeli mental hospitals, Tzur told the CJC officials, 500 are incapable of managing their own affairs, and 250 of them have private trustees. About half the total of 1,000 are survivors.

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Holocaust survivors honored

Continued from page 3

criminals must be brought to justice."

Sigmund Reiser, a Holocaust survivor who was recently appointed a citizenship court judge, invited the survivors and their families to rise and collectively reaffirm their citizenship vows.

At the reception that followed, survivors Jack Rosen of Hamilton and Leah Kaufman of Montreal told of their amazing meeting earlier that day at their hotel.

Kaufman overheard Rosen mentioning the *S.S. Sturgis*, the ship that had brought both of them to Canada in 1948. Kaufman was sent to Calgary; Rosen to Hamilton, and they had had no further contact until this chance encounter.

Buses then took the honorees and their families to a dinner at Beth Shalom Synagogue, where they were addressed by Eggleton, who said plans for a freestanding Holocaust museum in Ottawa are proceeding.

Former shipmates meet by chance

As Rochelle Wilner, senior vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada, read the names and biographies of the survivors, Fry presented each with a certificate signed by her and Gray.

Fry also praised the many contributions made to this country by Holocaust survivors, saying, "You were not content to be only survivors. You helped to build a nation," and pledged that her department "will not allow such hatred to get a foothold in our country."

Holocaust survivor Robert Engel accepts a citation from Liberal MP Sheila Finestone (centre), as Rochelle Wilner (left) reads out his biography, and Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray (right) looks on. [Sidney Wilner photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Branson to get 98 long-term care beds

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — North York General Hospital's Branson Division will get 98 interim long-term care beds starting in January.

As well, within 2½ years, a $10-million project will provide for 151 permanent long-term beds to replace acute care beds.

"Branson will be just as busy, but a far different place," Murray MacKenzie, president of North York General Hospital (NYGH), told a community update meeting, speaking of the ambulatory care centre that Branson will become when it closes as a general hospital.

A total of 68 interim long-term beds will become available in January at Branson, and another 30 in February, Mackenzie said. It is possible that some patients in Mount Sinai Hospital, NYGH or Humber River now awaiting beds, will come to Branson.

The move is an attempt to open up beds for patients who currently occupy general care beds, and to take pressure off emergency hospital services.

The 98 interim long-term care beds at Branson will provide a home-like atmosphere with better dining facilities. The aim is to get patients mobile, said NYGH vice-president Susan Olsen.

Both MacKenzie and Olsen stressed that only patients now awaiting transfer to long-term care are eligible for the 98 beds.

MacKenzie also said that when Branson closes its acute care beds, a $10-million renovation will provide 151 long-term beds at the site of the east tower.

Another high priority is to reopen Branson's current emergency facility to a 24-hour operation, Olsen said. It is now closed at night, but Branson has recruited 10 new emergency care nurses, and as soon as it can recruit another 10, it will open at night.

This project has such a high priority, she said, that Branson is thinking of sending recruiters to Texas to convince Canadian nurses to come back.

The patients still in Branson when it closes as a general hospital will likely follow their physicians to another hospital, MacKenzie said.

Though most are expected to go to the main NYGH site on Leslie, York Central in Richmond Hill or Humber River Regional (formerly York Finch), it is possible that they will go to another hospital with their specialist.

NYGH will provide an additional 32 long-term beds at its seniors health care centre at a cost of $2 million, and eventually build a new $10-million 151-bed long-term centre at a site yet to be determined, possibly near Bloorview.

Olsen said Branson is looking for input from the community on what the new ambulatory care centre should offer. A meeting is to be held in February for this purpose.

The new centre will have expanded day care surgery units (Branson is already doing 80 percent of its surgery in day care) and an expanded outpatient department, including an active eye centre. It will also have increased mental health services and adolescent services. A crisis centre is being considered.

Confirming that Branson will not have an emergency department after the general hospital closes, Olsen said the ambulatory centre will be able to stabilize emergency patients before transferring them to another hospital.

BJC-MOUNT SINAI PARTNERSHIP

A recent reception at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) marked the many partnerships between the centre and Mount Sinai Hospital, including the first-ever Mount Sinai/BJC pre-natal class. From left are Janis Roth, director of group services for the BJC; Mary Ellen Strata of Mount Sinai; Natasha Kassar, participant in the inaugural pre-natal class, with daughter Jessica; and Anne Simmonds-Spence, Mount Sinai pre-natal instructor.

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Only a beginning

The recently concluded 67th General Assembly of the UJA Federations of North America (GA) was, by all accounts, a success. It enabled large numbers of North American and Israeli Jews to speak at close range with each other for almost a week.

But it was not a love-in. Even as many of the North American visitors were still unpacking their bags last Tuesday, the following six-column-wide headline greeted them on the front page of the English edition of *Ha'aretz*: "Israeli UJA chief Dov Lautman tells U.S. Jews: 'Keep your money at home.'"

Lautman had echoed sentiments expressed some years earlier by Yossi Beilin. Then, as now, those views were wrong, based on a fundamental lack of familiarity with the practical and the existential benefits to both recipient and donor of donating those charitable funds.

The headline was, however, ironic. It was eloquent testimony and perfect proof of the need for the massive exchange of views between North Americans and Israelis that was unfolding at the International Convention Centre that very week in Jerusalem.

Like life itself in Jerusalem, fast-paced, frenetic and imbued with an ever-present sense of urgency, so were the deliberations and discussions at this GA. But unlike most previous GA gatherings, the real significance of the first ever Jerusalem GA was not in.the many worthwhile topics that the delegates explored. Rather, it lay in the very fact that so many North Americans, 3,500, chose to come to Israel to try to better understand Israel and Israelis.

That the relationship between the Diaspora and Israel is evolving hardly needs to be pointed out by Lautman or Beilin. Even though its economy has slowed down in the past months, Israel is still an economic powerhouse in the region. Moreover, within a decade, and for the first time in two millennia, Israel will have the largest Jewish population in the world. These demographic shifts alone will dictate new patterns of behavior between the two communities.

As the *Ha'aretz* editorial of Nov. 18 pointed out, many Jews of the Diaspora "want to focus on the Jewish content of life both in Israel and in North America. They believe that each side has much to contribute to enrich, diversify and deepen the Jewish texture of the other."

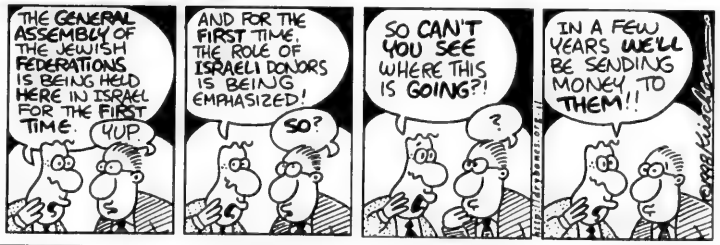
Now that the 67th GA has ended, it seems somehow odd that the annual gathering of North America's lay and professional communal volunteers and leaders had never previously been held in Jerusalem. Of course, there have always been compelling reasons for holding the GA in North America, not the least of which was the cost. But if the relationship between the two households of the Jewish family, namely,Israel and the Diaspora, has risen nearer to the top of the many pressing issues on the worldwide Jewish agenda, it makes sense that federation leaders try to make a Jerusalem GA more than a jubilee event.

Jonathan Berkowitz, president of the Jewish Federation of Vancouver succinctly expressed what seemed so obvious at the end of last week's proceedings. "At no previous GA did it make as much sense to discuss Israel-Diaspora relations as it did at this GA. It gave us an enhanced understanding of what Diaspora means to both Israelis and North Americans. As well, it gave us, Jews of the Diaspora, an enhanced understanding of what it means to be an Israeli."

A four-day conference, though meaningful and insightful, is only the beginning of understanding. The recently concluded provocative and thought-provoking GA should be the impetus for federation leaders to ensure that the pursuit of such understanding is ongoing and that it did not start and then end in Jerusalem, in November 1998.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Behold, I am with you; and I will protect you wherever you go..."
Parshat Vayetze

Dry Bones


THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE JEWISH FEDERATIONS IS BEING HELD HERE IN ISRAEL FOR THE FIRST TIME.
YUP.
AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE ROLE OF ISRAELI DONORS IS BEING EMPHASIZED!
SO?
SO CAN'T YOU SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING?!
?
IN A FEW YEARS WE'LL BE SENDING MONEY TO THEM!!

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Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Zac Kaye, Lou Ronson, Herb Rosenfeld, Kurt Rothschild, Joseph Steiner, Elias Toby, Elizabeth Wolfe.

Thanks from 'down under' to Jews of 1938

It is now 60 years since I left Berlin with my parents only four nights before the Kristallnacht disasters, and set out to cross the Atlantic by *Duchess of Bedford* to Montreal.

Then followed an unforgettable four-day train journey across Canada by the Canadian Pacific Railway to Vancouver, where the much longer sea voyage on the *M.V. Aorangi* awaited us, en route to Sydney, Australia. I was only nine at the time, but shall never forget that train journey, the freezing cold and scenery. But what will remain forever in my mind, was the sight of Canadian Jews on all of the major rail platforms at which we stopped, turning out both day and night to meet the trainload of refugees from Germany they had been told to expect. Out in the freezing cold and snow there stood small and larger groups of our people, with sandwiches and cakes and coffee, to wish us well on our way, and celebrate our close escape.

I often think, how these Jews may have been descendants of Kishinev pogrom survivors, showing their solidarity.

Would there had been more that could have escaped from Europe, but none of our families were able to join us postwar. And so it is never too late to remember the great mitzvah of those Canadian co-religionists, of whom a very few may still be with you, and to express an appreciation collectively to them and their communities.

John Rector
Bondi Junction NaW 2022
Australia

Wants stories about survivors to exude optimism

I was impressed by the life stories of Holocaust survivors at the recent annual Holocaust week in Toronto. Their optimism shone through brightly for Israel and Judaism.

Perhaps our local newspapers including weekly Jewish newspapers can learn from them. Be more optimistic in reporting on Judaism and Israel!

Murray Bokhaut
Toronto

Says Rabbi Plaut has 'simplistic' view of communism

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in his article "Communism and The Jews" asserts that the "DDR was like its model, violently anti-Israel." The facts are, that the Soviet Union was amongst the first nations to recognize the new state of Israel, and their influence amongst other left-wing governments contributed largely to a favorable UN vote in favor of recognition.

While I have no sympathy for the communists or their dogma, it is important to keep history in its proper perspective. The DDR and the Soviet Union were secular states and abjured all religions. If the German communists failed to achieve complete suppression of the churches as they did with the Jews, as Rabbi Plaut contends, then it could well be that there were very few Jews left in East Germany, whereas the practising Christian population, aided and encouraged by their co-religionists in the Vatican and elsewhere, were still attending their churches in considerable numbers. It is easier to suppress one person than 100.

It is simplistic to castigate the communists but Rabbi Plaut must be aware that many founders of the communist movement were Jews. Communism arose as a result of the repression and injustice wrought against the working classes. Karl Marx, himself a Jew, envisioned communism taking root in England after witnessing the terrible suffering brought about by the industrial revolution. Indeed, large numbers of the early Jewish immigrants to the United States and Canada were ardent socialists and communists.

C. Collier
Toronto

Teach about genocides in Holocaust education

During the 1997-98 school year, I had the opportunity to participate as a student teacher in a Grade 12 Holocaust studies class. The teaching experience I gained over the course of the semester was excellent and my knowledge of the Holocaust grew substantially, but I was puzzled by the fact that the number of students enrolled in the class was less than half of the maximum capacity. In fact, the principal contemplated discontinuing the class due to low enrolment.

I spoke to several teachers and students about the enrolment situation and the message that I gathered from their responses was that Holocaust education is not particularly appealing to students. Many of the students I spoke to, both Jews and non-Jews, stressed that they had learned about the Holocaust at home, on television and in other school courses and therefore they felt that additional information would be repetitive and irrelevant.

I recognize that this school may not be exemplary of all high schools, but in any case, I think the ambivalence towards the Holocaust at this school is a clear indication that Holocaust education needs to be improved. My suggestion is that Holocaust classes incorporate information about other examples of genocide, from the past and present, in order to ensure that students identify with the material and appreciate the consequences of intolerance and discrimination. I am sure there are a variety of other ways in which Holocaust education can be improved and I hope to see these ideas circulated and changes implemented.

Adam Segal
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

The Chinese-Jewish Connection

By DANEAL CHARNEY
Special to The CJN

Perhaps to a Canadian Jew, stumbling across Shanen's Bagels in a local grocery store in Beijing would seem like no big deal, but to a two-year China veteran like me, starved for Jewish symbols, it was the find of the century. The small, round rolls symbolized both the historic connection of the Jewish people to China, and a connection to the modern Jewish communities of Shanghai and Beijing.

In August, this little-known connection became apparent to television viewers around the world who watched Hilary Clinton officially open the newly restored Ohel Rachel Synagogue in the heart of Shanghai's downtown.

This event has taken 17 years to come to fruition, and has done so as a result of the persistent appeal of American Rabbi Arthur Schneier, who has been demanding that the Shanghai Education Commission vacate the building and restore it to its former glory. The building is one of several that once served the 30,000-strong Jewish community of 1940s.

The Clinton visit followed the rabbi's June visit to China, one of his many trips intended to push the government to recognize Judaism as a religion. With Hong Kong's return to China, the country's mainland Jewish community of 400 increased by 600 percent, strengthening Rabbi Schneier's position. Overnight the Jewish community numbered almost 3,000.

In China proper, the rate of Jewish travellers continues to climb by 30 percent a year, which includes students, professionals, and those who decide to make their home in China. I have met several of the latter, many of whom have Chinese spouses.

The restoration of one of the seven Jewish synagogues in Shanghai is an exciting but unfinished story. Whether the Chinese government will restore the other synagogues remains to be seen, as does how they will be used. So far, it is not even clear to what degree the government will allow the current synagogue to be open to the Jewish public.

Another question is who will use the premises, since the Shanghai community is a divided one. This past Passover, for instance, three separate seders were organized, one by Chabad Lubavitch, one by the Israeli consulate and one by a family.

Still, there are some signs that this community can revive itself. Twenty months ago, under the leadership of Shanghai resident Seth Kaplan, the B'nai Israel congregation was founded to welcome Jews of all denominations.

The Chinese-Jewish connection is an unusual and little-known tale. There are many theories as to why Jews came to China in the eighth century, and even more as to why they created a permanent settlement in Kaifeng, Henan, in the 11th century. Some say these Jews were members of one of the lost tribes of Israel. Others feel that they were escaping the persecution following the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, and were attracted by the economic opportunity and tolerance towards Jews in China.

Judging from artifacts available, it seems these Jews could have been coming from several locations, including Persia, Yemen, and India. They prayed in Hebrew, observed Jewish dietary laws and built a synagogue.

One of the most important artifacts documenting their lives is a 1949 stone inscription which still stands near the courtyard where the old Kaifeng synagogue was located. The inscription mentions that some 70 Jewish families living in the city formed the first Kaifeng community, residents with the family names Li, Chao, Chu, Shih, Chang, Kai and Ai. Some researchers believe the name Li represented the descendants of the Levis.

Over the centuries, the Jews of Kaifeng became indistinguishable from the local population except that they retained their abstention from eating pork. Today, those who claim to be descendants of the "Kaifeng Jews" look similar to Han Chinese but still share an interest in their Jewish roots. The Jews of Kaifeng were known there as *Lan Mao Hui Hui* (Blue Capped Muslims or "Mohammadums"), referring to the skull cap they wore on their heads. Since both the Muslims and Jews followed the custom of wearing skull caps, and did not eat pork, they were often lumped together by Han Chinese.

By the 1900s, only 140 Chinese Jews remained in Kaifeng. Ironically, the tolerance and lack of threat that originally attracted Jews to China also made it easy for them to assimilate. The Kaifeng synagogue and texts were destroyed several times, and with a general lack of central leadership, the community dispersed and intermarriage increased significantly.

Today, there still are Chinese who claim to be of Jewish descent. Among them are Shih Hung-Mo, an elderly gentleman living in Taiwan. In an interview with Rabbi Marvin Tokayer in 1974, Shih said that his ancestors came to Kunming at the beginning of the Ming dynasty or shortly after 1368. Currently, Shih lives a life of solitude in Taiwan, and claims the reason for this is that he was not able to find a "Blue Mohammedan" (his word for Jewish) girl.

The Chinese Jewish historical connection is a story with a happy ending. Relative religious tolerance allowed the Jews to live peacefully for hundreds of years; and in this century, Jews were able to seek refuge there from the Russian pogroms and the persecution of the Nazis. In 1949, China played a humanitarian role by permitting up to 20,000 Jews to enter without visas. China was the only country in the world that did not close its doors to Jews after 1938.

China thus became known as a haven for Jews in the 20th century. Following the Russian revolutions and pogroms, Russian Jews fled to Harbin and later Shanghai. With the rise of Nazi Germany, the Jewish numbers again increased. At its height, the Jewish community of China numbered more than 30,000, a proportionally large amount in a community of only about 100,000 foreigners. Most of the Jews lived in Tianjin, Harbin and Shanghai.

The Shanghai community was the largest and most vibrant Jewish community in 20th-century China and included Sephardim, Russian Jews and Jewish refugees. At its height, the Jewish community had its own synagogues, shops, clubs and hospitals.

Three of the most notable Sephardi Jewish families were the Sassoons, the Hardoons and the Kadoories. These families invested heavily in China's economic growth and left their mark in different ways. The Peace Hotel, for example, is one of the landmarks built by Victor Sassoon in 1840.

Although after the 1950s most foreigners left China, Jews were still proportionately over-represented among those who stayed to build the "new China." For example, American Sidney Rittenberg, who had lived in China since the late 1940s, was one of a small group of foreigners to have become high ranking Communist party members. (Rittenberg currently lives in the United States with his Chinese wife, Yulin.)

The formalized relations between Israel and China since 1993 have led to increased economic and social exchanges. The growing interest in Judaism among Chinese academics led to the foundation of the Centre for Jewish and Israeli Studies in Shanghai and a four-year curriculum in Hebrew language and literature at the Beijing university. The Shanghai centre also arranges tours of the old Jewish quarters in Hongkew.

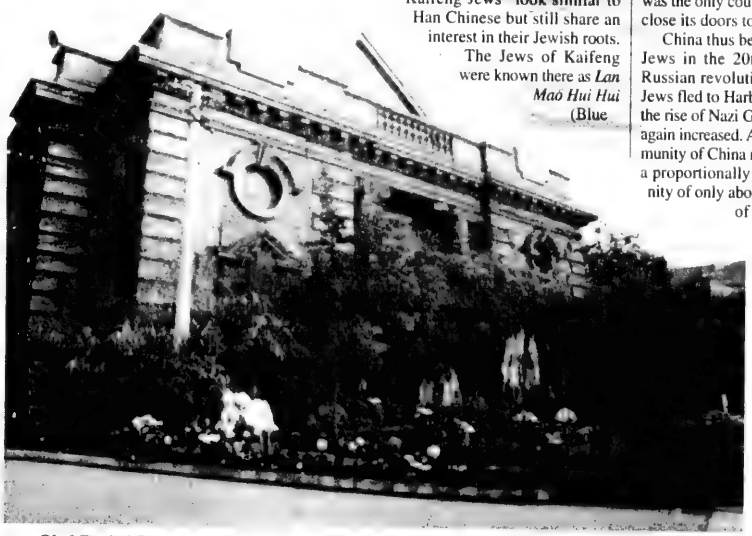
At the unveiling of the Monument for Holocaust Survivors in Hongkew in 1994, (from left) Gen. Moshe Marom, IDF attache in Beijing; and Rabbi and Mrs. Arthur Schneier.

In 1994, the International Seminar of Jews in Shanghai brought together some 200 Jews who call Shanghai their "home city." Most of the attendees, who came from the United States, Israel, Austria, France, the United Kingdom and Germany, lived in Shanghai's Hongkew district after fleeing the Nazis.

The late Shaul Eisenberg, a business tycoon and founder of the Eisenberg Group of Companies, was among those whose "home city" became Shanghai after he escaped from Germany in 1940. Eisenberg later came back to Shanghai as an investor, and was involved in several successful joint ventures, among them the Y.P. Glass Factory.

Young modern Jews like me have found personal and professional reasons to travel to China. But the nicest surprise has been that we have found a piece of our roots there. Last November, a group of 13 Jewish young people set off to Kaifeng to hold a Shabbat dinner. It was attended by some members of the local Jewish community who had not shared this tradition in a long time.

Daneal Charney is a Toronto resident who lived and worked in China for two years.



Ohel Rachel Synagogue in Shanghai [Photos from *The Jews in Shanghai*, Pan Guang, editor]

Opinions

Memories provide lasting legacy

In parshat Chaye Sarah we read that in order to bury his wife properly, Abraham needed to purchase a suitable site – the cavern of Machpelah, today located in the city of Hebron.

Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Sadly, the question of ownership of the tombs of the patriarchs and matriarchs has elicited terrible atrocities on both sides of the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These deaths are desecrations of the whole idea of why we bury and continue to honor the dead.

Burial marked with respect and dignity is as old as humanity. Even Neanderthals buried their dead with ceremony, thereby attaching meaning to the lives they had lived. Life and its termination were raised above the level of animal existence.

Our ritual of shivah does at least two things: it allows the mourner to receive the community's sympathy in a dignified way, asserting that the living are going to be supported by the community; and it allows time to recall the deeds of the one who has died. Those who come to pray with the mourners are those whose lives have been touched by the person no longer alive. Having been both a mourner and a comforter gives us a sense of awe at the power of the ceremonies that mark our going.

As a mourner, I have been offered a great legacy – stories about my parents and grandparents who touched many lives. These were not famous people, but they were good people and important people to communities that loved and needed them.

When I was a mourner, I did not seek the cold comfort of being told they had gone to a better place. This world, my world, I thought, the world of their grandchildren, was a good world, and I am angry that they were taken from it before they could see their grandchildren grown, their gardens flourishing. They were great travellers. So often I think, "How they would have loved to see..." and I feel as hurt now as when they died. That feeling of not being able to share with them experiences I know they would relish has never left me, although my parents have been dead over 10 years.

We keep them alive by telling stories.

This year, sadly, has brought me to many shivahs. We can never recover from some losses – the pain is too monstrous. Yet each person's life has had its own stories that will sustain the survivors through the early days and later remain as a true monument to the person who has died. The deeds of loving-kindness they did will be held close by families and friends.

One story: David's clothing business went bankrupt, and he was out of a job, with a family to support. When he opened a small clothing contracting business, a woman appeared who helped him set it up. Years later, his son, visiting him in retirement, asked who that woman was and where she came from.

And this is the story David told his son: During the Depression, he and Tony worked together in the clothing business, David as a cutter and Tony as a presser. David became foreman, and Tony lost his job. Every week when David visited Tony's family, he left $20 on the table. Then a job as a cutter opened up, but David's plea to hire Tony was rebuffed, since a presser is unskilled but a cutter needs a great deal of skill. So David proposed a solution. Make Tony the foreman (an easy job) and David would go back to being a cutter and losing his foreman's much better salary. The owner, amazed, agreed, and Tony had a job again.

Later Tony started his own business and prospered. When David went broke, it was Tony who sent his skilled worker – the woman – to help David.

David was my father-in-law. This story seems a fitting epitaph to a deeply caring man. It is the kind of story that brings the dead back to life every time it is told.

Nov. 26 is my mother's yahrzeit. Not only do I light a candle, but I look at pictures of all of us together, take out her college yearbook and read the whimsical prophecies her classmates made for her. I look at documents she left and books she read. I look at her as a young teacher in a picture with her class. I remember the many people whose lives she touched as teacher, mentor and musician.

Judaism wisely does not overspeculate on life after death. What remains with us are not only the stories of our loved ones, which as survivors we are obliged to tell, but also their deeds, which we are obliged to continue. Then they will truly remain bound up in life.

Too much democracy not a good thing

Last month, in conjunction with our municipal elections, Albertans had the opportunity to vote for two "senators-in-waiting" – nonexistent positions created by Alberta's Conservative government at the urging of the Reform party of Canada. The official explanation was that the election was being held to demonstrate to the federal government, and to the country as a whole, the depth of support for a so-called Triple-E Senate, a Senate that is elected, equal and effective.

Bruce Elman in Edmonton

When a Senate vacancy arose during the campaign, the election promised to be at least mildly interesting. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien spoiled the party, however, when he appointed the highly respected Doug Roche – former Tory MP and disarmament ambassador – to the Senate prior to election day. The end result was that, except for a few unknown independents, only the Reform party fielded candidates, and only a small percentage of those who voted in the municipal election bothered to cast a ballot in the "senator-in-waiting" contest.

The successful Reformers now have the dubious distinction of having won this questionable exercise in democracy. Their reward? To sit and wait, I guess.

Senate reform is, however, an issue that deserves serious attention. Triple-E is one idea. But it is not the only idea. For example, perhaps we should simply abolish the Senate altogether. And a third idea was contained in the Charlottetown Accord of 1992. The Senate envisioned there was elected, equal and somewhat effective. Interestingly, the Reform party was in the vanguard of those who opposed the accord, and when it was defeated in the national referendum of 1992, Senate reform was defeated as well.

The Triple-E proposal is essentially the grafting of an American-style Senate onto the British system of parliamentary democracy. Will it work? Who knows? The U.S. Senate is part of a republican system of government, with a strict separation of powers, and checks and balances among the three equal branches of government – the executive branch, the Congress and the courts. This is not our system, of course; so it requires much more study to determine whether a Triple-E Senate would enhance our system of government or have negative or adverse effects on it.

Constitutional reform can often have unforeseen and detrimental effects on democratic systems of government. A case in point is Israel's Direct Election Law. This month we have seen more graphic evidence of the serious and unfortunate effects that this law is having on Israeli democracy.

Throughout most of its history, Israel has had a system of parliamentary democracy based upon the British model. Prior to the last national elections, Israel decided to engage in a little constitutional tinkering: They grafted onto the parliamentary model an American-style direct election of the prime minister. The result was that Israelis decided, in massive numbers, to split their votes: When casting their ballot for the Knesset, they voted for a different party from that of the candidate they chose as prime minister. Consequently, the major parties, Likud and Labor, lost seats; and the second tier parties, Shas, NRP, Meretz, and the third tier parties Yisrael b'Aliyah and the Third Way gained seats.

The Direct Election Law was applied to this month's municipal elections as well. The results this time were even more pronounced. Although Likud and Labor were able to hold most of the mayoralty positions, the two major parties were decimated in the council elections. For example, while Likud's Ehud Olmert was re-elected mayor of Jerusalem with a large majority (61 percent), his party won only 6.6 percent of the vote and three seats on the 31-seat Jerusalem City Council. Labor's Shimon Shetreet won 23 percent of the mayoralty votes but his party received only six percent of the votes and two seats. The big winners in Jerusalem were Shas, the Sephardi religious party, and Meretz, the leftist party. Elsewhere, the story was the same: some huge losses for Likud and Labor and significant gains for Shas, Meretz and particularly Natan Sharansky's immigrants' party, Yisrael b'Aliyah.

A number of potentially disastrous consequences may arise: the development of even more pronounced schisms in Israeli society between left and right, religious and secular; an increase in the number of third tier "one issue parties;" a further reduction in the strength of the two main parties; the development of personal as opposed to party power bases; the need for a greater number of coalition partners in order to achieve a majority, which makes governance almost impossible. The prime minister (or the mayor) is a hostage to his coalition partners.

National elections are not far off. Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon believes there may be more than 20 parties contesting the next election and that Labor and Likud could be reduced to only 20 seats each. The prospect is for a government unable to act, straitjacketed by its coalition agreements, and paralyzed by the fear of losing power.

Likud and Labor should get together before it is too late. They should form a national unity government for the express purpose of repealing the Direct Election Law. One vote is good, but two votes are not necessarily better. Too much democracy is not a good thing!

Germany – The latest attraction for Jews

What would have appeared as the ultimate impossibility 50 years ago has now become a strange reality. Germany is a nation that today can boast the fastest growing Jewish community in the Diaspora.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

In cities where yesterday no Jews lived, small communities are springing up. An example is the "other Frankfurt," not the one located on the River Main which has one of the largest Jewish communities in the country, but the Frankfurt east of Berlin that, until recently, had no Jews at all. In September, a small congregation gathered there for a meal of gefilte fish and sweetened apples to celebrate its first Rosh Hashanah. Formed in June, the community has 60 members and is just one of the many fledgling congregations now taking root in cities all over the country.

Signs of the rebirth of Jewish culture are evident. Two weeks ago, the cornerstone was laid for a new synagogue in Kassell, a city in Hessen that could once boast a 1,000-year-old Jewish presence. In Berlin, a Jewish quarter with kosher restaurants and shops is emerging near the famous New Synagogue, whose golden dome can be seen throughout the city. According to a Munich newspaper, architects have plans for the construction or reconstruction of some 30 synagogues across the land.

Most of the present growth can be attributed to Jewish immigration from the former Soviet Union. According to Andreas Nachama, chair of Berlin's Jewish congregation, one of the group's most important tasks is integrating its Russian members and welcoming these newcomers, many of whom have yet to experience the religion of their forebears.

Ignatz Bubis, head of the Central Committee of Jews in Germany, said, according to *Week in Germany*: "The new members of the Jewish community will demand and draw out to an ever greater extent our solidarity, our strength and our creativity."

The same publication also has the following information: There is a new Jewish museum being developed in Berlin, and its new director is Michael Blumenthal, former U.S. secretary of the treasury, who, when quitting his American post, decided to accept the directorship of the museum, which he hopes to make into a world-class institution and a show-piece for the city. It will document the high points of Jewish culture in Germany and the contribution of Jewish citizens to the creation of the modern Jewish nation. Also, said Blumenthal, it will explore the tragic side of German-Jewish history – centuries of discrimination, the catastrophe of National Socialism, emigration and the Holocaust – as well as the revival of German-Jewish culture in recent years.

Recently, American movie director Steven Spielberg was honored by the president of the German Republic. In his address, the president spoke of *Schindler's List* as a universal landmark, and of the Spielberg Foundation, which has assembled tens of thousands of television interviews with survivors, as an important contribution not only to Jewish but also to German history.

The Kirshner File

Life according to Assi Dayan

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

When film director Assi Dayan accepted two awards at last year's Israeli Oscar ceremony for his newest movie, *The 92 Minutes of Mr. Baum*, he was typically outspoken.

He lambasted the government for not giving the industry sufficient financial support. And, in a dig at Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policies, he wondered out loud whether "there will even be a country next year."

Not one to mince his words, Dayan – the son of a legendary Israeli leader – is a quintessential iconoclast. And like most Israelis he is extravagantly opinionated.

A committed atheist, he is highly critical of the growing religiosity in Israel. A dyed-in-the-wool leftist, he despises the current Israeli government, and is sharply critical of yordim and Jews in the Diaspora. An acerbic observer of Israeli society, he complains that the present generation is ignorant of the past.

Dayan, who is also an actor, a novelist, a poet, a journalist and a broadcaster, is one of three children fathered by Moshe and Ruth Dayan. His brother, Ehud, is a sculptor. His sister, Yael, sits as a Labor party member of the Knesset.

He was here recently to promote *The 92 Minutes of Mr. Baum* and another one of his movies, *Life According to Agfa*, at an Israeli film festival sponsored by Cinematheque Ontario.

In person, Dayan, 53, is a rumpled, distracted figure in drab, loose-fitting clothes who speaks with a rasp, smokes incessantly and sips beer from a can. At times, he suddenly breaks from the interview to address a publicist in attendance.

Except for his full head of hair, he bears a remarkable resemblance to Micky Baum, the somnolent and doleful movie character who's hopelessly ravaged by cancer, and who has 92 minutes to live. In line with a recurring theme in several of his previous films, *The 92 Minutes of Mr. Baum* – a mordant comedy – turns on the idea that life can be bone-crushingly banal, and is composed of a series of accidents, the meaning of which remain unknown.

Interestingly enough, Dayan's own life partially falls into this random pattern. Born in Tel Aviv, Dayan fell into the film business, not by design, but by accident. While on vacation from university, where he studied philosophy and English literature, he worked on a low-budget Israeli movie. It was a defining experience which set him on his way.

During the next few years, he appeared as an actor in such Israeli and foreign films as *Five Days in Sinai*, *A Walk With Love And Death*, *Promise at Dawn* and *Operation Thunderbolt*. The last three were directed by seasoned veterans John Huston, Jules Dassin and Menahem Golan.

While pursuing his budding acting career, Dayan churned out a series of forgettable thrillers and comedies, and directed such films as *Saint Cohen*, a drama, and *Long Live Israel*, a satire. As a director, his breakthrough came with *Life According to Agfa*, the first of a trilogy, starring Gila Almagor, which took nine out of 11 Israeli Oscars in 1992. It was followed by *The Electric Blanket*, a comedy which won two Israeli Oscars, and *The 92 Minutes of Mr. Baum*, which picked up an equal number of prizes.

"I didn't follow in my father's footsteps," said Dayan, who was a paratrooper in the Israeli army. "I didn't become a general."

Dayan's father, who was variously chief of staff, agricultural minister, defence minister and foreign minister, never tried to influence his career choices. "He said, 'Do whatever you want.' He was a liberal. He said that I should pay for my mistakes."

In her memoirs, *My Father, His Daughter* (1985), Dayan's older sister, Yael, claims that Assi struggled "to fight for an identity apart from the famous name he carried," and that Dayan became "very difficult to live with."

Asked to elaborate, he said that he had no trouble living in his father's shadow, that he left home at the age of 18, that he generally had a good relationship with him, and that he inherited his brooding pessimism.

Dayan, though, was never intimidated by his heroic aura. "At home, he wasn't a legend, but a tired man with shorts."

He and his father did not often discuss politics. But before the Six Day War, he shared his pragmatic political beliefs. After 1967, however, he parted ways with Dayan, coming to believe that Israel should withdraw from every inch of the territories in exchange for peace. "We could have saved the lives of thousands of soldiers if we had immediately withdrawn," he observed.

Although he ran unsuccessfully for the Knesset as a left-wing Shelli candidate some 20 years ago, Dayan admits that he has never voted in a general election. " I'm an individual and I don't find any party close to my views."

Dayan is not impressed by the Wye Memorandum, signed by Israel and the Palestine Authority recently. "It's not a peace treaty, but some kind of an arrangement," he sniffed. Nor does he like Netanyahu. "He's a horrible man, a small guy who should be selling used cars. I hate his politics. He's destructive and he's a fascist. Netanyahu and his group have taken the joy and the vision out of peace."

A contributor to Israel's two leading dailies, *Yediot Aharonot* and *Maariv*, he mourns Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. "If he had been alive, I'd be going to a film festival in Damascus, not Toronto."

Raised in a thoroughly secular Zionist household, he did not have a bar mitzvah. Nor does he practise Judaism. "I don't think I was ever in a synagogue in my life."

Dayan, who has been married four times and has four children ranging in age from 15 to 26, claims that Israel is on the verge of becoming a theocratic state, "like Iran or Pakistan." Indignantly, he added, "I don't want to live in such a country."

A resident of the leafy Tel Aviv suburb of Ramat Gan, he has no intention of leaving Israel, if only because Hebrew is so precious to him, the language in which he writes his scripts, his newspaper columns, his poems and his novels, the first of which, *Table of Contents*, was published in 1989. Striking a rare buoyant chord, he said that the 19th century revival of Hebrew as an everyday living language was "a wonderful thing."

Assi Dayan

As a filmmaker, Dayan prefers screenwriting and directing to acting because the first two functions require more creativity. But judging by his reviews and the honors he has amassed, Dayan is widely respected as a thespian. One of the Israeli films in which he starred, *Beyond the Walls*, garnered an Academy Award nomination for best foreign film in 1986.

Probably because he thinks that a high proportion of Israeli films are well made, he bemoans the financial restraints under which directors like himself labor. Dayan, who makes movies on a shoestring (*The 92 Minutes of Mr. Baum*, for example, cost all of $350,000 US), charged that government subsidies are drying up because the haredi ministers who dispense them are indifferent to cinema, and resent the fact that popular Israeli culture is produced by leftists.

In parting shots, Dayan accused young Israelis of being uninformed of Israel's history ("They don't know anything about my father"), derided Israeli emigrants abroad as money-hungry and selfish, and denounced Diaspora Jews. As he put it:"They send me to wars while they lounge in Jaccuzis. They like to watch CNN showing Israeli soldiers shooting rubber bullets at Palestinians. It's a shame, and I don't understand it."

Vintage Dayan.

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Guest Voices

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

An Otzma education

Not very often in our lifetime do we have the opportunity to truly touch the lives of others, to walk into one's community and ask how I, the self within, can make a genuine, unique and positive contribution to that place. Understandably, commitments always seem to get in the way somehow.

As a participant this past year on Project Otzma, I had the opportunity to delay these obligations in exchange for a rewarding year of personal growth, cultural learning, and social outreach.

Project Otzma is a 10-month fellowship sponsored by the Council of Jewish Federations that enables select participants from North America to spend a year performing valuable community service in Israel.

This past year on Otzma, I learned about the State of Israel and all of its cultural beauty. I learned that the apparent abrasiveness I confronted daily in the streets of Jerusalem, Eilat and Nazareth Illit were merely disguises for the warmth, generosity, and overwhelming kindness that I felt every time someone invited me to their home for a Shabbat dinner.

I learned that wherever I was in Israel, whether in the magnificence of the north or the solitude of the Negev, there was a familial bond amongst Israelis throughout the country.

I felt this bond during Yom Hazikaron, as Israelis mourned the loss of their loved ones who had fallen during Israel's wars. I also felt it a day later on Yom Ha'atzmaut, when they celebrated with sheer joy and jubilation their 50 years of statehood. And I felt it at the two-year anniversary of the death of Yitzchak Rabin, as hundreds of thousands came to support their fallen leader. I understood all of this, but now I understand.

This past year on Otzma, I learned about the State of Israel and all of its political complexity. I learned that two sides can be perfectly right and perfectly wrong at exactly the same time.

I witnessed the prejudice that exists on each side, the bitter raging hatred which makes it seemingly impossible to achieve any positive political outcome.

I journeyed into the West Bank and listened to a Palestinian plead that his family suffers for days without food when the territories are sealed and that we should not condemn the many innocent for the atrocious acts of the guilty few. I heard the drowning cries of a mother whose son was killed by a bomb on Diezengoff. And I observed the protests of those fighting for the removal of soldiers from Lebanon, wondering why we must continue to lose the ones we love. I wondered if there would *ever* be an end to any of this.

Most importantly, though, this past year on Otzma I learned about the joys that lie in helping my fellow human being. I saw the joy in an Ethiopian mother's face as she was reunited with her son after six weeks of separation and anguish, and I felt the joy in knowing that I helped to prepare for his arrival from Addis Ababa.

I experienced the satisfaction of knowing that the autistic children that I taught to ride bicycles in Ra'anana would now be able to experience one of the most traditional joys of childhood. I experienced the gratification of knowing that I facilitated the growth of a young Conservative congregation in Eilat by initiating a monthly newsletter for them.

I felt the struggle of young Russian immigrants in their difficult adjustment to a new culture and a new language, and I felt proud in knowing that I had done something positive to alleviate their burden. And I felt honored in working with seven children with Down syndrome because their ability to love and be loved far surpassed that of anyone I had ever met. I learned that helping others really means helping myself.

This past year on Project Otzma, I touched the lives of others; but more accurately, *I* was touched by the lives of others.

David Friedman lives in Toronto.

There's plenty of Wye

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

This week we continue our look at some of the many Internet sites related to last month's signing of the Wye River Memorandum.

The agreement has been reproduced on many Web sites such as the Jerusalem Post's **[http://www.jpost.co.il/Info/Wye/]**, which also has a summary of the memorandum's highlights and links to stories about local reaction to the announcement of the signing.

The Memorandum wasn't the only significant document which came out of Wye. Others letters were circulated, such as a side letter from U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright which affirms the United States' "ironclad commitment to Israel's security and to peace, and to stress that Palestinian security undertakings are a critical foundation of the Memorandum" **[http://www.israelwire.com/New/981025/98102538.html]**.

Several other Letters of Assurance were exchanged in the week following the agreement **[http://www.pmo.gov.il/english/policy/wye-2a.html]**.

The Prime Minister's site provides an analysis of the accord **[http://www.pmo.gov.il/english/policy/wye-4.html]**. It says the Memorandum was a necessity because the 1995 Interim Agreement between Israel and the Palestinians **[http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/go.asp?MFAH00qa0]** had become deadlocked. But now "with renewed and strengthened Palestinian undertakings to fight terrorists and their infrastructure, the Memorandum provides that the further redeployment phases may now take place."

The Palestinian National Authority has established its own official Web site **[http://www.pna.net/]**. Its Peace Process section contains a copy of the Memorandum, an analysis of the agreement and a section titled Israeli Violations of the Wye Memorandum **[http://www.pna.net/peace/israeli_violations_of_the_wye_me.htm]**.

One of the key agreements at Wye was the amendment of the Palestinian National Charter to remove anti-Israel articles. The Charter has been reproduced in its entirety along with the various clauses which are to be amended, such as "Article 9: Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine" **[http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/go.asp?MFAH00pv0]**.

Recently, Yasser Arafat reaffirmed his commitment to repeal those anti-Israel clauses when the Palestine National Council meets in December **[http://www.jpost.com/com/Archive/12.Nov.1998/News/Article-1.html]**.

Hamas' "Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement" can also be found online **[http://wiretap.spies.com/Gopher/Gov/World/hamas.cov]**.

News about the implementation of the Wye Memorandum changes from day to day. CNNinteractive has created a large site called Struggle for Peace where you can check in on the latest developments **[http://cnn.com/WORLD/struggle_for_peace/index.html]**. You'll find a chronology of events, biographies of some of the key figures and links to related sites. And there is also a Middle East conflict message board where you can air your own views.

And for something a bit different, it's always worth checking in with Yaakov Kirschen's cartoon "Drybones" for his take on the peace process **[http://drybones.org.il/COMICS99.HTML]**. One recent offering: "The GOOD news is that we and the Palestinians have FINALLY agreed on a path that we can follow together. The BAD news is that each side THINKS that the road is leading to a DIFFERENT place."

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Jewish Life

Rabbinic Reflections

Holy Shabbat angels

By RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

One of the most beloved of Jewish songs is *Shalom Aleichem* of Shabbat evening. However, in this song there is a bit of an anomaly in the last verse.

The source of the song is the notion that on Friday evening two angels accompany us as we enter our homes. Upon seeing the home prepared for Shabbat, the angels offer us a brachah. In our song, in the first stanza we welcome the angels with "*Shalom Aleichem*," in the second stanza we invite them into our home with "*Boachem l'shalom*," in the third stanza we ask them to bless us "*Barchuni*" and in the fourth stanza we usher them out the door "*Tseitchem l'shalom*."

Out the door so fast? Let the angels stay a bit, relax, spend some time with us – why are we ushering them out the door so fast? We could have left this stanza out entirely and ended the song with our request for them to bless us.

Now I know this isn't the deepest question in the world. After all, it's only a song about angels. However, there is an interesting concept that I believe gives a different twist to the song.

In our Torah portion, Vayeitsei, Rashi makes a famous comment on the vision of Jacob and the ladder. Jacob, fleeing from the Land of Israel in order to save his life from his threatening brother Esau, lies down and has a dream of angels ascending and descending a ladder. Rashi comments that as Jacob leaves the Land of Israel there is a changing of the guard of his guardian angels. When he returns to the Land of Israel in the very last verses of this portion, the angels change again, this time because he is now entering the Land.

One may deduce from the Torah and the midrash that the holiness of the Land of Israel demands a different type of angel. You have holy guardian angels of the Land of Israel and you have less holy angels for outside of the Land of Israel. Hence Jacob has a dream as he leaves the Land of Israel and sees the switching of the angels of the Holy Land and angels of outside the Land.

I think that this is the image of the angels of Shabbat. We have weekday angels, but when Shabbat comes, as we enter a holy time, we have a changing of the angels from weekday angels to Shabbat angels. We welcome in our holy Shabbat angels, greeting them, ushering them into our home, asking for their blessing. At the same time, our weekday angels are leaving us. We wish them well as they take leave of us for Shabbat, before we return our attention back to our Shabbat angels.

The last paragraph of *Shalom Aleichem* is not addressed to the Shabbat angels who are going to be with us for the entire holy time of Shabbat, but to the weekday angels who are taking leave of us for the day, to return after Shabbat.

What a beautiful image: on the holy day of Shabbat, we spend the day with holy angels. Not only is the day a special day of rest, clothing and delicious food, but it is also a holy day to be spent with holy pursuits, while under special holy protection of the unique Shabbat angels.

Rabbi Tradburks is the spiritual leader of Kehillat Shaarei Torah in Toronto.

A man for all seasons

Books
Bernard Baskin

***The Life Of Thomas More*, by Peter Ackroyd (Chatto & Windus, $45).**

Thomas More had the misfortune to serve as lord chancellor to King Henry VIII when the 36-year-old monarch was trying to rid himself of Catherine of Aragon, his Spanish wife of 18 years, despite the opposition of the Catholic Church.

The problem was crystal clear to Henry, "All such issue males as I have received of the Queen died immediately after they were born; so that I fear the punishment of God."

The source of the trouble had been written down in Scripture for all to read: "If a man shall take his brother's wife, it is an unclean thing; he hath uncovered his brother's nakedness; they shall be childless" — and Catherine had been married to his older brother Arthur. It made no difference that the queen swore that she had left her 15-year-old husband's marriage bed still a virgin, or that the papacy had granted a dispensation to void the biblical prohibition.

In an Oxford college library there is a priceless, pristine set of the Talmud printed in Venice (1520-1523) that the king procured, hoping that the talmudic interpretation of the more permissive laws of the Hebrew Bible would prove the pope wrong.

In addition, the king asked the opinion of some Italian rabbis, and one dared to side with him. All of this at a time when the Jews, expelled in 1290, were still forbidden to step foot in England.

Mistress Anne Boleyn, a talented and vivacious lady-in-waiting at the court, was available and the king was adamant about a divorce.

The king turned to More for his help and advice as a successful lawyer, diplomat and seasoned politician.

Those around Henry were compelled to enter an unacknowledged pact of silence about the king's motives. The atmosphere at court had become difficult as well as delicate and those, like More, who supported Catherine of Aragon had to tread cautiously. One of the games being played was that of waiting, since they hoped the king's attraction to Anne was nothing more than infatuation.

"It is likely to have been in this period that Henry made his famous visit to More's house in Chelsea, where he walked in the gardens with his arm around his counsellor's neck. The king's affection may or may not have been genuine on that occasion, but More probably shuddered at the touch; scrupulous and reticent as he was, he would have wished to keeping his distance in order to preserve his integrity."

More, a poet and humanist, translated many of the Latin classic writings. His most famous work, *Utopia*, was published in Latin in 1516. It describes an imaginary commonwealth governed entirely by reason.

An ambiguous and sometimes capricious personality, More mingled cruelty with his saintliness and caution with his candor. He engaged in religious zealotry, vilified the followers of Luther and condemned several heretics to the stake.

"In his vituperative attacks on Luther, More is no longer taking part in an elaborate literary exercise; he is fighting for the life of his world, which, he believes, will otherwise be extinguished by uncertainty and doubt. The battle between the two men is like an internalized conflict between the warring selves of 16th-century civilization."

In 1534, Parliament proclaimed Henry "Supreme Head of the Church of England." An oath of loyalty to the crown was now required of all subjects; dissent was tantamount to treason. All of this was too much for More who refused to take the oath and resigned his position.

In July 1535, More was beheaded. In mounting the scaffold he cracked his famous sick joke "I pray you, I pray you, Mr. Lieutenant, see me safe up, and for my coming down let me shift for myself."

It wasn't until 1886 that the Roman Catholic Church declared More to be blessed, and not until 1935 that it conferred full martyr's honor upon him. As the historian Lacey B. Smith wrote "More was never a comfortable saint."

Ackroyd is knowledgeable and witty, a keen delineator of personality and a superb stylist. His previous eight novels and four biographies have been well received. *The Life of Thomas More* is a dramatic life story of a complex character whom Erasmus labelled, "A man for all seasons." He meant it as a compliment, but other interpretations are possible.

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Addiction and Mental Health Services, Donwood division, needs volunteers to work with clients and their families. Addiction knowledge helpful. Weekday evenings, 3 hours per week, 3 months renewable commitment. Training begins in January in the Eglinton/Brentcliffe area. Contact Volunteer Centre of Toronto, North York Branch, 631-6117.

CIC welcomes probe of charities

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) is welcoming efforts by federal solicitor-general Andy Scott to strip the charitable status of organizations which raise money for terrorist groups abroad.

Scott is seeking, for the second time, cabinet approval for his plan, which would remove tax breaks for groups suspected of being fronts for terrorist organizations, including those linked to the Middle East.

The CIC has long been concerned with the presence in Canada of organizations which raise money and provide moral support for Hezbollah and Hamas, said its research director, David Goldberg.

Several years ago, the CIC issued a report to Canada's foreign affairs ministry, expressing concern over domestic fundraising for Middle East terror groups, and recommending safeguards.

Goldberg said it's difficult, but not impossible, to find a "comfort zone" in which legitimate groups can continue to raise money for legitimate causes, but where a crackdown can be legislated against other organizations that fund terrorism.

Goldberg said there's "no doubt" money is being raised in Canada for Hamas and Hezbollah.

Often, he said, organizations with ties to Mideast terror operate under the guise of social welfare and charity groups or clubs, all with innocent sounding names.

While it's nearly impossible to crack down on the transfer of cash, Ottawa can eliminate the charitable tax status of some organizations, Goldberg noted.

Scott wants to create a new legal process, in which closed-door hearings before the Federal Court would be presented with highly sensitive evidence from the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS). If found guilty, organizations linked to terror would be stripped of the tax benefits available to charities and non-profit groups.

But Scott's plan, an earlier version of which was rejected by the cabinet, has not met with sympathy from his colleagues, who fear it would violate the civil rights of groups engaged in legitimate fundraising.

Some cabinet members reportedly objected to the idea of closed-door hearings, in which lawyers for the suspected organizations would be barred from the courtroom.

Last week, revenue minister Herb Dhaliwal told reporters he does not see evidence of any charities raising money for groups linked to terror.

In June, CSIS director Ward Elcock told a Senate committee that his agency is investigating about 50 organizations in Canada, including groups with ties to Hamas and Hezbollah.

Last year, CSIS said Hezbollah has established an infrastructure in Canada that can assist terrorists seeking safe haven in North America.

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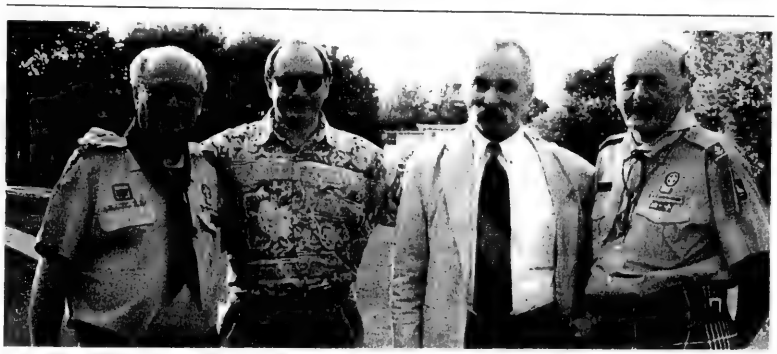

ISRAELI SCOUTING CARAVAN

The United Israel Appeal in St. Catharines was the host and co-sponsor of the recent Israeli scout friendship caravan's visit to the Niagara Region. The caravan was composed of 10 Israeli teenaged scouts. From left are Robert Engel of the Jewish Scouting Association of Canada; UIA St. Catharines chair David Shapiro; UIA shaliach Bezalel Ben-Eliahu; and a senior St. Catharines scout in traditional uniform.

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WEEK OF NOV. 27-DEC. 3/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	7:00 & 7:45 AM	5:00 PM
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	4:30 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	6:15 & 7:30 AM	Mon.-Wed. Maariv 8:45 PM
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	4:45 PM
Beth Radom (C)	18 Reiner Rd. (416) 636-3451	4:45 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	4:45 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:30 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:15 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 & 8:00 AM	4:25 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	4:30 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings.

Community Matters

Russian Jews Squeeze In To Get Out

By Adi Neuberger

It's standing room only in Jewish Agency run Hebrew classes throughout Moscow as thousands of Jews prepare to make aliyah to escape economic turmoil and rising anti-Semitism.

The demand for space at Hebrew language classes in Moscow and other major Russian cities has almost tripled over the last 6 months, reports Alla Levy, director of Eastern European Operations for the Jewish Agency. Close to 10,000 potential olim, most from Russia's decimated middle class, are clamoring for spots - the highest number in 1998.

"We're simply runnning out of space," admits Levy in an interview with *Community Matters*.

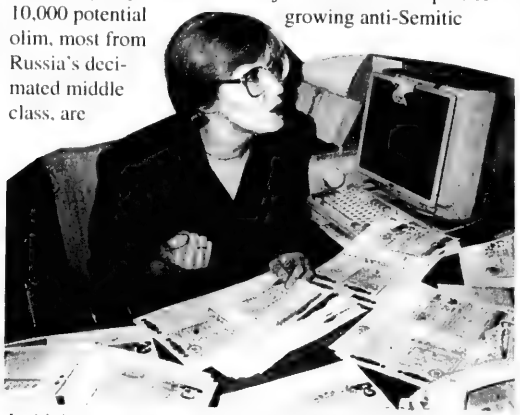
Levy is desperately searching for additional classrooms to accommodate what she calls a "tremendous need," among Jewish professionals between 25 and 40 years of age, who see emigration to Israel as their only hope for the future.

Levy says widespread job loss and the impact of growing anti-Semitic sentiment within Russia's Communist party leaves the once secure middle class increasingly pessimistic about the chances for improvement.

"There's just a great deal of disillusionment and uncertainty and these people are turning to us for help," says Levy.

The Jewish Agency, funded by UJA Federation campaigns, has sent in additional manpower to help local officials deal with the long lines of applicants, many of whom require enhanced professional Hebrew language classes (Ulpans) to prepare them for entry into the Israeli workforce. The ulpans will also expand their English and computer classes to help the potential olim secure jobs in Israel's growing hi-tech sector.

Levy expects the first wave of olim currently being processed to arrive in Israel in early 1999. "These people are very serious about their plans," she notes. Many have relatives and friends already living in Israel.

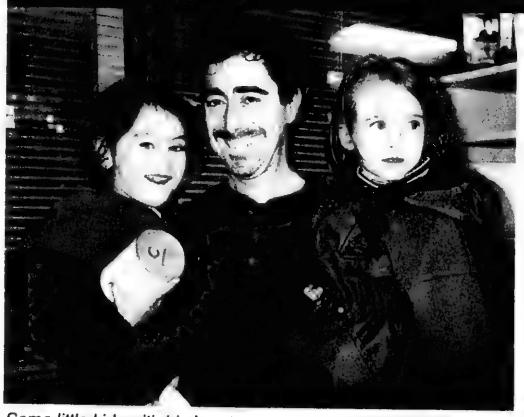


Jewish Agency offices have become inundated with applications from young Jewish professionals seeking a better life in Israel.

In October alone, 9,300 Russian Jews signed up for Jewish Agency run Ulpan classes.

UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty, to raise $50 million annually by 2001, will allocate an additional $1.5 million in new funds to rescue Jews from unstable regions, such as the former Soviet Union.

JEWISH toronto



*Some little kids with big hearts are proving you're never too young to give tzedakah. The **Bathurst Jewish Centre's** Junior Kindergarten class, including four year olds **Shira Levine** (above left - with father Rick) and **Alex Garbe**, collected $25 for **UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty**. In addition to delivering the funds in person to UJA Federation's North York office, the tiny tots treated staff and parents to a pre-Shabbat sing song.*

BJC/Junior UJA Chanukah Bash

All ages are invited to celebrate the miracle of Chanukah, **Sunday December 13, 2:00-4:00 pm**, in the lobby of the **Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street**. The holiday festivities, co-sponsored by the **BJC** and **Junior UJA**, will feature entertainment, lots of latkes, music, clowns and much more. ***Children under 5 require adult accompaniment.***

Dare to Dream and Win Big

UJA Federation's **Campaign for Fifty** needs your help to reach its goal of $50 million annually by 2001. Sign up for a shift, or two, at the upcoming **Dare to Dream telethons, Dec. 6-10**, by calling **(416) 635-2883 ext. 174**. In addition to raising funds for Jews in need - you can win one of many **fabulous prizes** including dinner for two, a **Rose Reisman** cooking lesson, a tour of the new **Air Canada Centre**, a chance to co-host a popular **Talk 640** radio show, a Playdium party for eight, passes to live taping of **Canada AM**, and much, much more!

Jewish Life on Campus

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, UJA Federation and **Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto** are co-sponsoring an open house information session about Jewish life on university and college campuses across Ontario, **Thursday, November 26, at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street**. For more information call **(416) 635-2883 ext. 139 or (416) 785-1465.**

Mazel Tov

Congratulations to newly elected **Nancy Bercovitch**, President of the **Canadian Council of Reform Judaism**, **Lynne Pressman**, President of **Canadian Women for Reform Judaism** (CWRJ), and **Elaine Fogel**, CWRJ Vice-President.

It's on the Web!

For complete information on the latest news about ***Jewish Toronto***, its organizations, activities and special events take a tour of our Website.

www.feduja.org

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

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NOTICE

Please note that due to renovations

the Consular Section of the Consulate General of Israel will not be open to the public from Nov. 30-Dec. 8 and Dec. 14-16, 1998.

If necessary, you may contact the Consular Section daily Monday to Friday, 12:30-2:30 p.m. or by mail: 180 Bloor St. W., Suite 700, Toronto, Ont. M5S 2V6.

Since there may be disruptions even after December 8, we recommend that you call the Consulate: (416) 961-1126 before coming to our offices.

The 3rd Annual I. Jeffrey Presement Memorial Lecture

THIS PLAGUE DOESN'T PASS OVER JEWS

An informative evening about HIV/AIDS and how if affects our Jewish youth

Guest Speakers:

Michael Dobbs, MSW
Director of Hillel, Philadelphia
Former Coordinator, HIV/AIDS Services for Jewish Federation, Long Island, NY

Anette Goldstein
Co-ordinator of Outreach and Education, The Teresa Group, a local organization dedicated to serving children and families living with AIDS/HIV

Sunday, November 29th at 7:30 p.m.
Adath Israel Congregation
37 Southbourne Avenue, North York

Admission is Free

For further information, please call (416) 635-5340

Jointly presented by the AIDS Committees of Holy Blossom Temple, Beth Tzedec Synagogue and Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am, and Adath Israel Congregation's Community Participation Committee

Local Israelis hold gala

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Israeli Association of Greater Toronto is holding its first formal gala Dec. 6, under the official auspices of Yehudi Kinar, Israel consul general.

The gala, expected to draw 400 guests, including 60 invitees from the general Jewish community, will be held at the City Playhouse Theatre, 1000 New Westminster Dr., Thornhill, at 7 p.m. Admission is $18.

The gala will feature a showing of the popular Israeli film, *Out for Love, Be Back Shortly*, directed by Dan Katzir, who will attend.

The work of 24 Israeli artists will be displayed in the theatre's foyer. Many of these paintings will be for sale.

"We hope the gala and other activities will attract the second generation of Israelis in Toronto, because we need new blood," said president David Gerichter.

The association hopes that its activities will bring the 30,000 Israelis here in closer contact with the rest of the Jewish community.

Toronto has the third-largest Israeli population on the continent after New York and Los Angeles.

The inclusion of the association's address in the office of the Jewish Information Service at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, is an indication that Israelis are being accepted in the larger community, said executive coordinator Shula Jacobi.

Volunteers at the office, 635-5670, will be glad to answer any queries about the gala or Israeli events and opportunities in the city, she said.

"Many Israelis do not know the services that the organized Jewish community offers, but we are drawing closer together," said Gerichter.

He and gala chair Itia Golan paid tribute to Ward 4 Vaughan councillor Mario Racco for his help in aranging the gala. Vaughan Mayor Lorna Jackson and Liberal MP Elinor Caplan will be among the guests.

The mayor of Ramla, Israel, which is twinned with Vaughan, is also expected to attend.

Concert to raise funds

TORONTO — The love of Israel and concern over hunger in society are bringing together the Toronto Council of Hazzanim and Mazon Canada for a gala cantorial concert on Dec. 6 at the Holy Blossom Temple.

Ten Toronto cantors, representing various streams of Judaism, along with the Toronto Jewish Male Choir will headline the concert, called For the Love of Israel and Jewish Unity.

Funds raised at the concert, held as part of the continuing celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary, will go to Mazon and scholarships for cantorial students.

Mazon Canada raises funds in the Jewish community for non-denominational allocation to front-line organizations, such as food banks, fighting hunger across Canada.

For more information about the gala concert or for tickets, call 416-789-3291.

SINGLES EVENTS
is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call: Tanya at (416) 391-1836

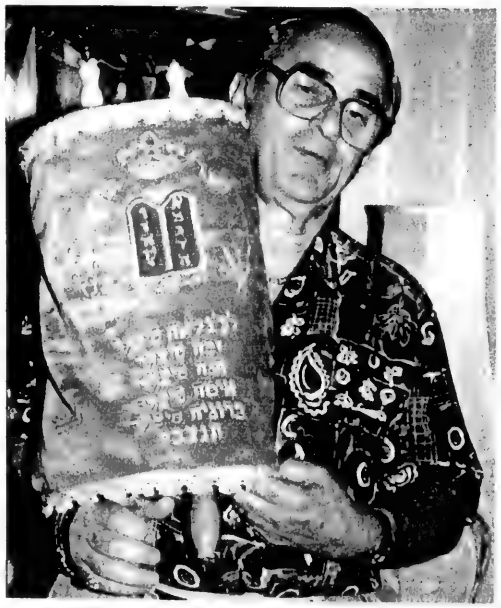
Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles 35-55, joins Temple Sinai Singles for a Chanukah Party. Sat., Dec. 12 at Temple Sinai, 210 Wilson Ave. Dancing, latkes, noshes - dairy, cash bar. Casually elegant. $25 prepaid reservations only by Dec. 10. Visa. Margie at Temple office, 487-4161.

Jewish Connections Inc. 1st date FREE. Personalized Introduction Service for selective singles. A 90's approach to dating. **905-889-3900**

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1650 registered. **416-483-4151.**

www.jmatch.com Free to register, free profile page, free to browse.

"OM" Sweet "OM" Social Club Musical Jam & Party. Sat., Nov. 28. Instruments welcome **905-763-1786**



TORAH DONATED

Max Sitzer (shown above), a Holocaust survivor, recently donated a Sefer Torah to Adath Israel Congregation. The scroll originally belonged to a German-Jewish family named Gross. The family's sole survivor of the Holocaust was a son, who protected the Torah by wrapping it around his body. Sitzer purchased it through a rabbi in Israel.

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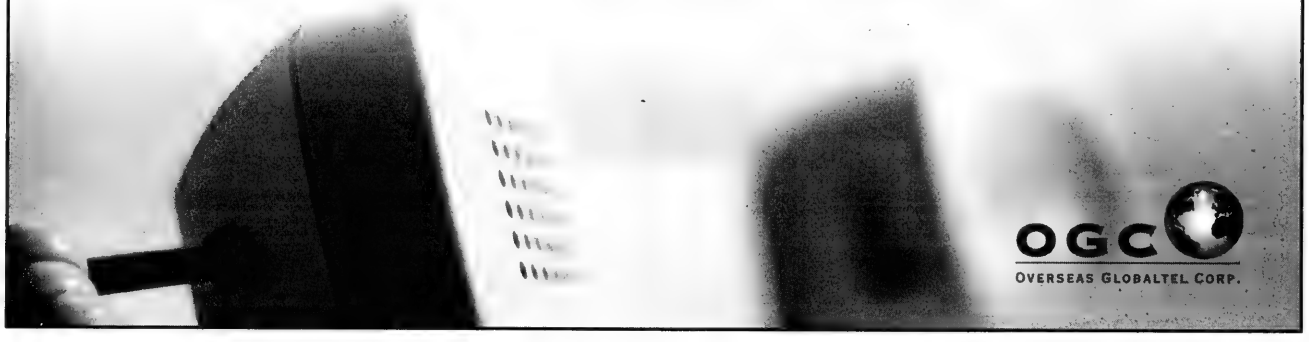


OGC
OVERSEAS GLOBALTEL CORP.

Historian chronicles life in a Lithuanian shtetl

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Some of Yaffa Eliach's colleagues said she was "a bissel meshuge" when the New York-based historian and Brooklyn College professor decided to memorialize her hometown, a Lithuanian shtetl whose Jewish community of 3,500 was virtually extinguished in the Holocaust.

"How can you document a god-forsaken small town?" she asked rhetorically in an address at the 22nd Annual Jewish Book Fair, held at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

Eliach, author of *There Once Was a World*, spoke on A 900-Year Chronicle of the Shtetl of Eishyshok: A Portrait and Tribute to A Vanished Culture.

Her recent book about her hometown expands on the Tower of Life, which has been cited as the most powerful display in Washington's U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. A smaller exhibit of her pictures can be found in a Holocaust museum in Hiroshima, Japan.

In 1979, Eliach was sent on a fact-finding mission to eastern Europe as part of then-president Jimmy Carter's commission to establish a museum commemorating the Holocaust.

Eliach had left Europe with an aunt and uncle as a child refugee in 1945. Her mother and baby brother had been killed by local Poles after liberation, and her father had been imprisoned.

On her return, the persistent focus on death and destruction disturbed her. "I kept saying to myself, 'Is this what we want to show the public, that we Jews are only victims?' What about our history of 1,000 years in Europe? I would like a museum to include something about us as normal, creative, outstanding people."

Yaffa Eliach

She decided to use her hometown as a model of Jewish pre-war life, by collecting documents and photographs taken by local Jewish photographers, and ultimately by writing a book on the town's 900-year history.

Her collection began with the photos that were hidden in her shoe when she left Europe as a child. It grew to 10,000 images.

Although Eliach's idea was not accepted initially, she continued her research, despite a lack of funding.

Her quest took her to six continents, rummaging in attics and digging for photos buried in the ground. "You can't imagine," she said, and indeed, her ladylike demeanor, heels, long-skirted suit and elaborate updo made it difficult.

For some photos, she said, she had to pay large sums of money. In Vilna, she paid with four jogging suits.

Among her discoveries were records of the Eishyshok Jewish community having raised funds for the building of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1925. Her lecture here, appropriately enough, was sponsored by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University.

Once Eliach began to amass material, she decided she had to return to Eishyshok.

After an emotional reunion with her former nanny – the woman who saved her life – she visited the mass graves where most of the townspeople were shot in 1941.

"I saw them the way they looked in my pictures, smiling, skiing, going to bar mitzvahs, swimming, and I could hear them talking to me and asking to be remembered the way they were."

She left with a clear vision of the type of exhibit she wanted to create, with pictures "around, above and below you," exactly as she saw the images when she stood on the mass grave.

Her pictures depict "just the way life was in the shtetl." In fact, she said, people who didn't get along in the shtetl are not next to each other in the exhibit.

The display has become a universal family album, she said, telling of a black youth who cried at the photo of her father holding her, saying it was just like his father holding him.

The Holocaust was a blueprint for genocide, said Eliach, a Holocaust education pioneer. "If we don't teach the Holocaust and study about the Holocaust, all the mistakes may be repeated."

Proper education is important not only for Jewish survival, she emphasized, but for all ethnic groups.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

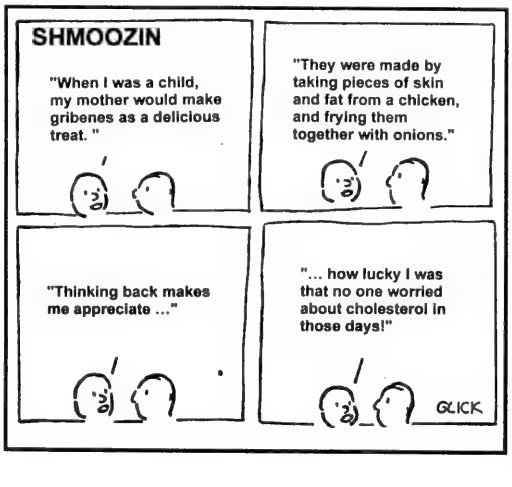
קפה של בוקר באור יהודה:
אני יושב בבית קפה קטן באור יהודה. לא רחוק ממקום מגורי וסופו את השמש הסתווית עיירת פיתוח עם הרבה בעיות שלושה ארבעה דורות של עוני הזנחה. ביסי פשע. וליצים תנופת בניה ואופטימיות באור יהודה בנו, כמו בכל מקום כמעט. קניון. שנראה במבט ראשון כמו כל מרכז קניות קנדי ואמריקני. השומר בפתח בודק את התיקים, אתה נכנס, ואז מתגלה עומקו של המיתון בחצי מן החנויות ריקות, לאחר שפעלו במלוא התפוקה לפני שנה. כשביקרתי כאן. בקומת המעדות פתוחה רק חנות הפיצה. כשכל השאר סגורות. ליד הקניון שוכן מרכז הקניות הישן, המכוער של אור יהודה, והוא- שוקק והומה ואף חנות איננה סגורה. על המדרכות יושבות זקנות וסלים בידיהן, וזקנים מדברים עיראקית, רוסית, פרסית. ושלל שפות נוספות שנפלאו מאוזני. הקניון הוא על הכיפק. אבל אין ספק שהפעלת חנות בתוכו עולה פי כמה מעלות הפעלתו בשוק הישן ובזמן מיתון- זה ההבדל בין להיות ולחדול.

רבותי הסטוריה-גבירתי ראש העיר:
מרים פיירברג מונחיה. עובדת סוציאלית וקרימינולוגית. היא האישה הראשונה בתולדות ישראל שזוכה לעמוד בראשה של אחת מעשר הערים הגדולות בישראל באשר לשמה. פיירברג. היא מעידה "אני. אלף כבאים לא יצליחו לכבות אותי." תפקידה של פיירברג הוא לשנות את דימויה הקיים של נתניה כעיר פשע. ("איך מגיעים לנתניה: נוסעים על כביש רחוק. עד ישתומים ירדת.") מעבר להצלחתה הנפלאה של פיירברג מדהים לגלות שרק חמישה אחוזים מכל המועמדים בבחירות המקומיות היו נשים! דווקא נשים שידועות בדאגתן לעניינים היומיים. התנזרו לחלוטין מן הפוליטיקה המקומית. אבי אייאר ביניינו

הפגנת הסטודנטים:
מזה מספר שבועות מתנהלת בישראל הפגנת סטודנטים. הם עקשים. הם החליטו ודורשים מהממשלה להקטין את שכר הלימוד שעומד על עשרת אלפים שקל (שלושת אלפים חמש מאות דולאר קנדיים). בהשוואה להכנסה הממוצעת אחרי מסים בקנדה- זהו סכום עצום. מה עוד שבישראל אין היוזאות לסטודנטים וכמעט אין מעונות. אלה ברובם יוצאי צבא וגילם הממוצע גבוה בארבע שנים משל עמיתיהם בחו"ל. בשנה שעברה. אם אתם זוכרים. שבתו המרצים שבעים ושמונה ימים. אבל הסיכוי הקשה בפרשת השביתה הוא התנהגות המשטרה. שמכה באלימות ועוצרת סטודנטים כאילו היו מחבלים של החמאס. אתמול הגיעו מאות דתיים קיצוניים חמישים שוטרים ואף אלה לא הוכנסו. לימית. את הם גוררים על הכביש סטודנטיות צעירות ישראלי מהות סיכון לאף אחד

סברס 1998:
בחנותו אשר בנגב. מגדל ישראלי בשם בלום. סברס. ומשפר מזה עשרים וחמש שנה את פרי הצבר. בילדותינו - קטיפת פרי הצבר מהצמח היחצני. הירוקו ואכילתו היו מבצע צבאי. וברוב המקרים נשארו פצועים בגופינו עשרות קוצים קטנים שהזכירו לנו את מתיקות הצבר. שעות רבות אחר כך. עכשיו מצאו אנשי חוות הנגב דרכים ליגל אותו בלי קוצים. גם הפליאו ויצרו ממנו ריבות. ליקרים ומה-לא. אבי שיתי לב. שבעוד שאנחנו. הישראלים. מתלהבים מהפרי הזה ואוכלים אותו בשקיקה. לאיש המערב נראה הפרי הזה די טפשי ומסורבל ב- [illegible] כינה אותו מישהוא השבוע "תפוח עם אבעבועות רוח". אולי זה קשור בכך שבילדותינו היה הסברס פסק זמן מתוך צרות הימיים

לי כרופא ילדים. מיזיר הצבר קטעים משעשעים מחדר המיון. כשכל קיץ מספר ילדים הין מגיעים עם עצירות. אימה אחרי שאכלו שלושים-ארבעים סברס. ואז היה רופא הילדים (אני) נותן לאחות חדר המיון הוראה לעשות להם "חוקן גדול". ואם גם זה לא היה עוזר. היה הרופא לובש כפפה ונאלץ "לקלף" את נושי הנרעינים של הצבר מהחריר התחתון של מערכת העיכול שלהם. המראה כפי שאתם לעצמכם. לא היה מלבב במיוחד. ובעקבותיו עברו הצעירים האלה לאכול קרמיטינות ותאנים


SHMOOZIN
"When I was a child, my mother would make gribenes as a delicious treat."
"They were made by taking pieces of skin and fat from a chicken, and frying them together with onions."
"Thinking back makes me appreciate ..."
"... how lucky I was that no one worried about cholesterol in those days!"
CLICK

VE'AHAVTA DONATION

A fire at a rooming house on Queen Street last month resulted in the deaths of two residents and forced 51 people onto the streets. Ve'ahavta, the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian & Relief Committee responded by arranging a donation from Peter and Frank Ekstein to help provide relief supplies for the families. Ve'ahavta executive vice-president Avrum Rosensweig presented the cheque to Betsy McKelvery of the Parkdale Activity and Recreational Centre, which provides services in the area. [Stephen Epstein photo]

Canadian Associates of BGU name new national president

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) pioneered the use of underground salt water irrigation to grow crops like sweet-tasting tomatoes, the institution's biggest resource is above ground, according to the new national president of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University.

That resource is brain power, said Sidney Chelsky, who succeeded Rabbi Jordan Pearlson as the organization's president in October. Rabbi Pearlson is now chairman of the board of governors.

When Chelsky was "brought in" by a United Jewish Appeal acquaintance some dozen years ago, he quickly became involved in BGU business, serving as Toronto chapter president and more recently as national treasurer. He is also a member of the university's international board of governors.

"If I'm going to get involved, it has to be 100 percent," he said in a recent interview.

Among the things that impressed him when he visited the university, he said, was the way the institution dealt with its challenges as Israel's youngest university (established 29 years ago) and those due to its desert location in Beersheva. BGU, he said, was preparing to welcome Ethiopian students at a time when no programs were yet in place for them.

Chelsky, 57, has been to Israel 14 times and might have been born there had his Polish-born mother not been advised to leave the country for health reasons.

A dry cleaning consultant for the dry cleaning, laundry and hotel industries (his children now run Careful Hand Laundry & Dry Cleaners Limited, of which he is past president), Chelsky is chair of Toronto's Better Business Bureau, and has been actively involved with over half a dozen organizations, among them Mount Sinai Hospital, where he is a member of the quality of patient care committee and of the board.

It's difficult juggling his involvements, he said, but if he deals with problems as soon as they arise, he finds he can handle almost anything.

Chelsky's wife and their four children, now grown, have always been involved in whatever charitable organizations he's been involved in, Chelsky said. His youngest son Steven, 28, is involved in the Canadian Associates' young leadership group.

Chelsky's current priority as president is to visit every city in which BGU has a presence. Those that are well established, representing the bulk of the Canadian Associates' members (over 1,000 people), are in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver. Other cities have a smaller or nascent presence. "I want to meet as many people as possible and share the message of the university."

Sidney Chelsky

The main purpose of the Canadian Associates is to raise funds to support the university, Chelsky said, opting not to specify a dollar amount as a goal.

"There is no real limit, because the needs are so great." The organization can use contributions of both time and money, but he also wants supporters to "be involved with the day-to-day achievements of the university."

A recent young leadership project, for example, supported the building of a greenhouse.

The group often hosts visiting faculty members for educational purposes. Prof. Charles Linder will speak here on water purification, desalination and membrane filtration processes in early December, and will offer his expertise to local officials regarding water problems here.

Chelsky derives much satisfaction from his BGU work. "Over the years my business and this community has been very good to me. I feel it's an obligation to give something back. The funny part is, I seem to be getting more out of it than what I'm giving."

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Vet gets honorary position in military

TORONTO — A Jewish World War II veteran and one-time volunteer in Israel's war for independence has been named an honorary lieutenant-colonel in the Canadian military.

Norm Cohen, 75, was recently named Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of 2 Intelligence Company, a Toronto-based combat intelligence unit. About 70 soldiers and seven officers are attached to it.

Every unit of the Canadian military is led by an honorary colonel or lieutenant-colonel, Cohen explained to *The CJN*. He is the first honorary leader of this particular unit.

His appointment, considered quite prestigious in military circles, was announced recently by Defence Minister Art Eggleton. It's a three-year term.

"In effect, it's a civilian/military position," Cohen said. "It's a lot of work."

The unpaid job involves fundraising for the unit and acting as an intermediary between the government and the military. Cohen may also lobby for better conditions and pay for unit members.

Lt.-Col. Norm Cohen

Cohen spent four years in Europe with the Royal Canadian Air Force and served in Burma with the RCAF's 436th Burma Squadron. For a brief period in 1948, he was a Machalnik – a foreign volunteer – in Israel's War of Independence.

'Sandwich generation' under stress

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — With children staying at home longer and seniors living longer, more parents are finding themselves in the "sandwich generation," says Dr. Ben Schlesinger, professor emeritus of the University of Toronto's faculty of social work.

Schlesinger, who recently wrote *The Family Squeeze: Surviving the Sandwich Generation* with Suzanne Kingsmill, told an audience at the Jewish Book Fair that 1.1 million families in Canada have children over age 20 living at home.

"It is costly to live alone today, and most adult children have to go to school longer, which costs a lot of money. It is cheaper to stay at home and go to school," Schlesinger said. "As well, young people today are not rushing into marriage, so many feel they should stay at home where all their needs are being met."

On the other hand, he said, only five percent of seniors in Canada are living in senior homes or institutions.

"The rest of the seniors are at home, and most need someone to drive them shopping, take them to the doctor or bank, or just call and visit them. They also need help filling out government forms and paying their bills. The parents in the middle have not only become the sandwich generation, but the serving generation."

Inevitably, said Schlesinger, it's the woman in the family who is the server. "Most women in their mid-40s to mid-60s work full time and [by being in the middle] they are acting as mother, wife, child, worker and homemaker. She has no time for herself."

In most cases where there is a sandwich generation, he said, there is a designated server. "There is always someone who does all the work, with no help from her siblings or husband. Sometimes the husband wants her to help his parents as well."

In his book, Schlesinger said, he asks people to determine exactly how much responsibility adults should have to their elderly parents and to their children. "Also, what responsibility should children have to their parents and grandparents, and what responsibility should the government have for seniors ? The question of responsibility is just never resolved."

On the positive side, the new reality represents "an opportunity for children to get to know their grandparents, as well as the opportunity for mutual help," Schlesinger said. "It is not a one-way road. Grandparents can help their children and grandchildren, and grandchildren can help their grandparents. There is a lot of exchange between generations, and a lot of caring, loving and sharing."

In another talk in the same program, Dr. David Posen, a stress manager and lifestyles counselor, and author of *Staying Afloat When the Water Gets Rough: Living in Time of Unprecedented Change*, said that although change usually brings stress, there are ways to deal with it.

Above all, he said, we must have a belief in our ability to handle change. "A lot of us have self-limiting beliefs, and these beliefs hold us back. If we believe we can't do something, this belief soon becomes the truth."

We are all change agents, he said. "We have all dealt with change, hardships and adversity. We need to remember that we can handle it."

As well, he said, people should not prejudge the outcome of events. "Many people begin with the premise that things will not work out. We need to remember that things often work out differently than we predicted. We must learn to keep an open mind."

He advised not to take part in "long distance worrying. People often start worrying about something ahead of time, and they get all worked up over it. Life would be much easier if people did not predict problems."

Focus on the positive side of things, he said. "We often cannot choose what is going to happen, but we can choose how we look at things. Try and see change as a challenge. A lot of change brings progress and opportunity. When we solve problems, we come up with new ways of looking at things."

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Jewish studies director planning new courses

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

"We've more than justified our existence," Michael Brown, the director of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies, says with a quiet sense of assurance. "We've done our bit to educate Jewishly a lot of people."

Since its formation in 1989, the centre has produced a distinguished roster of rabbis, Jewish day school teachers, community workers and university professors.

In any given year, 700 to 1,000 students are enrolled in the Jewish studies program, taking a vast range of courses running the gamut from history and Hebrew language and literature to classical texts and Sephardic culture.

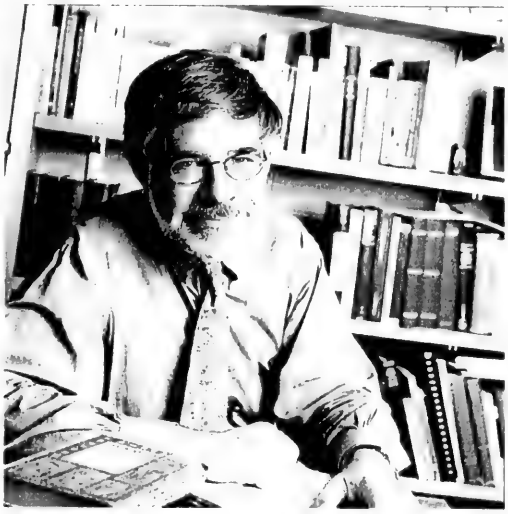
According to Brown, who has led the centre for the past three years, it is particularly strong in Canadiana. Perhaps the major development at the centre this year was the establishment of the J. Richard Shiff Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry, held by historian Irving Abella.

But Brown, an ordained Conservative rabbi who has been associated with York University since 1968, believes that the centre can lay claim to additional strengths.

One example is the Jewish teacher education program, the only one of its kind at a public university outside Israel whose graduates are as much at home in religious as in secular studies.

The program, created almost two decades ago, was launched when there was a pressing need for local Hebrew teachers.

Israeli teachers brought to Canada on three or four year contracts became the norm in many Jewish schools. And while they made useful contributions, they were generally slow to adapt to Canadian conditions, and the frequent turnover caused instability.



Michael Brown

The program, whose existence coincides with the growth of day schools throughout North America, will be enhanced with a chair in Jewish education, which is expected to be set up in about two years.

For all its accomplishments, the centre is hardly resting on its laurels. If Brown has his way, Yiddish language courses will be introduced, there will be more courses in classical Jewish studies, Sephardic studies and Hebrew language, and, eventually, a chair in Holocaust and East European studies will come on stream.

As matters stand now, the centre already has the largest contingent of Canadian exchange students studying at Israeli universities, especially the Hebrew University. This program will likely expand when York University signs an agreement with a yet unnamed university in Israel under which students can spend their summers at archeological digs.

York University's Jewish studies program, founded by Brown and his colleague Sol Tanenzapf in 1968, was one of the first in Canada. McGill, Concordia and the University of Toronto also have extensive, broad-based programs. And other universities, such as the University of Manitoba and the University of British Columbia, offer a variety of courses in the field.

To Brown, a professor of humanities and Hebrew language, this is a remarkable development in Canadian academia.

"Fifty years ago, no one familiar with Canadian higher education could have imagined such openness to Jewish studies," he observes in the recently-published *A Guide to the Study of Jewish Civilization in Canadian Universities*, the first work to be published by the centre.

"Until well after the war years, prejudiced administrators and faculty members expressed open hostility towards Jews as students and certainly as faculty," he writes. "Those who considered themselves tolerant might welcome Jewish students and perhaps the occasional faculty member. But even they, or most of them, were antagonistic towards, if not contemptuous of, Jewish studies, which they did not consider part of the 'high culture' appropriate to the university curriculum."

In Brown's view, this attitude gradually melted away largely under the impact of the federal government's multicultural policy.

As far as he is concerned, Jewish studies have matured, having forged "an admirable reputation for superior scholarship and academic achievement."

Brown, a graduate of Harvard, Columbia, the Jewish Theological Seminary and the State University of New York, was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, in 1938, the son of Albert (a fishmonger) and Eunice (a high school teacher). He was raised in "a warm and vital Jewish community."

His family, on both sides, immigrated to the United States in the 1880s from Germany and the Austro-Hungarian and Russian empires.

An only child, he gravitated toward Jewish studies. At Columbia, he wrote his MA thesis in Jewish history on the Hebrew press in America. He studied under the redoubtable Salo Baron, one of this century's finest scholars.

For his PhD, Brown chose a Canadian topic, ultimately turning his dissertation into a book, *Jew or Juif? Jews, French Canadians, and Anglo-Canadians, 1759-1914*.

A prolific scholar, Brown has also written *The Israeli-American Connection: Its Roots in the Yishuv, 1914-1945*, *Approaches to Anti-semitism: Context and Curriculum* and *Creating the Jewish Future*.

Surveying Canada's Jewish community, Brown speaks of "worrisome trends" from intermarriage to ignorance of Jewish traditions. Yet, he added, there are positive signs on the horizon.

"We have more people studying Judaism at universities – and yeshivot – than at any other time in history, and that's very promising.

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On Campus

Post-high school learning centre needed: student

By DAVID ROSMARIN

In North America today, many observant Jews have secluded themselves from other Jews, in an attempt to shelter their children from anti-halachic ideas and to make their daily lives easier. Unfortunately, the result is disassociation from klal Yisrael.

The Jewish community of Toronto is not as internally segregated as most of American Jewry. Today, we find Toronto's Orthodox synagogues filled with Jews of various private religious practice sharing the same prayer service, with respect for each other's differences. Jews of all philosophical and cultural backgrounds come together in Toronto in a uniquely unified fashion.

The greatest monument to the uniqueness of Toronto's Jewish community is the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

The school's Statement of Philosophy and Purpose sets the tone, stating that CHAT attempts to build Hebrew textual skills and foster a love for klal Yisrael while being "encouraging of students to assume the observance of mitzvot."

It also states: "The Community Hebrew Academy is guided by the principles of the Toronto Jewish community which seek to cultivate an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation among its members, who represent different religious and ideological commitments."

Unfortunately, this inclusionary philosophy towards Jewish education is not found in many other Jewish communities in North America today.

Intra-communal social segregation in the United States leaves many Jews with no place to turn during the period in their lives when religious questions arise. For example, many students at universities across North America may feel unwelcome at shomer mitzvot organizations or may be reluctant to involve themselves for other reasons.

Yet, without a Jewish education, their questions go unanswered, sometimes for life. So many Jews find themselves philosophically lost as a result of a lack of ability to *communicate* their ideas. All too many feel uncomfortable sharing their questions with others.

These students need a place devoted to halachic practice and to a philosophy of Judaism where they can explore their ideas and questions comfortably and openly.

While "outreach" organizations such as Chabad and Aish HaTorah do fine community work and help countless Jews find answers to their questions within a halachic framework, programs of this sort are primarily aimed at Jews with little or no Jewish education.

But there are a large number of students with a strong Jewish education through grade school, or even high school, who lose their connection to Judaism in their college years. For these students to feel comfortable, a CHAT-like approach to education – an open institution devoted to building Hebrew language and textual skills while encouraging halachic practice and demonstrating concern for *all* the world's Jews – seems more suitable.

Toronto needs to continue on this unique path that encourages openness, halachic practice and a concern for klal Yisrael.

The key lies in the education of its university students.

At the high school level, CHAT is doing brilliantly; enrolment for the 1998-99 school year was more than 900 students. But a large number of students receive no further Jewish guidance after high school.

There are a number of yeshivot and synagogues in the Toronto area offering shiurim and regular classes. However, many of these institutions' services are not used by a significant number of Toronto's Jewish youth. While halachically observant Jews with a concern for the future of klal Yisrael frequent these establishments, they are not suitable places for all to go to research their questions.

It is becoming apparent that Toronto needs an institution catering to students aged 18 to 25 that promotes enriched Jewish education and a concern for klal Israel in an open and accepting environment.

There are a number of knowledgeable teachers in Toronto high schools who believe in the value of Talmud Torah while retaining a great concern for klal Yisrael. Many of these truly gifted people have developed fine reputations with students teaching at CHAT, Yeshivat Or Chaim, and the Hamilton Yeshiva. These teachers have the opportunity to organize a program designed for 18 to 25-year-old students.

There is a great demand for such a program. There are over 120 male and female Torontonians continuing their Jewish education in Eretz Yisrael this year. Additionally, CHAT alone sends over 100 graduates to universities annually. Many of these students continue their university education in Toronto.

Furthermore, there are countless students without formal Jewish education who have an interest in researching their religious questions in an open environment while building their textual skills. A post-high school learning centre run by the leaders of Jewish education in Toronto today would be a tremendous asset to the city.

David Rosmarin is a student at York University.

UIA SCHOLARSHIPS TO ETHIOPIANS

UIA Federations Canada recently awarded academic scholarships to 35 Ethiopian immigrants to Israel, among them, from left, siblings Meirav Baruch, 21; Adam Baruch, 28; and Ruhama Baruch, 26.

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From coast to coast

Survivor sues France for deporting father

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A Canadian Holocaust survivor of French origin recently brought a lawsuit before a French court claiming the French state received goods and property as a result of crimes against humanity.

Jean-Jacques Fraenkel, of Victoria, B.C., accuses the Vichy government of playing an active role in the civil debasement, despoilment and deportation of tens of thousands of Jews during World War II.

The suit has been accepted by the Tribunal de Paris and a magistrate will go through the file by the end of the year before initiating proceedings. This is the first time such a complaint has been filed against the French state.

Fraenkel, 68, is seeking reparation for moral damages and for the material possessions that were stolen from his parents, who were murdered in the the gas chambers of Auschwitz, and from thousands of other Jewish families.

The international business consultant initiated the unprecedented case to show how the government of occupied France made possible the despoilment of his parents, Roger and Jeanine Fraenkel.

"It was France that arrested my parents and delivered them up to the Germans," Fraenkel told *The CJN*. "It was the zealous civil servants of the French state that stole from my parents all their possessions and assets. Our beautiful apartment in Parc Monceau was sealed up, the furniture and pictures confiscated.

"After the war, the war orphans statute allowed us the grotesque sum of 18.60 francs (about $5) per month until the age of majority. The death of two parents, deported and gassed at Auschwitz, gave us each compensation of about 1,000 francs ($250). Not another centime for my sister Josette and me, orphans of 10 and 14 at the time of liberation.

"France destroyed my family. It's time it shouldered its responsibility and assumed its guilt," Fraenkel said.

France refuses to return the goods and property to the heirs of the despoiled Jewish families, he added.

"The French state is still the owner of all the property that belongs to us – to me and to the other 8,000 to 10,000 descendants of Jewish families deprived of their rights and deported," he said. "The objects confiscated are in museums, the apartment belongs to the city of Paris, and the money is in the coffers of the banks of France."

Fraenkel said he initiated the lawsuit to restore the honor and the dignity of his parents, whose fate he described in his 1997 autobiography, *L'abus de confiance*.

"The main issue is not money, but justice and the blackened honor of my family. My father was a fervent patriot who always served his country with great loyalty. But France betrayed him and held him in contempt simply because he was a Jew," he said bitterly.

Roger Fraenkel was the first dental surgeon in France and a tenured professor at the dental school of Paris. He was also a justice of the peace of the Paris court, a reserve officer in the French army and a chevalier of the Legion of Honor at age 35.

He was arrested by the French police on April 12, 1941. Interned in the camp of Royaldieu, near Compiègne, he was deported March 27, 1942 on the first train to Auschwitz. He died there under the most horrible conditions on May 20, 1942.

At the same time, two letters arrived at his residence at 3 avenue du parc Monceau. One indicated to this "practitioner of foreign descent" that he was "absolutely forbidden" to practise his profession. The other informed him that he was "removed from the list of reserve officers in the health service."

After Roger Fraenkel's arrest, his wife, Jeanine, became involved in the Resistance, until she was betrayed and also sent to Auschwitz, where she was gassed in 1943.

One of her most dangerous missions against the Nazis was to assess German defences along the Mediterranean coast. With her two children, she took the Nice bus, which followed the coastline, and noted the strategic points on the grid of a crossword puzzle.

After their parents' disappearance, Jean-Jacques and Josette Fraenkel were apart until liberation.

Fraenkel said that, apart from a short interview with Radio Shalom, the Jewish media in France have chosen to ignore his grievances.

He also said he is sorry the presidents of the principal Jewish organizations in France have remained totally silent instead of supporting his suit.

"Most of the presidents of the Jewish institutions did not live through the Shoah. They're afraid of disturbing a dirty past that might embarrass them again. They don't like to be noticed because they're afraid of stirring up anti-Semitism. My fight doesn't interest them at all."

This article appeared in French in the Montreal edition of CJN, *Nov. 19. Translation by Carolan Halpern.*

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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 30, is deadline for Dec. 10 issue, and Monday, Dec. 7 is deadline for Dec. 17. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 26

JEWISH PARENTING

Downtown Jewish Learning Council continuing program, Jewish Parenting in a Modern World, instructor **Rabbi Chezi Zionce**, 8 p.m. at First Narayever Congregation, 189 Brunswick Ave.

FOR SINGLES

Beth Tzedec Young Members invite singles 20s and 30s to an evening of entertainment and fun, 7:30 p.m. $10. To reserve, **Marlene** 781-3514, ext. 34.

Saturday, Nov. 28

NISHMA

Nishma presents Rabbinically Incorrect, a forum for debate of 21st-century Torah issues, **Rabbis Yakov Kerzner, Azriel Sitzer, Michael Skobac, Reuven Tradburks; Rabbi Benjamin Hecht** is moderator, 8:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. $5. 638-0588.

CROSSROAD JAM

The Rock'n Blues Band performs at Beit Rayim Synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave., 9 p.m. $18 in advance, $25 at door. 905-770-7639, ext. 31

JAZZ AND JAVA NIGHT

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Sunday, Nov. 29

BOOK REVIEW

Beth Tzedec Max & Bernice Wolfe Library and Men's Club Sunday morning breakfast and book review. Breakfast 9:30 a.m. followed at 10 a.m. by **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** discussing *The Shabbat: Its Meaning for Contemporary Life* by **Abraham Joshua Heschel**.

THIS PLAGUE

This Plague Doesn't Pass Over Jews, about HIV/AIDS and how it affects our Jewish youth, guest speakers social worker **Michael Dobbs** of Philadelphia, and **Annette Goldstein** of The Teresa Group serving children and families with AIDS, 7:30 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation. 635-5340.

JEWISH ASSIMILATION

Prof. Stuart Schoenfeld, York University, discusses American Jewish Assimilation: Is Canada a Step Behind?, 7:30 p.m., Shaar Shalom Synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill.

RUMMAGE SALE

At Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children's, men's and women's clothing, housewares, books and more.

Monday, Nov. 30

MEMORY LOSS

Memory Loss – Should I be Worried?, an information session on memory problems with **Dr. Ron Keren**, geriatric psychiatrist, and **Marcia Zalev**, social worker at The Toronto Hospital Memory Clinic, discuss dementia and Alzheimer's disease, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

GIANT RUMMAGE SALE

Great bargains in good used clothing and household items in excellent condition, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

Tuesday, Dec. 1

BEN WICKS

Author/illustrator **Ben Wicks** speaks on The Creative Process of a Cartoonist, Journalist and Writer, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

Beth Tikvah Sisterhood series

Continued on page 25

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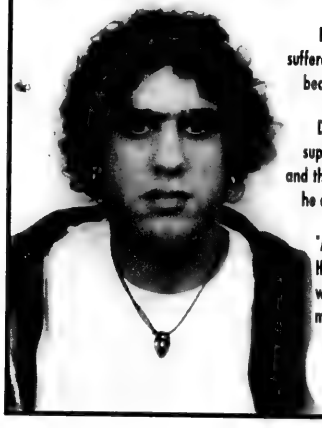

David Sharav was only 21 when, during his first year of army service, he was involved in a horrific car accident. He suffered severe brain damage, memory loss, and after being in a coma for over a week, his right arm was paralyzed. Dudu became deeply depressed during his recovery.

Dudu was referred to the Beit Halochem Centre in Tel Aviv for rehabilitation. The staff were able to offer him the support he so desperately needed. Dudu always believed he would get better - and he did. He regained his memory and the use of his arm. Gradually his depression lifted. The recreational therapist persuaded him to start art classes, and he discovered a wonderful talent.

"After my accident, I felt unbelievably isolated. I couldn't do anything for myself, but somehow when I came to Beit Halochem, I felt at home with the other disabled soldiers. When I came to Toronto in 1996 with other disabled war veterans, I felt I was finally on the road to recovery. The warmth and love of the Jewish community made me realize that people really care, and I could make friends and be happy again. Beit Halochem is my lifeline."

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What's New

Continued from page 24

exploring a contemporary portrait of women in the Bible continues with educator/editor **Lynne Heller**, who explores the life of Hagar and the Shunamite Woman, 8 p.m. Non-members $5.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Information session for students (18 plus) interested in volunteering as a medic for Magen David Adom this summer in Israel, 7 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave. 638-8824.

PERSONAL INSULTS

Rabbi Moshe Stern series focuses on How to Deal With Personal Insults, 8-9 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. Topic continues Dec. 8.

Wednesday, Dec. 2

JEWISH SCENE IN CANADA

Bernie Farber, executive director, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, speaks on The Jewish Scene in Canada, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

WELLNESS SESSION

Baycrest Wellness Education Group session, Nature at Your Doorstep, guest lecturer **Florence Lichtman**, senior volunteer, Seniors for Nature, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $2 at door. **Judy Chu** 785-2500, ext. 2340

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group presents Older and Wiser... Are You Fireproof? with **Inspector Sandy Zemer**, at noon. $1. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served.

And What Else Is New

CANTORIAL CONCERT

Toronto Council of Hazzanim in association with Mazon Canada presents a gala concert, For the Love of Israel and Jewish Unity, Sunday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m., at Holy Blossom Temple. Concert features 10 cantors from the Toronto community in a program of liturgical and Jewish music, as well as the Toronto Jewish Male Choir performing a selection of popular songs. For tickets 789-3291, ext. 224.

FIRST WOMEN OF GENESIS

State of Israel Bonds, Women's Division, evening with **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein** speaking on The First Women of Genesis: What Eve and Lilith Can Teach Us, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. $20. Reserve by Nov. 30. **Sara Gabriel** 789-3351.

CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S 50TH

The Israeli Association of Greater Toronto, under the auspices of **Jehudi Kinar**, consul general of Israel, with the participation of the council of the City of Vaughan, presents a gala evening celebrating Israel's 50th birthday, with screening of award-winning Israeli film *Out For Love...Be Back Shortly* with guest director **Dan Katzir**, Sunday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., City Playhouse Theatre, 1000 New Westminster Dr., Thornhill. $18 (includes reception). Call Israeli Centre, 635-5670. Tickets not available at door.

STUDY LUNCHEON

Beth Tzedec Congregation Shabbat Study Luncheon, Saturday, Dec. 5, following services. **Rabbi Jack Riemer** speaks on David, Bathsheba and Woody Allen. Reservations (paid) no later than Tuesday, Dec. 1. 781-3514, ext. 13.

CHANUKAH CONCERT

Lighting of the giant Chanukah menorah at Mel Lastman Square, Sunday, Dec. 13, 6 p.m., followed by an Amazing Chanukah Concert featuring **Moshe Yess** and entertainment for the entire family in the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. Presented by Jewish Russian Community Centre. $5-$15. For tickets, 222-7105, ext. 21.

TRIBUTE TO ED MIRVISH

The tribute concert to Ed Mirvish by NCSY (National Conference of Synagogue Youth), with Jewish music star **Mordecai Ben David** and Son, Monday, Dec. 7, at Princess of Wales Theatre. Mirvish will be honored at both a pre-concert reception and the concert itself. NCSY is establishing the Ed and Anne Mirvish Israel Scholarship Fund to help young people experience Israel in a caring, educational environment. For concert tickets, 905-761-6279. ext. 21.

KIDS SING ISRAEL

Kids Sing Israel, every Sunday, 11:15 a.m., children of all ages enjoy Israeli music while learning songs and folk dance, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. $1 per child. **Patti Dolman** 905-881-6340

HEBREW PROGRAM

Beth Israel Hebrew Academy is accepting new students for Thursday Hebrew program at Rosedale Heights Public School (Bathurst and Atkinson), 5:30-7:30 p.m. 905-770-1082.

PROGRAM SPEAKERS

Tel-Aide The Jewish Distress Line has been operating in the community since 1985. If you would like a speaker for a program, the speaker is free. 636-9695.

KIDS FIRST

KIDS (Kids In Need Deserve Success) new one-session program for children (ages 6-17) of separation and divorce. Register now. 905-731-4046.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 16

ANYTHING GOES

The Yorkminstrels, North York's musical theatre company, presents **Noel Coward's** *Anything Goes*, at the Leah Posluns Theatre Nov. 28, Dec. 2, 3, 4, 5, at 8 p.m. and Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 2 p.m. Box office 291-0600. Patrons are asked to bring non-perishable food for the North York Harvest Food Bank.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

One Family: Two Homes, a three-session group for parents and children experiencing separation or divorce, begins Nov. 26; The Single Parent Challenge, begins Dec. 1; Looking Ahead for recently separated or divorced individuals, begins Dec. 1; The Self Confident Woman, begins Dec. 3.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, Nov. 26, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Tutzi Haspel-Seguin** speaks on Original Impressions of a World Traveller. Everyone welcome. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 26, video; Dec. 10, lecture by **Yonatan Kassel,** envoy to Habonim Dror; Dec. 19, Chanukah dance, reserve, call **Malka Colla** 630-5771. For general information, **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip postponed to Purim; Chanukah entertainment Monday, Dec. 21, 12:30 p.m., with **Lenka Lichtenberg.** Light lunch. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: dance, Nov. 29; Dixie Mall trip, Dec. 2, 9:30 a.m.; Safe Medication lecture, Dec. 8, noon to 1 p.m.; Casino Rama, Dec. 9; lecture and video presentation of Dental Care for Seniors, Dec. 15, 10 a.m.; Chanukah and holiday show, Richmond Hill Country Club, Dec. 17, leaving 1 p.m. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Low Vision Support Group discussion, Daily Living Skills – Blind, Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1:15-2:30 p.m., facilitated by **Bubbles Jacobs.**

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Dec. 1 is a free evening. **Anna.**

Movie, *Scent of a Woman*, Sunday, Nov. 29, 2:30 p.m.

Songs from around the world with **Igor Buts** and **Eric Isaev** Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Judaism on Love, Intimacy and relationships: A Study Program with **Elliott Malamet**, Sunday, Nov. 29, 11:30 a.m.

The Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto and the Bloor JCC present *Suffer the Children* by **Maurice Breslow**, winner of the Canadian Jewish Playwriting Contest, Sunday, Nov. 29, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Winter Holiday Craft Show, fun-filled day for the whole family, Sunday, Nov. 29, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

December Wednesday Wellness Night health talks focus on improving athletic performance. Dec. 2 topic is Common Sports Injuries. 7 p.m. Reserve.

Seniors Club, Thursday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m., classic Yiddish film *The Great Advisor* (1940, U.S.A., with subtitles).

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Winterlude/ Winter Break Camp, Dec. 21-31. Registration is now on. Limited space. Ext. 378

Mount Sinai/BJC Prenatal Course begins Jan. 4. Register now. Ext. 229

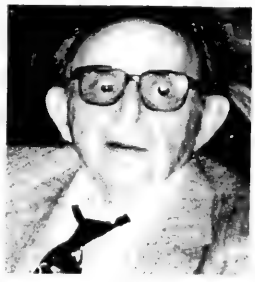
BJC and Junior UJA Celebration of Chanukah, Dec. 13, 2-4 p.m. Information/registration, ext. 229 or 378.

Special needs recreation and social programs for young adults and adults. Register now for winter session. ext. 378 or 229.

ABOUT PEOPLE

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

Celebrating its 94th anniversary recently, the Judean Benevolent and Friendly Society honored its 50 plus and 25 year members. The oldest member present was **Moe Starr**, 91, who joined the organization in 1929. Also attending were a number of members who served overseas in the Canadian armed forces during World War II, including **Harry Tate**, a Past Master, and **George Levy.**



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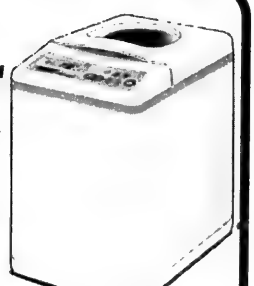

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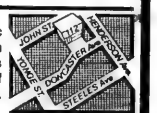

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Scholars gather in Ottawa for conference on Holocaust

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Scholars from around the world gathered at a recent conference, Building History: Legal Memory and Contemporary Judgments, organized to study various aspects of the Holocaust.

It was jointly sponsored by the Kleinmann Family Foundation of Montreal and the Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada, in association with the Holocaust Literature Research Institute of the University of Western Ontario, McGill University and the Association of Holocaust Organizations.

The conference was timely, said York University professor Irving Abella at the opening reception, "because not only does it coincide with Holocaust Education Week, Remembrance Day and the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht, but soon, the world will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

The goal of the conference, said Rochelle Wilner, senior vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada, was "to ensure the establishment of the Holocaust in memory as a specific event with universal applications – for human rights, for anti-racism and anti-hate education, and for the pursuit of justice."

Rubin Friedman, director of government relations B'nai Brith Canada, said that "we should do more than put the Holocaust on display. We should take it a step further so that we can learn the appropriate lessons from it. The Holocaust affects all realms of our experience. How do you even talk about it without trivializing it? This is the challenge for all of us."

Peter Kleinmann, president of the Kleinmann Family Foundation, co-sponsored the conference because, "as a Holocaust survivor, he thought that rather than another memorial, he wanted [people to learn]," said Alain Goldschlager of the Holocaust Literature Research Institute, University of Western Ontario.

The book, *The Fallacy of Race and the Shoah* co-authored by Naomi Kramer, education director of the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre and Ronald Headlance of Vanier College, about the experiences of Kleinmann during the Holocaust, was introduced at the conference.

ISRAEL EXPERIENCE

Rachel Rasminsky, 22, from Thornhill, Ont., was one of 8,000 Diaspora youth who took part in the Israel Experience this past summer. This year, about 1,200 Canadian Jewish teens and youth from across Canada took participated in the program, established in 1996 to strengthen Jewish identity among young people.

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From coast to coast

Plans for Montreal community campus revised

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Montreal Jewish Community Campus has expanded to a nearly $30-million project, $7 million more than when the project was publicly launched one year ago.

Two major features have been added to the original plans: the construction of a fifth floor atop Cummings House and of a 700-seat conference centre, between Cummings House and the Golden Age Association (GAA).

About $3 million remains to be raised and pledges for that amount are expected within the next few months, FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick said at a press conference. He is confident construction will start within the first quarter of 1999 and be completed by the end of that year.

Although the project is bigger and more expensive than first conceived, it is expected to be finished in considerably less time than the 18 months forecast at the outset. That would mean the original target date will be met, even though work is to get underway a year later than scheduled.

The revised project is due to go to final tender in early December, he said. The reason given for construction not beginning last spring as envisaged was that contractors' bids were higher than FEDERATION CJA and the YM-YWHA were prepared to pay.

"Since our announcement last November (1997), the construction of new space has increased by 50 percent, renovated space has increased by a third, the number of parking spaces has increased to 400 (from 300), and advanced technology is being introduced throughout the project, in order to maximize efficiency, security, communications and user friendliness," Plotnick said.

Cummings House and the GAA building on the north side of Cote Ste. Catherine Road, and the Y and Saidye Bronfman Centre to the south will form a "campus," through not only expansion and renovation, but land and streetscaping that give a sense they are part of one whole.

The federal government is contributing $1.3 million to the project, matching earlier grants made by Quebec and Montreal, it was also announced. Martin Cauchon, secretary of state responsible for economic development, said the money is being provided under the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program.

Apart from the $3.9 million from government, the funds have been raised privately, the great majority from individuals in the Jewish community and the rest from corporations, not necessarily Jewish, Plotnick said.

"In the last 10 days alone, we have raised $3 million from three donors," he said.

The remaining $3 million sought will come mainly from other individuals, he said. In early December FEDERATION CJA will launch a broad-based campaign that will allow people who are not millionaires to contribute even nominal amounts to the campus project. Plotnick said this drive will have a more symbolic than material benefit, but is important because it will give the community at large a sense that it is part of the project.

"Most of all, [the campus] will be the ultimate reaffirmation by the Montreal Jewish community of its commitment to its future in Montreal and the confidence we have for the stability, and hopefully even growth, of our community of just over 101,000 (the 1991 census figure)," he said.

Asked later if he was not apprehensive about a possible Parti Québécois re-election and another referendum, Plotnick said, "We genuinely believe Quebec will remain a part of Canada and will be a great place for the Jewish community to thrive.

"The Jewish community is prepared to make a tangible investment that will show our young people that people of my generation are confident about the future," he said.

When completed, the campus will consist of 500,000 square feet of buildings occupying six acres, housing 23 organizations and 400 mostly underground parking spots.

One original feature that has been dropped is the tunnel under Cote Ste. Catherine, connecting the two sides.

Plotnick said the experts estimated that the tunnel would be used by an average of 100 people per hour and did not feel it would be worth the $1 million it would cost. However, the infrastructure will be in place for its possible construction someday.

He confirmed that Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region, the Communauté Sépharade du Québec, and the Canada-Israel Committee, Quebec region, will be relocating to the campus, as well as the Canadian Zionist Federation and Israel Aliyah Centre, and another major communal organization, which will be made known soon.

Plotnick said the demand from communal agencies to move onto the campus has been overwhelming and others are looking to come on-site.

The conference centre, which will seat more than 700 theatre-style or 500 for dinner, is expected to be a revenue-generator through rentals.

Plotnick underlined that FEDERATION CJA is "firmly committed that no annual local campaign funds will be used for either the construction or the maintenance of any additions."

A large scale-model of the campus was unveiled, which will shortly go on public view at different locations.

Religious group forms

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A new religious community has formed around Richard Yaffe, former chazzan of Temple Shalom, the city's only Reform congregation.

Yaffe left the synagogue last February, after 23 years of service, citing unhappiness with contract negotiations.

He led Tikkun, the new congregation, in High Holiday services held at the Masonic Lodge. The services attracted more than 70 people.

"There was a real desire by many of the choir members who had been singing with Richard for all those years, to stay with him," says Debbie Shnitzer, an English professor at the University of Winnipeg, and spokesperson for the new group. "A core group of 15 of us had a couple of meetings, and decided that we wanted to stay together and develop our own type of service with Richard."

Tikkun, at this point, is not planning to hold regular services. Members are planning a Chanukah service which will combine traditional components with education about the holiday. Member participation is encouraged.

"We are still feeling our way," says Schnitzer. "Some of us want to sing together while others want to study or learn Hebrew. We want to move forward and share our voices with the larger community."

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From coast to coast

Book fair reading features story of Hungarian family

By PETER CAULFIELD
Pacific Correspondent

VANCOUVER — The 14th annual Jewish Book Fair, held recently at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, showcased Jewish writers from across Canada.

Part of Jewish Book Month, the program included readings, storytelling, musical and theatrical performances, book signings, creative writing workshops, school field trips and a variety of children's programs.

Some of the Lower Mainland authors who took part in the fair were Lillian Boraks-Nemetz, Solly Kaplinski, Philip Resnick and Renee Rodin, while out-of-town writers included Rhea Tregebov, Ronna Bloom and Rafi Aaron.

The fair opened with a wine and cheese reception attended by 200 people, in which Matt Cohen, winner of the 1998 Arts Toronto Literary Award, read from his most recent novel, *Last Seen*.

Another Toronto writer at the fair was Judith Kalman, author of *The County of Birches*, a collection of short stories about a Hungarian Jewish family that flees the Hungarian Revolution in 1957 and emigrates to post-war Montreal.

The narrator is a young girl, Dana Weisz, whose parents, both scarred by the Holocaust, live in an imagined golden past that both enchants and frightens Dana and her older sister, Lilli. As Lilli, an enthusiastic student, throws herself into her studies, Dana is left to find a place for herself in the new world of 1960s Montreal.

Story based on author's own life

Kalman said Dana based her life on a fairy tale. "Dana thought nothing bad could possibly happen to her, because, she believed, everything that was bad had happened before she was born, during the war," she explained. "She reassured herself with this fabrication."

After Dana became an adult, however, she looked back at her childhood and began to re-evaluate it. "Then she began to see that she hadn't always been as safe as she thought."

Kalman told *The CJN* that the stories which make up *The County of Birches* are based largely on her own family. Born in Budapest, Kalman immigrated with her parents and sister to England in 1957, when she was 3½ years old.

After 18 months in England, the family moved to Canada and settled in Montreal. They lived first in Rosemount, in Montreal's east end, then bought a house in Ville d'Anjou.

Today, Kalman and her husband, Murray Lamb, live with their sons, Nathan, 15, and Gideon, 8, in the North Beaches area of Toronto.

Kalman said she's very pleased at the success of *The County of Birches*, which is into its third printing.

"It's an immigrant book, not just a Jewish book," she said. "It strikes with a chord with everyone, because of its sense of leaving a homeland and identity behind. 'I was this. What am I now?' Everyone can relate to that feeling."

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Identity program announced

JERUSALEM — In an effort to stem the tide of assimilation, and enhance Jewish identity among Jewish people living outside of Israel, Natan Sharansky, minister of industry and trade, and chair of the ministerial committee on Israel-Diaspora relations, and North American Jewish community leaders Michael Steinhardt and Charles Bronfman have announced the establishment of Birthright Israel.

This is a $300-million worldwide initiative to fund educational visits to Israel for Jews between the ages of 15 and 26. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu unveiled the program in remarks before the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations here.

"We are at a critical juncture in the history of the Jewish people, a time when we must do everything possible to strengthen young people's connection to their culture and religion," said Steinhardt, a founding chair of Birthright Israel.

"A strong connection to Israel is a powerful way to bring young Jews back to their roots," he added. "Beginning in the year 2000, all young Jews will be given the opportunity to connect with their heritage like never before.

"Regardless of nationality, economic status or denomination, every Jewish youth will be eligible to participate in a trip that will change their lives. This is a gift from our generation to our children and grandchildren."

The program will be jointly funded by the people of Israel through their government, Jewish federations and community groups, and philanthropists.

"Although Israel is the centre of Jewish life, the heartbeat of the Jewish people, too few of our youth take advantage of the opportunity to experience it," said Bronfman, another founding chair of Birthright Israel. "We believe that such an experience in Israel will create a new commitment to the Jewish community among Jews who live outside of Israel."

After meeting Jewish youth throughout the world, said Sharansky, "I see the strong commitment to the Jewish people among those who visited Israel. I have no doubt that Birthright Israel is the way to build a strong, unified Jewish community for the next millennium."

The Birthright gift will cover the cost of travel to and from Israel and the equivalent of at least 10 days of significant programming, or can serve as a credit toward the cost of a longer program.

Israel, Britain sign agreement

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Israel has reaped a diplomatic benefit from last month's Wye accord.

Just hours after Israel began its further redeployment from the West Bank, and released 250 Palestinian prisoners, Israel and Britain signed a security memorandum to cooperate in defence research.

Britain's ambassador to Israel said the memorandum resulted from the Oct. 23 signing of the Wye agreement at the White House.

The memorandum calls for enhanced joint weapons research and facilitating information exchanges.

Two areas that are likely to benefit directly from the agreement are the fields of naval high-tech and pilotless surveillance drones.

Joint nuclear research is excluded from the pact.

This is the first such memorandum of understanding between Britain and a non-NATO member state.

In a call to Israel's ambassador to London and a senior British Defence Ministry official, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed his satisfaction at the signing of the memorandum

He described the memorandum as a "positive development" that he hoped "will serve as a foundation for future relations."

Netanyahu is visiting London this week for meetings with British Prime Minister Tony Blair and foreign secretary Robin Cook.

GA comes to an end

Continued from page 1

More than 5,000 people attended the conference whose theme was Many People, Many Roads, One Heart. Approximately 3,500 delegates were from North America; 260 were Canadians. Some 1,500 Israelis also took part. The large numbers of participants from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean in effect converted the proceedings to an intense four-day cultural exchange between the two groups: North Americans and Israelis.

The assembly was opened Monday night with the hope expressed to the delegates by Charles Bronfman, international chair of the GA, that they would get to know each other, "to celebrate the common histories and common heritage.

Echoing Bronfman's call, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged delegates "to feel the bond that all Jews must feel when they walk the streets and the paths of Jerusalem."

Organizers and planners of the conference arranged programs for the delegates designed to increase opportunities for mutual discovery. Person to person contact was the norm.

Activities centered on constant face to face exchanges of views and opinions in settings that ranged from small panels and larger forums, to full plenaries.

In a further departure from past practice, on one of the days, delegates travelled to different parts of the country on field trips, each of which explored a subject of the delegate's own choosing.

The final day of the conference saw nearly 30 Knesset members join delegates in concurrent discussions of critical issues facing Israelis and North American Jews as individuals and as a community. The day concluded with an emotional signing of the Covenant of the Jewish People, a document confirming the intention of the communities to strengthen and maintain Jewish unity worldwide.

It became clear early on in the assembly that North American and Israeli perceptions of each other were often at odds with reality. Discussions on a number of topics, such as fundraising, social priorities, the peace process, religious pluralism, and national identity versus religious or ethic identity, spilled out of the conference rooms and into the halls and dining areas of the conference centre throughout the week.

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Poland to return billions in Jewish property

By ALEX SOMEKH
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

TEL AVIV — The World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) and the heads of the Jewish community in Poland have struck a deal to have the Polish government return some $3 billion (US) in Jewish property grabbed by the Nazis.

The deal, signed earlier this month, includes thousands of buildings and land, taken by the Nazis and then appropriated by the government after World War II. The land is now being used by the Polish army, government ministries and schools.

The ownership will be divided equally into three portions, one to the WJRO, one to the Polish Jewish community, and one-third to organizations to be selected in negotiations between the WJRO and the Polish Jewish community.

An Israeli source said that some of the property will eventually end up in Israeli government hands, with the government involved in the talks.

Meanwhile, in the last few weeks, deals have been struck in two other countries – Romania and Hungary. The Romanian government is to hand over 11 buildings, worth some $2.5 million to the WJRO and the local Jewish community, who will divide the property equally.

In Hungary, the deal involved the local Jewish organizations forgoing their demands for some 153 buildings currently in use by the Hungarian government and military, as well as medical clinics and old-age homes, in exchange for an annual payment of $3 million to the local Jewish community. No time frame has been put on that annual payment.

A source involved in the negotiations said that the motivation for a quick deal in all three countries was the belief that Jewish organizations could interfere with attempts to get those countries their entry tickets to NATO. Elsewhere, negotiations continue with the Bulgarian and Slovakian governments.

The WJRO had its annual general meeting in Jerusalem to discuss what to do with the $1.25 billion that is due from the deal made with Swiss banks three months ago. The decision makers – including the chiefs of the World Jewish Congress and the Jewish Agency – must abide by criteria that will be eventually approved by a federal court in New York.

The decision has already been made to allocate some 20 percent of the money for education and memorials, with money to go to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum in Washington, the Lohamei Hagetaot Holocaust research centre, and the Jewish Agency.

Settlers, PA slam Israel over Wye

Continued from page 1

In the redeployment, Israel transferred two percent of the West Bank, or some 44 square miles, from sole Israeli control to joint control with the Palestinian Authority. Israel also handed over 7.1 percent of land in the region to sole Palestinian control.

Most of the redeployment was carried out near the West Bank town of Jenin. The second redeployment called for in the Wye accord will be centred around Ramallah and the third around Hebron. All three redeployments, which are linked to Palestinian steps to live up to security commitments, are scheduled to be completed by January.

Along with the redeployment, Israel carried out the prisoner release, which led the Palestinian Authority to complain that 150 of the 250 people freed were common criminals and that the Wye agreement stated all should be political prisoners.

"We did not seek U.S. President Bill Clinton's guarantees in order to secure the release of car thieves," Dr. Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, told Israel Radio.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denied that he had violated the Wye agreement. His position was upheld by a U.S. Embassy spokesperson, who said in a statement that the United States was unaware of any violation of the accord regarding the releases.

Despite the prisoner dispute, celebrations were held over the weekend in the West Bank towns that became part of the self-rule areas.

The Week in Israel

Nov. 16

• Yasser Arafat hinted that Palestinians would not hesitate to use violence if the United States and Israel "delay us from praying at Al-Aksa," referring to the mosque in Jerusalem. A spokesperson for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Arafat's comments, broadcast over the Voice of Palestine, were a "declaration of war on the peace process."

Nov. 17

• The army began closing gas mask distribution centres that were opened at the start of the latest crisis with Iraq. Some 65 stations were opened earlier to hand out and update civil defence kits in case Iraq bombed Israel. Officials said the public appeared unconcerned with the tensions, saying only some 26,000 people came to the centres.

• Two Israelis accused of spying on Cyprus made several telephone calls to an intelligence service in Tel Aviv just before they were arrested, according to testimony in a Cypriot court. Israel has denied that the two men, who were arrested earlier this month, were working against Cyprus or on behalf of Turkey.

Nov. 18

• Israel invited bids for the construction of 1,025 housing units at Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem. The step was viewed as an effort by Netanyahu to placate domestic opposition after the cabinet approved the Wye agreement.

• A bill to cancel Israel's law for the direct election of the prime minister is expected to pass a first vote when it is soon brought before the Knesset.

Nov. 19

• Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman proposed legislation to protect Israeli renters from sharp swings in the shekel's exchange rate with the U.S. dollar. Rents in Israel are quoted in dollars but paid in shekels. The recent decline in the shekel against the dollar has driven up rental costs.

Nov. 20

• A law that would require Israeli radio stations to devote at least half of their music air time to Israeli songs passed the first of three Knesset votes.

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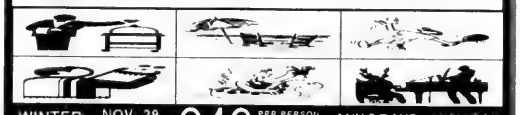
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Knesset opposition helps get Wye accord ratified

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has won a major Knesset vote, thanks to the opposition.

Far from receiving applause for his victory, Netanyahu faced growing calls to form a national unity government or go to early elections, after most of the legislators who voted against the Wye accord were members of Netanyahu's own governing coalition.

While the Knesset approved the accord by 75-19 with nine abstentions, most of the support came from the opposition Labor party.

Two of Netanyahu's ministers from the National Religious Party voted against the accord. Seven other ministers, five of them from Netanyahu's Likud party, absented themselves from the Knesset floor when the vote was taken.

Governing coalition

Among those calling on Netanyahu to change his government or seek early elections was legislator Aryeh Deri, a member of the Orthodox Shas party, which is part of the governing coalition.

"The prime minister should come out in a public call, out in the open, not in back-room dealings, to [opposition leader] Ehud Barak and his colleagues to join a national unity government," Deri said.

"If not, the prime minister has to go to the people and say, 'I did the best I could,' and go to elections," he told Israel Radio. "I don't think that the coalition can function as it is, just as Ehud Barak knows he can't bring down the government."

For his part, Barak downplayed the idea of joining a national unity government.

But at the same time, he pledged the Labor party's continued support for the Wye accord – "even if no cabinet ministers support it."

Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom, a member of the NRP, defended his decision to vote against the Wye agreement, even though it constituted a vote of no-confidence in the government.

Referring to an earlier decision by the NRP central committee to defer for at least six weeks any support for a bill to call for early elections, he said that if Netanyahu continues to call on the Palestinians to live up to their part of the accord, "I will propose staying in the current government, which is still a bad alternative, but better than all the others."

Coalition chair Meir Sheetrit took a less sympathetic view of Yahalom's stand.

He and Labor legislator Avraham Shochat submitted a joint motion that any cabinet member who votes no confidence in the government be immediately ousted from his position.

***

Knesset ratification of the Wye accord came only days after the two parties to the peace process renewed their war of words.

Statements by Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat threatening to use violence against Israel, and by Israeli foreign minster Ariel Sharon exhorting settlers to grab more West Bank land, revealed deeper problems that both sides will face.

Even if the Wye accord is implemented, these problems are likely to resurface in the final-status negotiations.

The accord, which ended a 19-month stalemate in the peace process, was expected to usher in a new period of Israeli-Palestinian cooperation.

And in an effort to restore some spirit of cooperation, Arafat reiterated his commitment to the peace process at a news conference in Jericho last week.

"We are protective of the peace process in the Middle East and all the peace agreements we signed with the Israelis," Arafat said. "Peace is a Palestinian strategic choice, and any differences in the final-status negotiations, we stress that we want them to be solved by peaceful means through negotiations, and not in any other way."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Arafat's remarks a "positive development. From my perspective, an important obstacle was overcome."

The obstacle emerged earlier when Arafat, addressing a gathering of Fatah members in the West Bank town of Ramallah, reiterated his intention to declare Palestinian statehood next May.

In addition, Arafat told the Fatah members, "Our rifles are ready, and we are prepared to use them against whoever tries to prevent us from praying in Jerusalem."

Reacting to Arafat's comments, Netanyahu announced, just as the Knesset began debating the Wye agreement, that he was suspending a West Bank redeployment slated for earlier this month. Palestinian officials charged that Netanyahu had misunderstood Arafat's remarks and that the self-rule authority remains committed to its decision to pursue peace.

"He did not mean guns in the literal sense," Palestinian official Ziad Abu Ziad told Israel Radio. "He was talking about Palestinian rights to Jerusalem."

Meanwhile, Dr. Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to Arafat, charged Israel with contributing to the inflammatory atmosphere.

Tibi cited comments made by Sharon, who said Jewish settlers should grab as much West Bank land as they can to keep it from the Palestinians.

"Whatever is seized will be ours. Whatever isn't seized will be in their hands," said the hawkish Sharon, who championed Jewish settlement in areas captured in the 1967 Six Day War.

Sharon had warned that if the peace process continues to deteriorate, a free-for-all would develop in which the West Bank would be up for grabs.

Further inflaming Israeli-Palestinian tensions was the announcement last week that Israel was inviting bids for the construction of 1,025 housing units at Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem.

American officials have their hands full with what looks like two less-than-willing partners to the peace process.

Israel maintains air advantage

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Israel has maintained a decisive technological advantage in the air with the acquisition of its latest strike aircraft from the United States, according to the current issue of the London-based *Jane's Defence Weekly*.

The journal reports that the Israel Air Force has now taken delivery of more than half of the 25 Boeing F-15I jet fighters it ordered in 1994, and has already conducted more than 1,200 flights with the aircraft, which are now stationed at the Tel Nov base in central Israel.

The multi-billion-dollar order, scheduled to be completed by mid-1999, gives Israel – for the first time – an all-weather, long-range, preemptive strike capability, the journal reported.

The acquisition also gives Israel "the most powerful long-range aircraft in the region," it said.

An Israeli defence official was quoted as saying that a decision on Israel's next aircraft purchase is not expected until early next year.

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ROM exhibit features look at Rothschilds

Cartoon of Nathan Rothschild (right of centre) and his wife promenading in Brighton, 1826.

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Rothschilds, the legendary and luminous Jewish family which emerged from the darkness of the 18th century Frankfurt ghetto, are synonymous with fame and fortune.

Their name conjurs up visions of fabulous wealth, palatial country estates and grand vineyards.

Two hundred years after the founder of the clan, Mayer Amschel Rothschild, began trading in precious coins and medals, the Rothschilds appear to be as powerful and influential as ever.

The allure of the Rothschilds is such that a litany of books and movies have chronicled their financial acumen and their integral role in the development of the modern banking system and the global economy.

Joining the bandwagon, the Royal Ontario Museum has opened a new multi-media exhibit about them. Entitled *Two Rothschild Centuries: The Remarkable Life and Achievements of Nathan Mayer Rothschild and His Descendants*, it runs until Jan. 31, 1999.

Consisting of videos, photographs, artifacts, documents and keepsakes, this rather modest, somewhat superficial exhibit revolves around Nathan Mayer (1777-1836), one of the family's most stellar figures.

An innovative entrepreneur, Nathan Mayer settled in Britain when he was only 21. Overcoming barriers of language, culture and religion, he transformed himself into a leading Manchester businessmen. Later, having established himself in London as a banker, he married Hannah Cohen, the dark-eyed daughter of a well-connected merchant.

Without a doubt, Rothschild's greatest triumph was in financing Britain's war against Napoleonic France. "That was the best business I ever did," he gloated in what must have been an unguarded moment.

The object of sardonic cartoonists, some of whose works adorn this exhibit, Nathan Mayer was in the forefront of the industrialization of Europe.

He and his brothers, who set up branches of N.M. Rothschild and Sons throughout Europe and whose lives are duly noted, were instrumental in building railways, bridges, tunnels and canals and in developing oil fields in southern Russia.

Their children, having been groomed for leadership positions, did not rest on the family's laurels. In 1858, Lionel de Rothschild was the first Jew to become a member of Britain's House of Commons. In 1875, thanks to N.M. Rothschild and Sons, Britain was able to buy up shares of the Suez Canal, an act which irretrievably altered the balance of power in the Middle East.

Aside from a passing reference to the family's vineyard in Rosh Pina, Israel, no mention whatsoever is made of their direct involvement in Britain's 1917 Balfour Declaration. It is an egregious oversight, but not an unexpected one given the physical smallness of the exhibit. In terms of size and quality, it is certainly not as impressive as the 1994 Rothschild exhibit in Frankfurt.

However, because of its Canadian venue, unusually close attention is paid to Rothschild projects in Canada.

In the early 1950s, they were part of a consortium to develop 50,000 square miles of territory in Newfoundland. And after opening an office in Toronto in 1989, the Rothschilds never looked back.

Among other ventures, N.M. Rothschild advised the Nova Scotian government on the $851 million privatization of the Nova Scotia Power Corporation and the Royal Bank of Canada's $1.7 billion acquisition of Royal Trust.

In addition, the Rothschilds were called in as consultants on the financing of Prince Edward Island's Confederation Bridge and on Rogers' alliance with AT&T.

Today, with offices in almost 40 countries, N.M. Rothschild is a thriving global operation, a world-wide enterprise of which Nathan Mayer surely would have been proud.

One wonders, though, how he would have reacted to the assimilatory impulses of his descendants. A family tree, which takes the Rothschilds up to the present, is testimony to the fact that mixed marriages seem to have become the norm among the redoubtable Rothschilds.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

TEN CANTORS TO SING AT HOLY BLOSSOM

Toronto Council of Hazzanim and Mazon Canada present For the Love of Israel and Jewish Unity, a gala cantorial concert featuring 10 Toronto cantors – **Moshe Ginz, Yaacov Motzen, Efriam Sapir, Benjamin Maissner, Martin Steinhouse, Yehuda Rottner, Armand Moyal, Louis Danto, David Bagley** and **Aviv Ouanounou.**

The concert also features the **Toronto Jewish Male Choir**. Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst St. Sunday Dec. 6, 8 p.m. $15 general admission. (Friend, patron and other tickets also available.) 789-3291, ext. 224.

***

Film Society: Memberships ($45) are now available for the Lapont Jewish Film Society's 1999 season. On eight Sunday evenings at the AGO's Jackman Hall, the society presents films that dramatize or document Jewish experiences in the world. 924-6211.

***

Beth Anne Cole: A "joyous Chanukah concert" at Beth Tikvah Synagogue in Toronto features singer Beth Anne Cole performing a program of Gershwin music in honor of the centenary of the composer's birth, as well as numerous traditional Yiddish songs.

Also on the bill is the klezmer band **Chutzpah!** to entice the audience into dancing in the aisles. Sunday Dec. 13, 8 p.m. 3080 Bayview Ave. $18 in advance, $20 at the door. 221-3433.

***

Prime Time Piglets: Unkosher as it sounds, **Marion ("The Bubbie Break")** Schwarz has come up with a concept for a new television series, *Higgly, Wiggly, Wonkers & Snout*, featuring "four adorable little piglets."

Schwarz is the executive producer at Jams Productions, which recently commenced preproduction for the new half-hour live-action children's television show.

"When my grandchildren were very young," said the professional Bubbie, "I wrote poems about Higgly, Wiggly, Wonkers and Snout, and then I started writing short stories about the various adventures that the piglets experienced.

"The piglets share those experiences with several other recurring characters, including Poncho the Head Honcho, Calfy Calf, Kitty Kat and Bossy Cow."

Jams's partner is Telegenic Programs, whose chair & CEO **Lawrence Fein**, "will become the best friend of children everywhere."

Meanwhile, Telegenic's licensing officer, **Michael Carlisle**, is looking at spin-off products. "There will be a plethora of licensing opportunities for various Higgly, Wiggly, Wonkers & Snout products for all ages," Carlisle said.

***

Play Celebrates Poet: **Leonard Cohen**, Montreal-born bohemian troubadour and quintessential lover, is the subject of the play *Doing Leonard Cohen*, now running at the Factory Theatre. Texts from *Beautiful Losers, Flowers for Hitler* and *Death of a Lady's Man* are featured in this production, which contains nudity and coarse language. $23-$16. To Dec. 13. 125 Bathurst St. 504-9971.

***

One-of-a Kind Judaica: This year's One of a Kind Craft Show features unique Judaica pieces by 15 artists, designers and artisans. Nov. 26 to Dec. 6, National Trade Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Adults $9. Web site, [www.oneofakindshow.com].

***

In the Spotlight: Toronto producer-director **Ric Bienstock** has been taking a hard look at the hardcore pornography industry for an upcoming six-part television series, *Sexual Century*, about modern attitudes to sex.

"During the sexual revolution of the 1960s, sex was all about free love," notes the Montreal-born Bienstock, who has lived in Toronto the last 12 years. "Now sex is all about capitalism and making money. There are a lot of mainstream companies profiting from the adult industry.

"Every major hotel chain offers porn in their rooms. That's a big transition. How did it come to be that hotels offer pornography to their guests?"

Bienstock won Geminis last year for her work in the documentary, *Ebola: Inside An Outbreak*, and in 1996 for **Ms Conceptions**, a documentary about single mothers by choice. She also worked on *The Plague Monkeys* and *Deadly Currents* for the Toronto-based Associated Producers.

Bienstock's segment of *Sexual Century* is in final post-production stages. The series is due for airing in the winter, first on the History Channel, then on CBC in Canada and ITV in England.

Aging boomers dig Diamond

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Centre ice was transformed into a flashy revolving stage for Neil Diamond's recent Toronto concert, a bigtime nostalgia test for aging boomers and a number of younger fans.

The crowd of 17,000 spent much of the two-hour show at Maple Leaf Gardens on their feet, swaying, clapping and singing along to the familiar ballads of the 57-year-old pop star/songwriter, accompanied by his nine-piece band. Subsequent to the Nov. 15 appearance in Toronto, he played Hamilton's Copps Coliseum, Ottawa's Corel Centre and Montreal's Molson Centre.

Two couples slow-danced in an aisle near the Toronto stage as Diamond sang *I've Been This Way Before* from his 1974 *Serenade* album.

When he began *Song Sung Blue* in a voice as powerful, deep and sure as when he recorded it in the early '70s, I was transported to a different arena – a suburban rink where I skated with friends in high school.

Cracklin' Rosie took me back in a different way, evoking unexpected tears at the memory of a high school friend, now deceased, who got a charge out of any song with her name in it.

As far as the rest of the sold-out house was concerned, Diamond could barely begin any of his oldies – songs like *Love On The Rocks, Hello Again* and *Shilo* – before thunderous cheering erupted again.

Onstage, Diamond is extravagant with his blown kisses and

Continued on page 34

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Klezmerist sketches deeply meditative soundscape

By ERIC STEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Those who attended Andy Statman's recent performance at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts know why the diminutive New Yorker has been a major contributor to the klezmer revival of the past quarter century.

Through a breathtaking combination of virtuosity, spirituality and sheer inventiveness, Statman captivated and often surprised the generally appreciative audience with a set featuring music from his latest CD, *The Hidden Light*.

Statman's latest musical ventures have taken him into uncharted waters, where he has practically invented a new hybrid form of music. "KlezTrane" might be an apt description of this latest fusion, which combines the mournful old-world melodies of klezmer music with the deeply textured, free-form improvisation of modern jazz. Whatever one calls it, it represents a significant new direction in Jewish music.

Two decades ago, before the term klezmer had begun to reappear in the contemporary lexicon, Statman was one of a mere handful of musicologists and musicians rediscovering the music of their Jewish forebears.

Statman and his fellow revivalists (Henry Sapoznik, Zev Feldman, Hankus Netsky, and others) emphasized "authenticity" and attention to detail in their early recordings.

Through copious study of old 78rpm records and field recordings (and in Statman's case, apprenticeship with the legendary klezmer clarinetist Dave Tarras), the early revivalists brought klezmer music back to life by trying to recreate the sounds of the early 20th-century klezmorim, replicating the original instrumentations and mimicking every nuance of the source recordings.

But after helping establish familiarity with the old style as a guiding principle of the revival, Statman soon embarked on an evolutionary course. He experimented with non-traditional instrumentation and allowed his background in bluegrass, jazz and other ethnic folk music to seep in. His music continued to evolve, eventually culminating in his most recent and boldest departure.

Backed by a trio of piano, bass, and drums, Statman's current sound is underpinned by a lush ambience of constantly shifting chordal and rhythmic textures.

While the band provides a spacious canvas, Statman sketches impressionistic masterpieces on the clarinet and the mandolin, using traditional and contemporary Jewish melodies as a point of departure. The result is a deeply meditative soundscape unlike anything else in modern Jewish music or jazz.

For some, this new sound is hard to grasp, perhaps a little too diffuse and introspective, and certainly nothing like what many people believe klezmer music is "supposed to sound like." Indeed, a handful of patrons at last week's concert filed for the exits at intermission and before the encore, obviously disappointed that Statman never gave them cause to clap their hands, dance in the aisles and sing along.

Those who expect a certain sound when they hear the word klezmer will find it difficult to get past preconceived notions when listening to Statman. But reducing klezmer to a self-parodic caricature of freilech, sentimental Yiddish theatre tunes does injustice to a musical tradition that was, and is, much broader and more complex.

Evolution and fusion with other musical styles has always been a central feature of klezmer music, in Europe and in America, in this century and the last. Those who dismiss Statman with the oft-heard protest, "but that's not klezmer," fail to understand that klezmer music has always been a dynamic form, changing to adapt to contemporary styles and to meet the needs of uprooted communities and an ever-changing sense of Jewish identity.

Moreover, they fail to grasp the consequences of the fact that the community that nurtured the growth of klezmer music from the Middle Ages to the World War II no longer exists. For klezmer music to survive in any manner, it must be allowed to evolve, it must be treated as a living tradition, rather than a static one fixed somewhere in time between this century's two great wars.

Statman is not alone on the cutting edge of Jewish music. He is joined by other contemporary musicians whose mastery of the old style but willingness to evolve is ensuring the survival and growth of music coming out of the klezmer tradition. Foremost among these musicians is the international group Brave Old World, who take a radically different approach than Statman, but also create an awe-inspiring, thoroughly original new form of music based firmly on the klezmer style.

Other acts, including Boston's Naftule's Dream, New York's Klezmatics, and Canada's own Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, are also developing their own languages of improvisation based on klezmer, as well as on jazz and various types of world music.

A mere generation ago or two ago, klezmer music was to all intents and purposes, dead. Today it is once again a thriving and dynamic form, thanks in no small part to the work of artists like Statman.

But in order for it to continue to grow, the innovations of today's klezmorim must be recognized, not as adulterations of a once-great form, but rather as evolutions of a lasting and flexible musical language, a language able to express the deepest passions, sorrows and joys of the Jewish soul – past, present…and future.

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Neil Diamond

Aging boomers get nostalgic

Continued from page 33

sweeping arm movements, but stingy with his spoken words. The Brooklyn native offered an uncharacteristically personal intro, however, to the song *America*, which he wrote for the movie *The Jazz Singer*, in which he also starred.

Diamond's immigrant grandparents had entered the United States "with only dreams and prayers and hopes for the future," he said.

His superstar persona underscored the contrast to his words, as it did when he invited the audience to join him in a rousing sing-along version of *Forever In Blue Jeans*, wearing black dress pants and a spangly red shirt, the back of which was sweat-soaked due to the intensity he put into every number.

The most kitschy moment of the evening came during the song *America*, as two American and two Canadian flags unfurled to the lyrics, "*My country 'tis of thee*." It was a rare use of gimmickry in a show that focused almost exclusively on Diamond's music.

There were, of course, selections from his recently released 44th album. In addition to the title song of the double CD, entitled *The Movie Album: As Time Goes By*, Diamond sang *Unchained Melody*, Frank Sinatra's *I've Got You Under My Skin* and a melodramatic version of Elvis Presley's *I Can't Help Falling In Love With You*.

Melodrama aside, it's a good bet the three fans who held up signs with the words "Love Ya Neil," were speaking for the whole audience.

TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

NEW YEAR'S EVE "DIG" AT EIN GEDI

Looking for an unusual way to bring in the secular new year? Volunteers are required to work on a thrilling excavation of a Roman-Byzantine village at Ein Gedi, along the Dead Sea. The dig is scheduled for Dec. 27 to Jan. 20, under the leadership of Dr. Yizhar Hirschfeld, in a program jointly sponsored by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Hartford, Connecticut.

Ein Gedi, situated about 50 miles southeast of Jerusalem and 12 miles north of Masada, is a lush and exotic oasis in the Negev Desert, with high rocky cliffs, a pounding waterfall, a nature reserve graced with tropical flora, and a kibbutz-like garden village.

It was near Ein Gedi that the young David hid from the wrath of King Saul (I Samuel 24) some 3,000 years ago.

Excavation began in the early 1970s, when a series of sixth-century synagogues and a splendid zodiac mosaic floor were unearthed.

Volunteers recently uncovered an entire section of this isolated ancient community – a street, the entrance to the village, multi-storied homes, shops, a ritual bath and many small treasures such as coins, pottery lamps, cloth, jewelry and glass.

In the fourth century the village was inhabited by members of the mystical-ascetic Essenes sect, who produced an expensive, aromatic oil called balsam. The current phase of work is focused on unravelling the secret of production of this valuable oil.

Volunteers should be prepared to dig, pick, sift, wash and sort from early morning to early afternoon, five days a week; On weekends they are free to relax and travel. Lectures about the site and the excavation, as well as field trips into the surrounding desert area, are part of the experience.

No prior knowledge or background is required but every volunteer must be energetic, in good physical health, and of good cheer. Minimum stay is one week. Room and full board cost between $180 to $300 US per week, depending on the accommodation chosen.

To register, contact Dr. Y. Hirschfeld, Institute of Archaeology, Hebrew University, Mt. Scopus, 91905 Jerusalem. Fax 011-972-2-582-5548. email [hani@ actcom.co.il], Web site, [www.hum.huji.ac.il/archaeology/eingedi/]. Deadline is Dec. 15.

***

Polish Journal: Montreal writer Irena Karafilly went back to her native Poland after an absence of some 40 years, keen on understanding the turbulent past and complex present of Polish society. Travelling through diverse regions, she met people from all walks of life, from priest to prostitute, and explored Tatar villages, Teutonic Knights' castles, even a jail and a concentration camp.

Karafilly, whose father is Jewish, also visited his shtetl and discovered the manner of her grandparents' deaths. She recounts the highly personalized story of her travels in *Ashes and Miracles: A Polish Journey* (Malcolm Lester Books, $21.95).

***

Views of London & Paris: Two recent travel guidebooks give very distinctive views of these two world capitals.

Impressionist Paris: The Essential Guide to the City of Light outlines a series of 30 walks in and around Paris pertaining to the lives of famous impressionist painters such as Cezanne, Degas, Manet, Monet, Renoir, Pissarro and Seurat.

Author Julian More goes so far as to point out details from the streetscape that can be found in these artists' celebrated canvases. The book is published by Pavilion in Great Britain and distributed in Canada by Raincoast Books. It sells for $42.95.

Who Lies Where: A Guide to Famous Graves, by Michael Kerrigan, provides details on the final resting places of hundreds of historic personages throughout Britain – including Diana. "It is ironic that the world's first postmodern princess should have a send-off which recalled in scale and emotion the great public funerals of the nineteenth century," writes Kerrigan in this interesting, albeit somewhat eccentric, county-by-county guide. (Fourth Estate; distributed by Raincoast Books; $21.95.)

***

Pamper Yourself: the Laromme Jerusalem Hotel has introduced the Pamper Package, a special program that runs through most of the winter. Under this program, rooms are $69.50 (US) per person per night, excluding service charge but including breakfast and use of the swimming pool and spa.

For $50 more, guests may be upgraded to a deluxe room with a large terrace and magnificent view. 3 Jabotinski St., Jerusalem. Phone 02-6756-666, fax 02-6756-777.

Shalom Y'All to the Triangle

By LEWIS ERIC LACHTER
Special to The CJN

RALEIGH, N.C. — There are many reasons why Jewish residents and lots of tourists are attracted to the the three cities that make up the "Triangle" area of North Carolina: Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill.

Let's start with the Jewish community in Raleigh. The umbrella organization for the community is the Wake County Jewish Federation on Creedmore Road.

The JCC is located on six hectares of beautiful park. In addition to the main building, there is a large swimming pool, a playground, a snack bar, a lake for boating and fishing, an outdoor amphitheatre, covered basketball courts, and soccer and baseball fields.

There are two Reform congregations in Greater Raleigh: Temple Beth Or, an established synagogue with a wide range of religious, educational, social and cultural activities; and Beth Shalom, a newer congregation. The Conservative shul is Beth Meyer, which calls itself "a warm and informal congregation." The Lubavitch synagogue, Congregation Sha'arei Israel, is traditional, and says in its literature that "no previous knowledge of Hebrew is needed for participation."

Moving along the Triangle to the Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation, you'll find a vibrant, fast-growing organization and community. Located on Lyckan Parkway in Durham, the federation publishes the *Menorah*, a newspaper that carries news, views and a complete calendar of local events.

The federation also publishes the *Shalom Y'All Directory*, "the somehow never complete, constantly being revised directory of shuls, schools, organizations and more."

There are three synagogues in Durham. The Judea Reform Congregation, which was formed in 1961, has a membership of some 500 families. Beth El Synagogue describes itself as both Conservative and Orthodox; and Congregation Ohr Torah of the Jewish Learning Experience is Orthodox.

The newly formed Chapel Hill Kehilla is the first congregation in Chapel Hill. At this time, Shabbat services are held twice monthly at Hillel on the campus of the University of North Carolina.

Just eight miles from Chapel Hill is lovely Chatham County. In addition to the large number of artists' studios, be sure to stop at the Village of Fearrington. You'll find beautiful gardens, walking trails and fascinating shops, including a great book store.

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Researchers study Baycrest patients' brain processes

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The brain processes of aged patients at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care are revealing secrets that are of help to researchers.

Though one man cannot pronounce or recognize the word apple, he chose a red apple over one painted blue for the experiment, said Dr. Guy Proulx, Baycrest's director of psychology.

Another patient could not recognize any shape, but left the interview room and walked down a corridor without stumbling.

"These secrets come from places we least expect," Proulx told those attending the second lecture in the Ada Starkman series at Abe Posluns Auditorium.

He joined Vivienne Marcus, curator of the $4 million art collection at Baycrest, in describing how visual stimuli help cognitive processes.

When eight people, including his two daughters and spouse, walked by a patient, Dr. Proulx said, there was no sign of recognition. But a galvanic skin response detector (sometimes known as a lie detector) clearly showed that the patient did recognize his spouse and daughters.

Proulx said he had a yellow painting in his office that he did not particularly like, until a patient saw it and exclaimed, "Oh, the sun."

"Then I realized what the painting was about. I think the patients here are less confused about art, than are the professionals on staff."

One patient, a former veterinarian, has Parkinson's disease, and is losing his eyesight, but he still paints in vivid colors, said Proulx.

"When his hand grasps the paint brush and his arm is extended, he has no tremor. That is much better for him than a gadzillion doses of medicine."

At age 30, he said, people begin to lose their ability to recognize names and faces without cues, but a research study showed that once these cues are provided the aged do very well.

Proulx told of a man with praxia (paralysis of one side of the body) who could not smile when told to do so. But when shown a partly toothless comb (Proulx is bald) the patient broke out in a full smile, showing all his teeth.

In a drab environment, patients cannot recognize clues, Proulx said, praising the art on Baycrest's walls, all of which has been donated.

"I am stunned by the incredible quality of art at Baycrest," said Glen Cummings, a member of its art comittee.

Marcus conducted a tour of the institute's art.

The lecture and tour were sponsored by the Baycrest Centre Foundation.

Screening urged for Ashkenazim

NEW YORK — Ashkenazi Jews should undergo carrier screening for Canavan disease (CD), a fatal genetic childhood disease with no known cure, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommended recently.

As with Tay-Sachs disease, the Ashkenazi Jewish community is at highest risk. Since both Tay-Sachs and CD are more common among this population, ACOG recommends screening if both partners are Ashkenazi Jews.

Carrier screening requires only a small blood sample for DNA analysis. The CD gene was discovered in 1993.

Most parents begin to recognize problems in their infant's development between 3 and 6 months of age. One of the earliest signs of CD is low overall muscle tone and lack of head control.

As the child grows, motor skills and mental ability progress very little or deteriorate, and speech never develops. Hearing remains sharp, but blindness can occur from optic nerve atrophy. Weakness of the muscles, seizures and severe feeding problems develop, and many children with the disease do not live to adolescence.

CD, like Tay-Sachs, is inherited as an autosomal recessive trait – both parents must be carriers of an altered CD gene for a child to inherit the disorder. A parent who is a carrier is healthy, because he or she has one functional copy of the gene, which produces a sufficient amount of the necessary enzyme aspartoacylase.

The enzyme helps control the over-accumulation of N-acetyl-aspartic acid, which in excess leads to the destruction of myelin in the brain. Myelin is a key component of the nervous system which protects nerves and allows messages to be sent to and from the brain.

"When both parents are carriers for CD, there is a one-in-four chance with each pregnancy that their child will receive two altered copies of the CD gene and have CD," said Judith Tsipis, director of the genetic counselling training program at Brandeis University.

"Even though an Ashkenazi Jewish couple has no family history of CD, and may already have one or more healthy children, they still may be at risk of having a child with CD. Only carrier testing can tell them for sure," Tsipis said.

Carrier testing can be done during pregnancy. If both parents turn out to be carriers, prenatal diagnosis for CD is available.

More information about the disease and a list of testing sites is available through the Canavan Foundation, 600 West 111th St., New York, N.Y., 10025; or on the Internet at [www.canavanfoundation org]. Phone 212-316-6488 or fax 212-665-4788.

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Prime 50 ft. building lot. G[SOLD]at buy. Sammy Roth** 488-2875.

BUILDING LOT - AVENUE/LAWRENCE
Committee approved - ready to go!! Sammy Roth** 488-2875.

ARMOUR HEIGHTS - BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED
3 bdrm. Main [SOLD]wder room. Fab. fin. bsmt. Gorgeous south deep lot. $369,000. Patti Pollock* 226-1987.

FABULOUS YONGE/LAWRENCE SEMI! $249,950!
218 Woburn Ave.! N[SOLD]drm. w/priv. drive + garage! Gorgeous 20.83 x 120'! Won't last! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

599 OLD ORCHARD GROVE! 45 X 150' LOT!
$329,000! Great opportunity! Fab. local! Invest/dvlp./build new! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

1ST AD! 229 BURNETT AVENUE! $265K!
Yonge/Sheppard! Reno. 2+1 bdrm., 2 bath bungalow! Gorgeous 44 x 117' south lot! 10+++! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

JUST LISTED! RUSSELL HILL ROAD
$9,900/mo. Elegant ravine residence, 6 bdrm. Fab. Gardens. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875.

LOWER VILLAGE RENTAL - MOVE NOW!
4 bdrms., 4 baths. Double car garage. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875.

NORTH PROPERTIES

HERITAGE ESTATES - EXCEPTIONAL 5 BDRM.
3 storey, Philmore built. Georgian style, 10 ft. ceilings, prof. decorated - stunning! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987.

REDUCED!! 130 LISA CRESCENT!
3+1 bdrm., parquet floors. Best value!! J. Gofman* 488-2875.

ATKINISON & CENTRE - DETACHED 3 BDRM. - VALUE!
Main flr. fam. rm. w/fireplace, white, upgraded kitchen - on quiet cres., 2 car garage! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987.

CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES

SKYRISE "BONAVENTURE" 1810 SQ. FT.
Corner unit, 3 bdr[SOLD]th, sol. & balcony. Laundry room, 2 car park. SE view! Must see. Marion Davis* 226-1987.

260 HEATH STREET WEST! $345,000!
Prime Forest Hill townhome! 2+1 bdrm., 3 bath w/priv. courtyard! Walk to subway & shops! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

AVENUE RD./ST. CLAIR "ESTATE SALE"
1,500 sq. ft. of luxury. Exclusive bldg., 2 bdrm., 2 bth, balcony, 2 prkg., hrdwd. floors. California shutters+++. S. Train** 226-1987.

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS TOWNHOUSE $339K
3 bdrm. & den, w/o lower. Immediate. Barbara Jacobs* 488-2875.

JUST REDUCED $234,900 RIDLEY BLVD.
Lovely 2 bdrm., 2 baths. 2 pkg. spaces. Beautiful building. Gate house. Shirley Sugar-Green* 226-1987.

75 YORK MILLS RD./YONGE $219K
Lux. 1 bdrm., 1 ½ baths, 24 hr. security. C. Feldman** 488-2875.

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GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BE YOUR OWN LANDLORD
Store front with office or apt. on top, Eglinton and Dufferin $239,000. Call Brenda Westbrook* 226-1987.

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936 sq. ft. storage, pkg. R. Pearsall*/A. Tobe** 488-2875.

** Associate Broker *Sales Representative

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

E. of Bathurst/Lawrence - Spacious 3 bdrm. bung., lovely eat-in kit., 3 baths, Master ensuite, lg. bsmt. apt., 50'x117' lot. Asking $350,000.

Bathurst/Lawrence - 3 bdrm., 45'x120' lot, asking $275,000.

Eglinton/Yonge - 7 rm., 2 story, 1 & 2 bdrm. self-contained apts. (rented). Walk to subway.

Sheppard Ave. W. of Bathurst - 2 bungalows to be sold together, 100'x140' lot. Ideal for builder. New development nearby.

RUTH RYBAK
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 787-7151

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath. S./Steeles, twnhouse, lge. 3 bdrm., 3 baths, fin. bsmnt., 5 appl., CAC, close to school, shul, TTC, shopping. Available summer '99. 416-225-6620 or 350-2905.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Clark, 3 bdrm., 3 bth., fully reno'd., fin. bsmnt, avail. immediately. 416-789-4148.

30 CODOMINIUM FOR SALE

SANTEE REALTY INC. (416) 441-2003

SKYMARK
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
SKYMARK CLASSIC: Unique open concept 2 bdrm. + family (approx. 2,325 sq. ft.) plus 2 terraces, 2 pkg. + bsmnt. large locker.
SKYMARK 2: An exquisite 2 bdrm. + family PENT-HOUSE (approx. 2,000 sq. ft.) with a huge wraparound balcony (approx. 430 sq. ft.). Numerous opulent features
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THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

1201 STEELES AVE. WEST 2 bdrms., completely ren., hrdwd. flrs., whirlpool. Stunning — a 10+! $199,900. Call **Saul Goldkind,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **416-739-7200.**

131 Torrsedale Ave. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., 5 appl., private. 449-0413.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 BATHURST
Spacious, 1 bdrm. + solarium, eat-in kit., 24-hr. concierge, $1,300/mo., incl. util., parking. Shows like model suite.
RUTH RYBAK
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75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Tridel's 265 Ridley (Avenue Rd & Wilson), 2 bdr., panoramic city view, sec., conv. to shopping, restaurants, schools, 401 & subway, $269,000. 782-0581. No agents please.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Lawrence, 3 bdrm., close to shul, near TTC, lux., well kept. 416-787-4487, 787-1909.

Bathurst/Sheppard - Sunny, bright, 2 bdrm., underground pkg. Call 416-635-5031.

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lge. lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., immed. 416-783-0542, 416-787-9451.

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Yonge/Steeles, furn. bsmt. rm., $400/mo. incl. 905-886-8670.

125 FORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

HALLANDALE-FLORIDA
Intercoastal loc. Beautiful sunset views. Newly carpeted ex. lg. dbl. bdrm. w/walk-in closet. 1 ½ baths. Newly tiled living rm., dining rm., eat-in kit. & balcony. Towers of Oceanview; priced to sell U.S. $60,000. IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY. Call Robin (561) 488-7148.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Century Village,Boca Raton, spotless 1 bdrm, 1 bth, mn flr, fully furn & equip. 905-625-3189

Delray Beach, beautiful 2 bdr, 2 bth., fully furn. + equipment Avail. from Jan. 905-737-8393.

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on ocean, 1 bdr conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. from January. 488-9819.

N. Miami Bch 2 bdrm., Jan. 15, $1200 US/mo. 905-882-5474.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Miami Beach condo. Ocean front for rent. Fully equip. Call 305-226-7688.

SINGER ISLAND - Mid. Jan. Lovely 2 bdrm., 3 bth. Immac. ocean front. Min. 3 mos. $3000 US per mo. or longer term negotiable. Owner 403-486-5577.

Surfside Bal Harbour on the Ocean, luxury 2 bdrm, 2 bth, min. 4 mos., beautifully furn., $2,000./ mo. U.S., walking dist. to Bal Harbour and Houses of Worship. Call 954-458-0913.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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Hollywood, The Aquarius, 1 bdrm., 2 bth., lux. condo, ocean property. 416-960-6380.

Miami, Hallandale - 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bths., ocean view, $1700/ mo. U.S. 416-638-7257.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Alexandra Towers, Hollywood Looking for 2 bdrm. apt., 2 - 3 weeks in March. 416-638-2550.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Beit Shemesh - English speaking community, 3 1/2 bdrm. apt $140K US. Call 416-663-5540 or 972-4-834-5798.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

$289,000 - LAKE SIMCOE
4 bdrm. Winterized cottage located 10 min. South of Barrie on a private road. Boathouse 16x24'. Easy access from Hwy. 400, 50 min. North of Tor. Call for directions.
Pattie Harper, Sales Rep.
Century 21
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190 VACATION PROPERTIES

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VACATION RENTALS
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Catalogue Home Business. Orders drop-shipped direct to customers. No inventory. Low $start up. $1000 to $10,000/mo. realistic. 416-410-1715, 905-826-9949.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Advertising Sales reps for dynamic publishing company required. Base negotiable + commission + bonus. Call **905-763-8034**

Atlanta Jewish Community Center seeks an **Early Childhood Director** for small preschool. 3 years + experience in Early Childhood or Education with good organizational and management skills. Excellent professional environment and benefits. c/o H. Pavloff, 1745 Peachtree Rd., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309, Fax: 404-898-9612, E-mail: zabmotik@aol.com

Atlanta Jewish Community Center seeks **F/T Teachers.** Early Childhood Education or related degree. Teaching or childcare exper. a plus. Professional environment, excellent benefits pkg., Internal Training Institute. c/o H. Pavloff, 1745 Peachtree Rd., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309, Fax: 404-898-9612, E-mail: zabmotik@aol.com

ECE Teacher req'd. for daycare. Call 905-881-9098.

Receptionist/Sales
Required for busy Optical Retail Showroom, well groomed, good English, Hebrew an asset. Please call Charlene (416) 439-3416.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

J & F HOME CHILDCARE SERVICES INC.
with 20 yrs. exp. is now recruiting *NEW PROVIDERS* to do childcare in their own homes.
We'll provide: • advertising for children • training equipment • excellent pay • program ideas • benefits & fun
You provide: • care in your own home • imagination & an enjoyment of children
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Homes are now needed in the Thornhill, Richmond Hill & North York areas

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
Live-in and live-out Caregivers.
Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
On-going contact with you after placement.
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RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly. Bonded, references.
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NOW!!!
Experienced live-in Filipino Caregivers available from Israel
ACT FAST!
ELLA'S DOMESTICS
Nannies, Housekeepers, Companions, Live-in or Live-out
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Nannies/caregivers for elderly & disabled seek live-in or out jobs. Exp. w/refs. 905-677-4580

Solid, exp. Polish cleaning person for houses. 416-699-3265.

Young Polish lady w/exp. can clean your apt. or house. North York only. Katrina, 630-0215.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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The cost of the 900# is only $2.29 per minute
To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 *Ext.# 65***

The Meeting Place

OR call 1-888-400-3283 *Ext.# 65*

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

LET'S EXPLORE LIFE
Single female, radiant, smart, compassionate, open, fun-loving, with depth & soul, enjoy good food, good conversation, long walks, & the cultural menu of Toronto. Seeking a male, romantic, affectionate, emotionally & financially stable, traditional values & style. AD#1678

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Divorced Jewish female, 48, affectionate, romantic, compassionate, mother of 2 sons, age 21 & 23. Seeking a romantic male, financially secure and will show me all the possibilities life has to offer. AD#1660

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, enjoy movies, travel, romantic walks, music, dining & dancing. Seeking a male, 50+, sincere, honest, mature, thoughtful. AD#1689

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, never married, 38, petite, down to earth, easy going, very laid back, good values. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, 36-42, for best friends and life partner. AD#1734

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, warm, sincere, attractive, romantic, slim, 5'4", brunette, enjoy reading, theater, movies, being by the ocean, dining & dancing, flea markets. Seeking a male, 35-44, intelligent, handsome, financially secure, romantic, must believe being best friends is the basis of a great relationship. AD#1662

LOVES TO COOK
Single, slim female, early 40's, intelligent, professional, fit, blondish-brown hair, hazel eyes, attractive, enjoy sailing, running, tennis, skiing, loves to cook. Seeking a male, 44-53, with similar interest. AD#1642

CHICKEN SOUP
Single female, 33, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving, enjoy long walks, movies, cycling, tennis, theater, dancing & dining, especially chicken soup. Seeking a non-smoking Jewish male, with similar interests and values. AD#1651

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, brunette, nurse, warm, sensitive, intelligent, sincere, caring, enjoy the theater, travelling, dining & dancing, intelligent, romantic, successful, for long term meaningful relationship. AD#1641

FABULOUS FORTY'S
Single mom, 40ish, 5'2", slim, attractive, fit, hazel eyes, blondish hair, professional, enjoy skiing, sailing, running, tennis, cooking. Seeking a professional male, 44-50, single dads OK, with similar interests and a good sense of humour. AD#1693

TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish female, attractive, slim, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, travel, music, long walks. Seeking a male, 50+, secure, mature, honest, and thoughtful. AD#1639

ROMANCE IS FOR TWO
Single female, slim, attractive, 5'6", fit, active, a teacher and a painter, enjoy cycling, hiking, long walks, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a male with good sense of self, sense of humour, and very intelligent, sincere, honest. AD#1649

RESPECT, LOVE, JOY
Professional Jewish female, 38, warm, sincere, intelligent, a bit determined, looking for a relationship based on respect, love, joy, consideration, passion, and loyalty, communication and family. Seeking a male, honest, playful, family oriented, emotionally available, open minded. AD#1645

ROMANTIC LADY
Single Jewish female, 5'6", attractive enjoy movies, theater, long romantic walks, travel. Seeking a Jewish male, professional, intelligent, proud of his heritage. AD#1727

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, attractive, intelligent, kind, caring, many varied interests. Seeking a male, 68+, educated, honest, caring, sincere. AD#1599

FLORIDA BOUND
Middle aged female, enjoy sports, travelling, dining, hopes to move to Florida, especially during the winter. Seeking a male with similar interests and outlook. AD#1650

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Slim female, warm, self employed, wonderful, sensual, enjoy movies, music, informal dining. Seeking s slim male, 38-48, 5'8"+, with similar interests. AD#1632

SPONTANEOUS
Tall, pretty female, early 30's, brown hair & eyes, easy going, good sense of humour, spontaneous, enjoy music, long walks, watching films. Seeking a male with similar interests. AD#1630

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish female, unique, charming, honest, kind, caring, young in mind, body & spirit, enjoy outdoor activities, sports. Seeking a male who lives life to the fullest. AD#1652

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single female, young looking, teacher, 47, spirited, loves to laugh, 5'3", 118lbs, kind, has 2 teenage children. Seeking a male, kind, non-smoker, honest, successful, emotionally stable, 40-55. AD#1607

LOVES TO LAUGH
Single mother, 47, slim, attractive, professional, youthful, spirited. Seeking an emotionally and financially secure male, non-smoker for friendship, possible relationship. AD#1611

Men seeking Women

FRIENDSHIP
Single male, 5'7", 180lbs, semi-retired, blue eyes, sincere, thoughtful, easy to talk to, romantic, reliable, dependable, humorous. Seeking an attractive female, 50-64, that is slim, trim in body and mind. AD#1653

A NEW BEGINNING
Young looking male, 53, 5'9", 180lbs, professional, successful, healthy, enjoy long walks, good food, dancing, theater, movies. Seeking a female for partnership. AD#1654

INTEGRITY
Senior Jewish male, 5'7", 180lbs, presentable, romantic, down to earth, humorous, blue eyes. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 50-64, that is kind, caring to share love, understanding and integrity. AD#1657

HANDY MAN
Single Jewish male, 32, 6'2", good heart, honest, caring, intelligent, funny, enjoy travelling, camping, playing pool, country drives, trying new things for an internal relationship with the right person. AD#1659

ACTIVE JUNIOR SENIOR
Single male, mid 60's, 5'6", non-smoker, Anglo-Jewish background, enjoy music, theater, outdoors, travel, public affairs. Seeking a semi-dependent, warm, educated, outgoing, caring lady, 50+. AD#1690

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 6', enjoy movies, dining & dancing, exercising, good conversation. Seeking a lady with similar interests. AD#1643

STYLISH GENTLEMAN
Single Jewish male, very stylish, blue eyes, dark hair, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, music. Seeking a female, 18-40, with similar interests and outlook. AD# 1742

To renew your ad call
416-236-6644

GOOD TIMES
Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship. AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING
Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator. Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate AD#1625

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single male, 36, 5'8", handsome, fit, well-established, non-smoker. Seeking a slim, stylish, attractive, lady, no children, non-smoker, with traditional Jewish values, 28-33. AD#1634

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity. Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

CLASS OF '96
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 38+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit. AD#1584

NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional. Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, satire & Jewish values. AD#1585

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel. Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and children in the future. AD#1597

SEEKING A COMPANION
Single male, 31, 5'10", medium build, brown eyes, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, outdoor activities, quiet evening at home. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1615

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives. Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests. AD#1616

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking. Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family. AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead. AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing. Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times. AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times. Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour. AD#1545

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady avail. 5 yrs. exp. Refs. Sun.- Fri. 416-787-5458.

Cleaning lady avail. Mon. - Fri. Refs. avail. Call 416-531-1747.

Cleaning lady with 4 years exp. avail. Call 416-783-4188.

Exp. cleaning lady avail. for homes & apts. 416-493-9227.

Exp. Lady seeks f/t job to care for elderly, kids, light housekeeping, midnight shifts, weekends, refs. 416-287-0415.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality housé cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-224-9907**
NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Nanny req'd for 3 kids (8,6&4), live-in/out, must be excellent driver, Forest Hill.416-481-7765

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

A lady w/3 yrs. exp. of HCA in hospitals & homecare seeks F/T or P/T job. 416-782-5415.

Health Care Aid avail. to care for elderly. Refs. 416-740-5197.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together. The top-rated service that puts your needs 1st. Ruth 905-731-5204.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1650 registered. 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEKEL/GALLIPEAU
Paul & Cindy are blessed with their second child
Megan Leah (Itya Leah)
Born July 21, 1997. Named in loving memory on July 25, 1998 for her great grandparents, Emanuel Poitras & Leah Lewis. Proud grandparents are Martin & Sheila Stekel, Dorothy Massey and Larry & Reanne Gallipeau.
Mazel Tov!

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

JSM, 50, 5"6', 147 lbs., green eyes, romantic, emotionally and financially stable, looking for a slim, attractive female, 40-50, for a longterm relationship. Call 905-889-6135.

One Of A Kind! If you want to satisfy your intellectual appetite & enjoy life to the fullest, then look no further. This well educated, sensitive, kind and attractive, successful, financially secure prof. lady, honest & sincere seeks a meaningful relationship with accomplished, educated prof. of 52-62 years of age. If you enjoy good conversation, theatre, traveling, classical music, sports & outdoors, I am sure we will find much in common. CJN Box # 7125.

Prof male 50 5'7"down to earth romantic, caring, loves dancing & sports seeks honest, slim female 38+ with a good sense of humour who enjoys quiet evenings, theatre, dining for a serious relationship. CJN Box 7123

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Do yourself (or someone you know) a favour! Tall, slim, easy going, responsible, 39 yr old executive male seeks slim, Toronto area Jewish woman to age 35 (no kids yet) for long term relationship. You may be an academic or a professional but in either case are intellectually & physically appealing. Down to earth, warm, adventurous and independent, you might share an interest in travel, photography or tennis with this considerate man of integrity. **Please reply** (with recent photo if possible) **to CJN Box #7121.**

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-48, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7124.

Handsome, successful, athletic,caring,SJM 40's, from warm, loving family seeks traditional/observant SJ lady 27-37 with great loving heart, inner strength, elegance & matching form/beauty for lifetime with passionate, dynamic, NYC mensch, refined prof. Desires sharing active, rich Jewish family life pleasures. CJN Box 7119.

Truly unique. Very attractive, slim, classy, well educated, romantic, energetic and active widow who is a young 58. Seeks youthful, financially and emotionally secure, cultured, and educated Jewish gentleman 60-70 who desires an enriched serious relationship filled with love & fun. CJN Box 7120.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

330 OBITUARIES

SHEINIS, Leah - on Oct. 30, 1998, late of 15 Tangreen Crt., #1108.
RUINSKY, Maria - on Nov. 6, 1998, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
SHAW, Martin - on Nov. 6, 1998, late of 31 Haskell Cres.

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HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
TRADITIONAL GRAVESIDE SERVICE

305 ARTICLES WANTED

I will buy your coins, stamps, gold, silver, diamonds, watches & antiques **for cash. 605-1640**

330 OBITUARIES

COHEN, Max - on Oct. 29, 1998, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
MIRSKY, Irving - on Oct. 30, 1998, late of 260 Heath St. W., #702.
PACHTER, Harry - on Oct. 30, 1998, late of 271 Ridley Blvd., #403.
BACHAR, Matilda - on Nov. 1, 1998, late of 85 Franklin Ave.
GOLDIN, Alan - on Nov. 1, 1998, late of 65 Gretman Cres.
KORENBLUM, Toba - on Nov. 1, 1998, late of 93 Ava Rd.
ICYK, Lipman - on Nov. 2, 1998, late of 80 Antibes Dr., #808.
LEDERMAN, Elsie - on Nov. 2, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FISHER, Hyman - on Nov. 3, 1998, late of 10 Senlac Rd.
LEA, Gloria - on Nov. 3, 1998, late of 2 Covington Rd., #507.
MARKS, Jean - on Nov. 3, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
PRICE, Vera - on Nov. 3, 1998, late of 2045 Finch Ave. W.
FELDSTEIN, Martin - on Nov. 4, 1998, late of 3800 Yonge St., #511.
MANDEL, Alan - on Nov. 4, 1998, late of 41 Apollo Dr.
ROSENTHAL, Samuel - on Nov. 4, 1998, late of 4005 Bayview Ave., #1119.
WILLIAMS, Archie - on Nov. 4, 1998, late of 650 Briar hill Ave., #711.
BORODA, Sonya - on Nov. 5, 1998, late of 4455 Bathurst St., #1123.
BRIGHTMAN, Allan - on Nov. 6, 1998, late of 26 Aldburn Rd.
SPRING, Eva - on Nov. 7, 1998, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
HIRSCHFELD, Hans E. - on Nov. 8, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
USPRECH, Irvine - on Nov. 8, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
LEVY, Sydney - on Nov. 10, 1998, late of 44 Jackes Ave., #2006.
WAGMAN, Janet - on Nov. 11, 1998, late of 25 Fruitland Dr.
SHERMAN, Cy - on Nov. 12, 1998, late of 81 Gailcrest Circle.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Jason Sherman won a Governor General's award in 1995.

Sherman's new play based on a 1930s 'labor opera'

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Although his current play *It's All True* is based on a "labor opera" from the 1930s, and though many of his previous plays have been highly critical of Israel, Toronto playwright Jason Sherman told an audience at Harbourfront recently, "I don't think of myself as a political playwright any more than I do a Jewish playwright."

The 36-year-old York University graduate, whose play *Three In The Back, Two In The Head* won a Governor General's award for drama in 1995, has nonetheless produced several plays that explore issues of Jewish identity and the Jewish state. And there are likely to be more, he said during a public interview.

In *The League of Nathans*, which was first performed in 1992, "three Jewish guys talk about life and Israel," Sherman said. "On the surface it was a very political piece, and there was a wide range of opinion about it in the Jewish press because it seemed to attack the very underpinnings of Zionism."

Reading Hebron, first performed in 1997, "went a little further. But I don't know if I should have a business card that says, 'Jason Sherman, political playwright.'"

Sherman has also produced a dramatized version of the non-fiction work *None Is Too Many* by Irving Abella and Harold Troper, which focused on Canada's restrictive anti-Semitic immigration policies before and during World War II.

"I think that theatre has a very practical role to play in slowly changing people's minds, and challenging people to change their beliefs."

The author of a weekly dramatic segment for the CBC radio program *This Morning*, Sherman acknowledged that one of his least political plays, *Patience*, "has received the most attention outside Toronto." The play concerns the Job-like tribulations of a successful man who suddenly loses his family and business. It's currently under option by a Hollywood studio, which is paying royalties for the privilege.

"It's a political play, just not overtly so," Sherman said. "I was trying to write a play that doesn't deal on the surface with politics, and see what happens. And what happened is, it was a big hit. I don't know what the lesson is in that because I don't want to stop doing plays like *League of Nathans*. In the end, I'll probably end up somewhere in the middle."

In both *League of Nathans* and *Reading Hebron*, Sherman utilizes a character named Nathan Abramowitz – and he apparently plans to use him again for the final instalment of what will become a trilogy. Asked if Nathan Abramowitz is his alter ego, Sherman replied, "Absolutely. He's my way of putting myself in my work. And he's going to go to Israel...I've got to get there myself."

Sherman didn't meet an actor or director until he was in his third year of York's playwrighting program, he said. "After I left university, I discovered that the best way to write plays is to start revising and rewriting right away. Otherwise, what you're handing in are perfect plays that work only in your mind. It's an art form that needs to be spoken aloud."

The Montreal-born writer was interviewed by Andrea Curtis, editor of *This Magazine*. Later, he took questions from the audience. One questioner noted his "flip" attitude and his frequent humorous asides.

"I have seven brothers, and one of the rites of passage was to make the others laugh," he explained. "Until you did that you were not a man, even if you had a bar mitzvah. But God knows, humor is important in a play. Because you don't want to put people through two hours without a laugh line now and then. I've done that – and it was a comedy."

Sherman's latest play, *It's All True*, is set in New York in 1937 at the opening night of Marc Blitzstein's play *The Cradle Will Rock*, which was directed by Orson Welles. *It's All True* is slated to open at the Tarragon Theatre in January.

Jason Sherman reads from *It's All True* at the Books and Bagels literary event, Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina, Sunday Dec. 6, 11 a.m. Members free, non-members $8.

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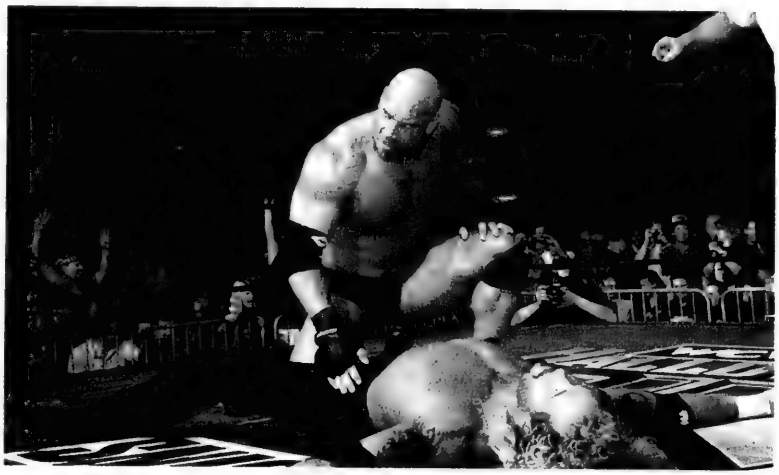
Goldberg rules world of WCW wrasslin

By PAULINE DUBKIN YEARWOOD
Chicago Jewish News



Bill Goldberg hovers menacingly over an opponent. [Colin Bowman WCW/nWo Magazine photo]

CHICAGO — In the middle of the darkened United Centre, floodlights shine down on a four-cornered stage. In the centre of the ring, a couple of scantily dressed behemoths who weigh in at about 300 pounds each are grunting and shouting while hitting each other over the head with chairs. The crowd goes wild as the wrestlers appear to inflict life-threatening injuries.

Many of the fans are holding up signs. Most of them are homemade, and proclaim such sentiments as "Wolfpac Rules" and "Go Home Hollywood!" But there are also signs that read "Shalom!" Several of the signs are the colors of the Israeli flag decorated with a Star of David.

They don't say anything else. They don't have to. Everybody knows they're held aloft by fans of the current heavyweight title-holder of World Championship Wrestling (WCW), the man known simply as Goldberg.

Yup, Goldberg. Or, as the fans chant when he enters the arena, "Gold-berg! Gold-berg!" In a sport where the principals include "Macho Man" and the "Hit Man," a simple "Goldberg" is a rarity.

So, of course, is a Jewish wrestler. After all, it's not often you see in the ring a 6 foot 4, 285-lb., shaven-headed descendent of Jacob, who, you'll remember, was quite a wrestler himself.

But Bill Goldberg (he dropped the Bill from his wrestling moniker shortly after making his debut a little more than a year ago) has had a bar mitzvah, and he doesn't wrestle on Rosh Hashanah, which fell on a Monday this year, the biggest night for wrestling on cable TV.

While the 31-year-old Goldberg is unquestionably a hero to Jewish kids, he's also a hero to thousands who aren't Jewish and who have only the vaguest idea of what one is.

We do know a few things about Bill Goldberg. He grew up in Tulsa, Okla., the son of a Harvard-educated doctor father and a classical musician mother, who divorced when he was a teenager. Always athletic, he and his two brothers hunted and fished, flew gliders and acrobatic planes. He worked for a short time as a bouncer before attending the University of Georgia, where he was a football star.

He went on to play the game professionally as a defensive lineman with the Atlanta Falcons from 1992 to '94. He also did a stint with the Los Angeles Rams before a knee injury put an end to his five-year NFL career.

Recruited by another wrestler, "Diamond Dallas" Page, Goldberg made his WCW debut in September 1997.

He turned the body slam, known as the jackhammer, into his signature move, and his star rose quickly. In July, he beat "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan to become the world heavyweight champion.

Since then, he has continued to reign undefeated in more than 100 matches.

"We're high-paid choreographers who don't do anything fake," he said. "The only thing we do is act a bit. It is dangerous. It's as dangerous as it looks. In my most recent match, a guy almost got paralyzed."

Goldberg says that while he's a proud Jew, in the wrestling world, "I don't make a big issue of it. To me that wouldn't be right. I haven't had any reaction to it (in wrestling). Nobody comments on it.

"I have a lot of pressure on me being the world champion," he admits. "It comes with the territory. I think about being a role model in everything I do. I just go about my business and do the same things I've always done, but I take into consideration that little kids are looking up to me, and I've got to set a good example in everything I do."

Keeping his own Jewish name doesn't sound like it was any big deal to him, but others see it differently. To Rabbi Irwin Kula, "it came from somewhere deep."

Kula is the president of the New York-based National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership (CLAL), a think tank on many Jewish subjects, and both a fan and a friend of Bill Goldberg. He is "the family rabbi" for Goldberg's father and brother, both of whom have studied with him, and knows Bill too, though not very well.

But he does follow his career and, along with his 6-year-old daughter, attended one of his matches. What he found impressed him. Backstage, after the match, the competitor was obviously tired but "he took time for everyone who was waiting for an autograph. He is really extremely nice. He's gentle. What you see is what you get."

Mike Leiderman, a sports journalist and commentator, says that while speaking at a recent United Jewish Appeal fundraiser, "I mentioned Goldberg and the crowd went nuts. This is something that does not compute."

Yet, he says, "Jewish boxers were once so big. And hey, it's a living."

Even the official magazine of the league recognizes that there's something special going on with Bill Goldberg. Sports broadcaster "Stagger" Lee Marshall writes in a column in the August 1998 issue that "Goldberg is not only winning matches and the hearts of fans worldwide, but it seems there's also an undercurrent of ethnic pride being experienced."

Then there are those who see implications far beyond sports in the Goldberg phenomenon.

Bernard Beck, an associate professor of sociology at Northwestern University, sees him as a throwback to an earlier time in Jewish history.

"Jews have had a fascination with sports ever since they came to America, whether they played or not. It was a way of becoming very American," Beck said.

Today, he says, he finds it fascinating that "as we are becoming overwhelmingly white-collar, sedentary professionals, Jewish kids are looking for other images, other models of Jews.

"For young boys in America, questions of strength, vigor, mastery, domination, and having a place to express aggressive tendencies are very important. Wrestling shows are soap operas for boys and men."

Rabbi Kula takes the argument a step further, finding in wrestling a metaphor for Judaism in the late 20th century.

"Part of what this century has been about for Jews has been widening both what it means to be Jewish and our image of a Jew."

When he looks at Bill Goldberg, says Kula, he sees "a guy who, through his wrestling...recognized that he had a responsibility to his Jewish identity.

"Does that mean he is going to put on tzitzit and observe Shabbat? No, but it is another one of many Jewish journeys. We need to be aware of the multiplicity of Jewish journeys that are out there."

Kula also sees great metaphorical significance in Goldberg's decision to keep his real name.

"A person who in some ways is really assimilated chose to keep his Jewish name," Kula muses. "And then he dropped the 'Bill.' Well, 'Goldberg' is more Jewish than 'Bill.' I don't think he anticipated it that way. This guy chose not to take a more marketable name and it came from somewhere deep."

Kula's idea is that as we enter the 21st century, "maybe there is such a wide multiplicity to being Jewish that we simply haven't named all the ways."

And Goldberg the wrestler could be one of those ways.

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The Inside Back

Loving us to death

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

I have always admired – but have had difficulty accepting – the Christian tenet of turning the other cheek. I'd like to ignore, even forgive, the spate of recent activity by so-called Hebrew Christians, but I cannot. So it's with some regret (but not much) that I unsheathe my daggers and point them squarely at the messianic menace that's been plaguing Toronto Jewry, setting its sights primarily on the young, the elderly and recent emigres.

There's been a flurry of activity over the past few weeks involving so-called messianic Jews, who, depending on with whom you speak, go by several definitions: Jews for Jesus, Hebrew-Christians, and even "fulfilled" and "complete" Jews. (During his earlier stand-up days, comedian Billy Riback, an executive producer of *Home Improvement*, and a brother of a good friend, would quip, "Jews for Jesus? Isn't that like saying Lesbians for Men?")

Whatever they call themselves, these believers have one thing in common: an unshakable faith that Jesus Christ (known in the movement as Yeshua) is the true Jewish messiah. They accept both the Tanach (the "First Covenant") and the "B'rit Hadasha" (New Testament) – the whole Bible – as the infallible word of God. They believe that there is one God, who eternally exists in three forms: God the Father, Yeshua the Messiah, and "Ruach HaKodesh" (the Holy Spirit). They believe in Yeshua's virgin birth, his sinless life, his miracles, his vicarious and atoning death, his bodily resurrection, his ascension to the heavens, and his personal return to power and glory.

Sound familiar? My Catholic friends would nod knowingly.

So live and let live, right? Not quite.

Consider: Central to the messianic philosophy is the belief that Yeshua is both "Mashiach Ben Yosef" *and* "Mashiach Ben David" (put another way, the Jewish messiah). And driving the whole zeal to missionize to Jews is the book of Romans' admonition to spread the Gospels "to the Jew first and then to the Greek [gentile]."

Messianic Jews routinely use and appropriate all kinds of Jewish symbols and trappings: kippot, tallit, menorahs, Israeli flags, and they even advertise Shabbat services. The blurring of boundaries is intentional, adding up to a relentless drive to convert Jews to Christianity, and evangelical Christianity at that.

Have they been successful? A 1991 study by City University of New York found that fully 12 percent of Americans who said their ethnicity is Jewish, or over 500,000 people, were Christian in their primary religious orientation, whether messianic or through mainstream churches. Now, that figure is probably more attributable to the soaring rates of intermarriage stateside, but if Canada is one generation behind the United States, as with many other demographic trends, we could soon be looking at 40,000 Canadian Jews who are regular churchgoers.

Messianic believers are taught to love the Jewish people, to befriend them, to reach out and to spread and share the Good News of the Gospels. (Baptists in the United States even passed a resolution calling on members to do just that). They love us. But it's obvious they don't respect us, because they reject the fundamental validity of Judaism, which, it should go without saying, does not hold out Jesus as our messiah and savior.

Did you receive a recent issue of *The Messianic Times*, a slick publication hand-delivered to Jewish homes in Thornhill and Downsview? Don't throw it out; Send it back, preferably with a letter saying you're not buying. Has someone (perhaps emboldened by a training tape called How to Reach Out to the Jews) put a friendly arm around your shoulder to "have a chat" about inviting Jesus into your heart? Just say no. Is Canada's new Christian television station, CTS, airing broadcasts of a kippah-wearing musician singing Christ's praises? Don't just hit the "off" button; write the station manager and the CRTC in Ottawa.

They love us alright. At this rate, they're going to love us to death – if we let them.

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THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

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1 lb. sweet potatoes, peeled and coarsely grated
1/2 cup flour
2 tsp sugar
1 tsp brown sugar
1 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp cayenne pepper
2 tsp curry powder
1 tsp cumin
salt and pepper to taste
2 lg eggs, beaten
1/2 cup milk, approximately
oil for frying

Mix flour, sugar, brown sugar, baking powder, cayenne pepper, curry powder, cumin, salt and pepper. Add eggs and just enough milk to the dry ingredients to make a stiff batter. Add potatoes and mix. The batter should be moist but not runny; if too stiff add more milk.

Heat 1/4 inch oil until barely smoking. Drop in the batter by tablespoons and flatten. Fry over medium high heat several minutes on both sides until golden. Drain and serve.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

My mother is 79 years old and has fallen at home several times in the last few months. She has also become very forgetful, which is not like her. She lives with me and my family and it has worked out very well. My brother, who lives nearby, thinks our mother should look into moving into a seniors' residence, where there would be adequate help and nursing care available.

I do not agree. Why upset her this way? What should I do?

Confused Daughter

Dear Confused Daughter,

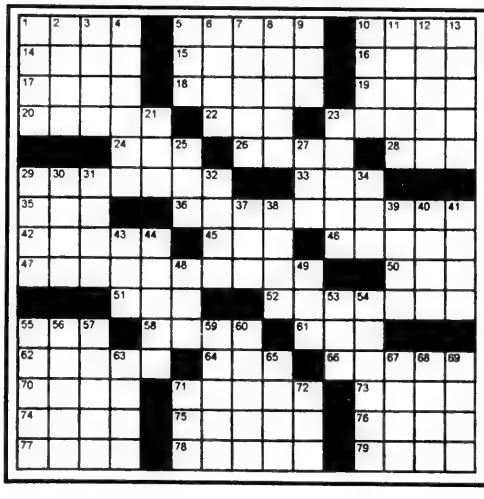
Your mother should undergo a geriatric assessment, which can be arranged through her doctor. She should also be assessed by a social worker in her community to determine how she is functioning on a daily basis. These two assessments will allow you and your brother to make an objective decision as to whether or not your mother requires placement at this time.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

What are you laughing at?

Samuel Goldwyn, the movie producer and founder of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, was known for his misuse of the English language. Here are some of his better known "Goldwynisms."

- An oral contract isn't worth the paper it's printed on.
- Any man who goes to a psychiatrist ought to have his head examined.
- In two words, impossible.
- Tell the actors to stand closer apart.
- If I were in this business only for the business, I wouldn't be in this business.
- It's absolutely impossible, but it has possibilities.
- Go see that turkey for yourself and you'll see why you shouldn't see it.
- Can she sing? She's practically a Florence Nightingale.
- Give me a couple of years and I'll make that actress an overnight success.
- When told he couldn't film Radclyffe Hall's "The Well of Loneliness" because it dealt with lesbians, he replied: "All right, where they got lesbians, we'll use Austrians."
- For your information, just answer me one question.
- Include me out.
- When his secretary asked him if she should destroy files that were more than 10 years old, he answered, "Yes, but keep copies."



The Canadian Jewish news CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Seth's boy
5. Rebbe's Tish
10. Davita's __, Potok novel
14. Curl
15. Abraham once
16. Sabin vaccine
17. E'er to Peretz
18. Prophets
19. Solo for Bubbles
20. Israeli neighbor
22. Portion (abv.)
23. Frozen dew
24. Hester Street time zone
26. Mezuzah holder
28. K'Tonton
29. Windows on Kristallnacht
33. Reason for shivah
35. Hamantasch
36. Grogger
42. Writer Jong
45. 52
46. Desert delight
47. Chanukah (Eng.)
50. Roasted on Pesach
51. Tis, to Nelly Sachs
52. Bible book
55. "__ Kapital" Marx work
58. Exposed
61. Haifa to Eilat (dir.)
62. Playwright Rice
64. Cheer
66. Simeon to Gad
70. Niels Bohr research
71. Like a raisin
73. "__ Story", Seigel
74. Kinneret
75. Singer specialty
76. Matzoh maker's need
77. "Star __", Nimoy's series
78. Son of Gad
79. Jerusalem to Tel-Aviv (dir.)

Down

1. Sacrifices at times
2. Rickover's service
3. Angel of Death path
4. World for Greenberg or Koufax
5. Torah breastplate
6. Ribicoff and Geiger
7. Genesis commandment
8. "Key __" Bacall film
9. Mems (Eng.)
10. Winter white
11. David's dart
12. Hagba'ah
13. Seder must
21. Biblical sign of mourning
23. "The Art of Loving" author
25. Plagues
27. Dorothy Parker specialty
29. Pomegranate plenty
30. Mount for Mordecai
31. Negev climate
32. Schnook (Eng.)
34. Travel club
37. Patriarchs
38. Mount Hermon sometimes?
39. Al Jolson position
40. Mechanical designer (abbv.)
41. Shmatahs (Eng.)
43. 102
44. Newman or Hoffman
48. Cleo killer
49. Dreidel letter
53. Alphabet run
54. Writer Saul
55. Played Canasta
56. Bimah
57. Prepare Lox
59. Bautista stat
60. Men from Chelm
63. Valley (Heb.)
65. Jacob grabbed Esau's at birth
67. Noah's messenger
68. Erevim (Eng.)
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72. 551

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. (Last week's answers are on page 32.)

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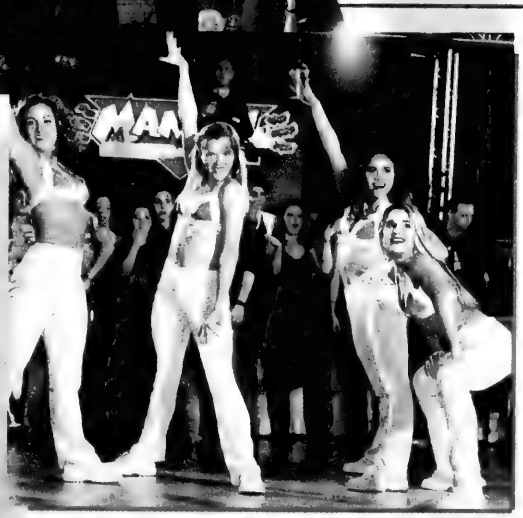

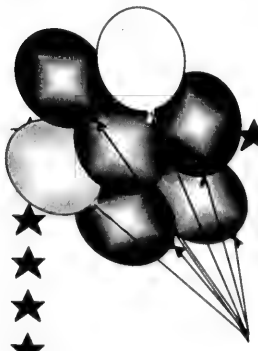

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PARTY PLANNER

Your Klingons will love a Star Trek theme

By SHERYL HALPERN
Special to The CJN

Planning a children's birthday party? You must have a gimmick *before* you buy the cake, ice cream and loot bags.

What's it going to be? A blast into another galaxy? Soda pop and pop stars? An afternoon with penguins and parrots? Let the guest of honor help pick the party theme. Here are a few suggestions to get you started.

Masquerade party: Why wait for Purim? Decorate a few milk crates, and fill them up with dress-up supplies such as old bridesmaid's dresses, polyester leisure suits, costume jewelry, too-wide ties, shawls, hats, ancient pumps and loafers.

Stand by with makeup kits for lots of impromptu face painting. Get your camera ready to shoot the results, or use an instant camera and send your guests home with souvenirs.

Science specials: Round up enough vans to take the crew to somewhere seriously scientific and fun – a zoo or bio-museum – where they can view monkeys, parrots, tortoises, penguins, snakes, lizards, butterflies and tarantulas.

Check the telephone book, and ask around. Then call ahead and find out about group rates, group tours, and special exhibits. Save on travel time, and ask someone who does science shows, or handles reptiles or birds to come to you.

Arts and crafts shows: Have your party at a ceramic-painting studio. Let the guests choose from a selection of unfired pieces, and sit back while they turn out multi-colored masterpieces, which you pick up a week or so later.

Again, call ahead for party rates. Try an art and crafts centre, and have everyone making and decorating books or pencil-holders. Or try a beading party at the nearest beads-and-crafts shop, and let the gang make bracelets, rings and key chains.

At-home craft projects are noisier and messier, but cheaper, alternatives: Buy some magnetic stripping at a hardware or office supplies store along with lots of colored cardboard, beads, feathers and glue to make fridge magnets. Rent a button-maker, and make wearable slogans and designs. Get some chocolate or candy molds and cook up chocolates or lollipops.

Fan clubs: Have the fan-club party of your birthday child's dreams featuring the music of such singing groups as the Spice Girls, Backstreet Boys or Hanson.

Buy or borrow as many CDs or cassettes of the group's songs as you can, and buy several posters for decor.

Have the guests bring pictures or stickers of the group, or of a favorite singer, that they can collage onto blank CD cases, video cases or notebooks. Have a karaoke contest to all the pop hits.

Outer space party: Plan an outer space expedition with all the guests dressed as astronauts and space aliens, and decorate with galactic party trimmings. Invent a few space-alien words and have everyone building spaceships from paper plates and cardboard tubes.

Host a *Star Trek* or *Star Wars* convention for your favorite Vulcan, Klingon or Wookie. Hang up posters and comic-book covers and find Vulcan ears and alien masks at costume shops and dollar stores.

Minus the space helmets and masks, the cosmonauts could go where party guests have gone before: the planetarium or the Cosmodome.

Wild-West roundup: W'all, pardner, it's time for a birthday rodeo, with everyone wearing cowboy hats and packing water pistols. Rustle up some ten-gallon hats and some Western-style invitations, centrepieces and balloons at the local dollar store or party centre. Send the cowpokes and dogies out to a Western film, to a horseback-riding stable, or up the nearest (park) trail for some westernized games of freeze tag or Red Rover. Have the guests make "Wanted" posters featuring each other.

Be adventurous. Check your budget, have a birthday party planning session, and try something a bit beyond Pin the Tail on the Donkey. It might be fun for all of you.

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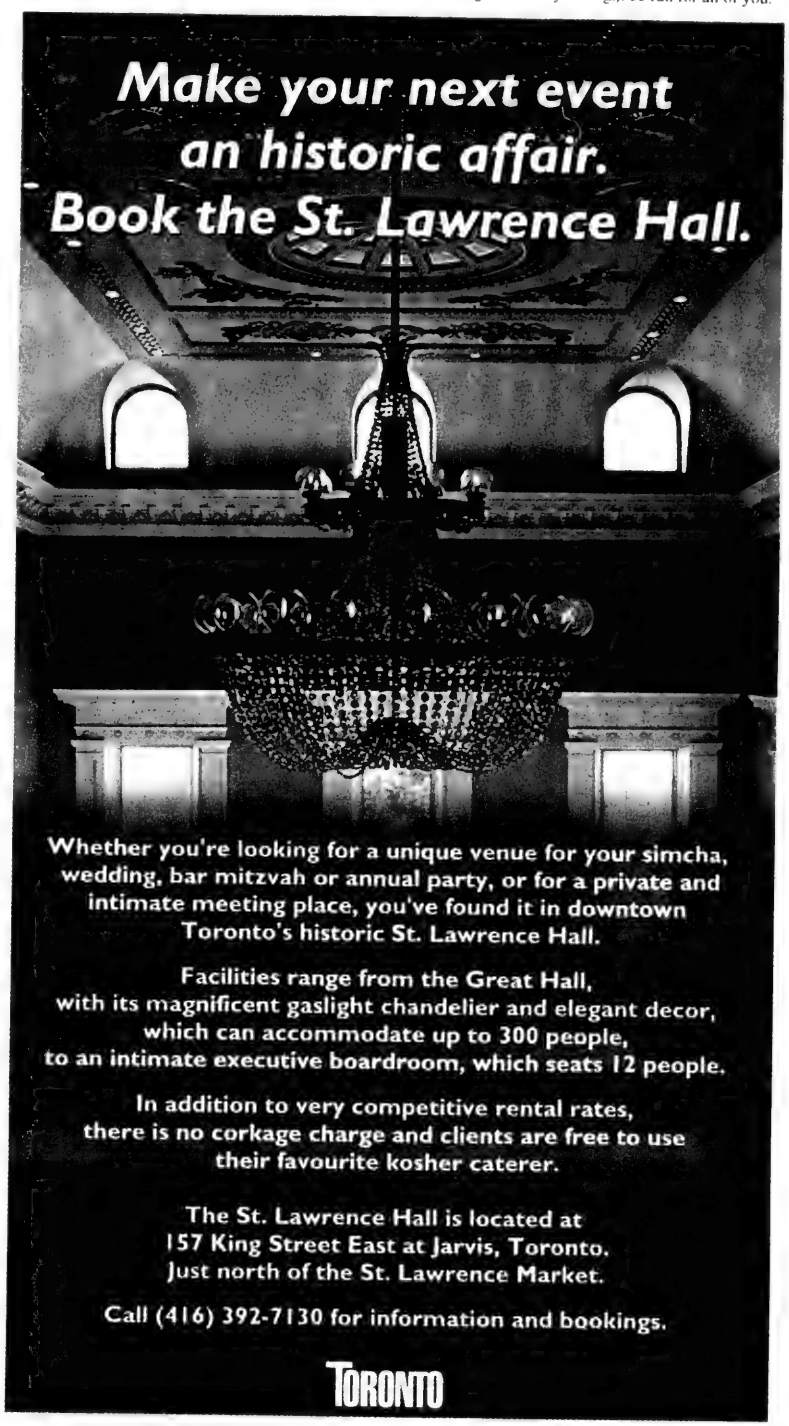
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TORONTO

PARTY PLANNER

Invitations always make the first impression

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Invitations are not the biggest expense in putting on a party, but they do give the first impression.

Here's what Mona Ungar of Essence du Papier (932-0109) and Aimee Berman of Pro Art Invitations (905-475-7111) have to say about choosing your invitation provider and working with her to make sure that first impression is good.

Look at what kind of event and setting you'll have and be consistent with the occasion and its tone. Think of your invitation as an integral part of a total event, especially if you like coordinated decor. Do you want elegance, fun – or a blend of both, as at a bar mitzvah, where a good time and an element of solemnity go hand in hand?

Choose a friendly, knowledgeable invitation provider with an artistic sense, experience in fine arts and design, and knowledge of stationery. The person you choose should also network with good contacts among graphic artists and the printing industry.

Berman values patience on both sides, while you and your provider pore over catalogues with their huge domestic and imported selection. Give the imported product a good look, urges Berman. Canadian invitations have shorter delivery time, but even considering the exchange rate, U.S. invitations are often less expensive.

Your invitation provider should be willing to give you the time you need to get the best, which includes doing research. And if you're busy, Berman adds, you may want in-home service, available outside regular business hours on holidays, evenings and weekends.

Ungar has found that while she depends greatly on repeat business, this in turn depends on versatility. Pick an invitation provider who does everything from conventions to kids' parties. The client who comes in first for her wedding often comes back for thank you cards, birth announcements and baby shower, maybe even corporate work.

One of the main responsibilities of your invitation provider is to inform you of the products and services on the market. Paper and other physical components vary from the familiar to the exotic, from traditional to contemporary. And the demands are so diverse, according to Ungar, that it's hard to talk about trends anymore.

Whether it's paper stocks, colors, printing, scripts, envelopes, cards, or accessories like seals and ribbons, the choices are no longer simple. In printing today, for example, you have engraving, laser or ink jet printing, and thermography (a process in which matter printed by letterpress is dusted with powder and heated to make the lettering rise).

Traditional and trendy are no longer opposites; handmade papers, for instance, are "in." So are double envelopes. These hark back to the days before post offices in England and Colonial America, when streets were full of mud and the outer envelope usually got dirty. Double envelopes were a sign of taking care with one's mail; they retain this significance, even in these days of paved streets and less mud.

Before you come in, advises Berman, have a general idea what you want. Most people do, says Ungar. Usually, they look at paper stocks first, then wording. Some, though, know in advance exactly what wording they want and bring in a typed copy.

Getting a proof is standard service, especially for something in Hebrew, Yiddish or a foreign language. In some cases, it may cost a bit extra.

For a big event, Ungar recommends booking at least two months ahead, three is better, especially if there are guests from out of town or outside Canada. You want to get replies about a month ahead. Some people book as far ahead as a year. Berman recommends booking four to five months ahead, and sending invitations four weeks in advance within Toronto, six to eight weeks outside.

When you make an appointment, Ungar urges, set aside an hour, even an hour and a half. You'll need time to browse through catalogues, as well as shelf stock. And while you should set a budget range, look at the stock first. Don't be overcharged, warns Berman. For a reasonable price, you can have both quality and uniqueness.

Other invitation places advertising in this issue are Barbara Mortfield Invitations 905-738-1232; Heather Hennick-Invitations Plus 905-881-5736; Invitation House 593-0519; Penn'd Word 789-2433; Please Reply 905-508-5669; Printed Word 484-4600.

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The Canadian Jewish news

Korry's advises on dressing up husbands

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

You're invited to a simchah, and you're not sure what to wear. Not only do you have to find yourself an outfit, but chances are you're responsible for your husband's attire as well. So, who can you call to get some advice on menswear?

The CJN recently approached one of Toronto's men's fashion mavens to pick his brain on how men should dress for more formal parties.

Saul Korman, president of Korry's at 569 Danforth Ave. (463-1115), is a much sought after expert on menswear.

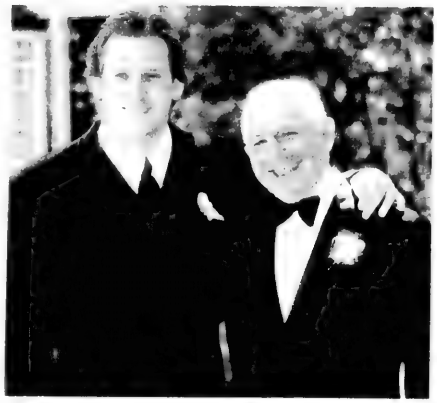
With more than 45 years in the men's fashion business, Korman has definitely earned his stripes. "It's very important that we look appropriate for the right occasion," says Korman.

"If a woman is wearing a cocktail dress, the man needs a jacket, but not necessarily a tie; He should look cocktailish. Women always out-dress men."

There are four types of invitations to elegant parties, he says. "black tie, black tie invited; black tie optional; and dress appropriately or elegantly.

A black tie event means wear a tuxedo, Korman says, "But if you have a black suit, and you put on a formal shirt and bow tie nobody will know it's not a tux. The only difference is the silk trim on the jacket and pants."

Korman says he offers "the tuxless tux" at his store, a black suit with removable silk collar. "I did that for my son Shawn's bar mitzvah because he thought he'd never wear a tux again. But at least he ended up with a nice black blazer and a nice black pair of slacks."



Saul Korman (right) with his son Michael.

If the invitation says black tie optional, black tie invited or elegant dress, Korman advises that a tuxedo be worn. However, for those people who don't own tuxedos he says, "a black suit will take you anywhere."

Some people look too harsh in black, so a dark blue suit can be substituted, he adds. But, he cautions that a "big faux pas" would be to wear a sports jacket or a pattern suit.

"You have to dress elegantly and appropriately for every occasion, as your wife does. And if you're not sure what to wear, call your tailor. If you don't have a tailor, you can call me for free advice."

Afternoon weddings and bnai/bnot mitzvah generally call for a dark suit rather than a tuxedo, says Korman. "If the invitation doesn't say black tie, don't wear one. You'll be over dressed... Black tie is optional for most weddings."

However, he says, regardless of whether the event is black tie or not, most simchahs tend to be elegant affairs, and so he finds it annoying to see the majority of photographers and videographers in casual dress.

"With all the money one pays for a simchah, the photographer can at least wear a jacket or a suit. It looks awful to see an elegant bride walking down the aisle, while the person with the video camera following her is wearing pants and a sweater."

He says these days there are a lot of options for formalwear – different kinds of vests and shirt styles – and one can choose between a tie and a bow tie in a variety of colors. However, if you're not sure, wear a bow tie, preferably in black.

"My son Michael, at his wedding, wore a black single-breasted tuxedo, high grey vest, white shirt and a magnificent solid grey tie. He looked very smashing. He wanted to look different.

"I wore a double-breasted Canali tuxedo with a vest, a formal shirt without wing tips, and a black bow."

According to Korman, the best selling tux is the three-button style with a vest, by Hugo Boss, a high fashion European label. "It's selling all over the world."

He says swing clothing is "very big with young people. We sell the big baggy pants and oversized shirts and jackets."

As for the white dinner jacket, Korman says, it's something one tends to see on cruises. "It gives men a second option for formal dress. The more expensive the cruise, the more elegant the dress. People love to dress up."

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In jewelry, insist on the best

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Are you contemplating jewelry as a gift for someone special?

Fine jewelry is never inexpensive, but its esthetic, economic and sentimental value more than offset the outlay, according to Vladimir Ponomarenko of Belle Etoile (781-7500) and Lillian Moses of Lillian Fine Jewellers (920-7676).

They offer some points which might help you choose the gift you want.

There are different grades and types of gold. Fourteen-and 18-karat gold are alloys: the red kind is alloyed with copper; the white will have silver, nickel or palladium; and yellow gold is made with copper and palladium. Pure 24-karat gold is also yellow.

While gold and silver will never cease to captivate our eyes and minds, fashions in setting and finishing vary. Today, the matte, grainy sand-blasted look is popular for white and yellow gold. Platinum is sought after too, as its elegant grey gloss goes well with the trend to understated refinement.

That over-used line, "diamonds are forever," is true, says Moses. Like precious metals, they are always in style.

Items such as pendants, earrings and bracelets are always good gifts, though there are fashions in gems, she adds. Currently, rubies, emeralds and sapphires are popular.

Every diamond, Ponomarenko points out, is unique in cut, size and shape. This uniqueness is often enhanced by mineral content, invisible in itself, but present in sufficient quantity to give the diamond a red or yellow tint.

One precious stone currently in vogue is tanzanite, Moses says. She describes it as having the deep blue we associate with sapphire but richer, with more sparkle and a tinge of violet. Mined only at a few locations in Tanzania, it's rarer than sapphire.

White and black South Sea cultured pearls are also much sought after, Moses says. The black Tahitian variety is grown and finished in Tahiti, from black oysters; the white or Japanese variety, grown in the South Seas from white oysters, is finished in Japan. It can take five to 15 years to grow enough pearls for a necklace.

In both white and black variants, advises Moses, look for lustre or gloss, and roundness as well as size. The black variant often has a tint, with red or green being most highly prized. The basic color of the white variant should be pure, not creamy; but a rosy overtone is desirable, she says.

Ponomarenko stresses the importance of being specific about your budget. And make sure you know the range of quality this budget allows.

You can buy good plain gold rings or jewelry without stones for about $1,000, but for quality stones, you have to spend considerably more. Approximately $5,000 will purchase any one of various clear half-karat stones. If the stone is even a little less clear, its price can go under $2,000, though the impurity may be visible only through special instruments.

Look for a jeweller who carries a full range of styles, from the newest and most contemporary to traditional and antique; who takes the trouble to understand exactly what you want; who, if the item you want is not in the display cases, will order it; and who, if he does not provide a service such as cutting stones, will refer you or have the work done for you elsewhere.

The services are diverse, ranging from ring size adjustment to watch repair. They also include informing you of everything you need to know, making sure you understand the reasons for the price – even answering technical questions.

You have the right to insist on the best, Ponomarenko emphasizes.

And choose someone you will want to go back to, who makes you feel comfortable the moment you cross the threshold, Moses says.

Develop a long-term rapport with your jeweller and allow yourself time when you visit. If you want something which is not on display, order it well in advance. Every piece of jewelry worthy of the name is handcrafted, and fine craft work takes time.

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PARTY PLANNER

Chocolate and ice cream a wonderful treat

M-mm. Lots of good chocolate treats from Chocolate Moose.

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

As the party industry has developed, providing desserts has become a specialty.

Depending on the size and kind of event, you probably still need an all-round caterer; but for events without a full meal, a dessert specialist may hit the spot.

Beverly Kruger of Chocolate Moose (784-9092) works directly with clients and caterers, on everything from creating goodies to round out the main course, to wrapping her own confections in colors that complement the decor.

And no matter how overwhelming the range of dessert choices, no matter how sophisticated your guests, time-tested delectations like chocolate and ice cream are forever.

Nazarit Peltekian of Baskin-Robbins (630-0747) observes that ice cream is perennially popular, though people are more demanding in flavors and quality.

For most people, quality ice cream is a healthy "calcium supplement" – a key point in a health-obsessed society. Peltekian sees some parents using ice cream to distract their kids from less healthy sweets.

People who are lactose intolerant can enjoy non-dairy ice creams; and those with minimal lactose tolerance can enjoy sherbets with two percent fat. Zero-fat and zero-cholesterol ice creams have 40 percent of the calories of the regular varieties. Then there are low fat, sugar-free ice creams for those who can digest lactose but have to go easy on the sweet stuff.

The food of love

Related products, such as yogurt, appeal to those who may not be able to eat ice cream. For many people, yogurt poses no lactose problem because the bacteria which form the yogurt also kills lactose.

Chocolate, which has a luxuriant, full taste, has been called the food of love, and Kruger points out that there are studies which prove this.

Kruger looks constantly for flavors that complement chocolate. Fruit and chocolate combinations are common; the light, often acidic tastes of fruits, and their textures which vary from crisp to pulpy, are set off by chocolate's dark, rich smoothness. Its soft, melting quality also contrasts well with the hard, crunchy texture of nuts.

Whatever desserts you choose for your party, insist on quality taste and ingredients; they're out there. As well, it's easier now to satisfy special diet requirements and still have delicious taste. The range of kosher products also gets wider every day

Book your dessert specialist at least a few weeks or a month ahead, Kruger advises. Allow yourself time to develop interesting, creative ideas.

Kruger always has more fun providing her service when she has input from her clients, and when she is able to exchange ideas with them, she says.

Other kosher dessert places advertising in this issue are Chocolate Charm (787-4256); Metropolitan Ice Cream (245-1335).

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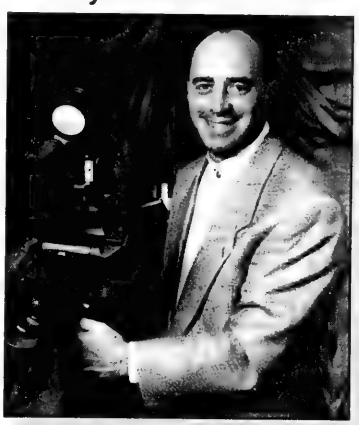

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PARTY PLANNER

Planners make your day less of a headache

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

When you have a party planner at your simchah, you can be assured that little problems will not turn into disasters.

"A party planner does the little things that make life so much simpler for the hosts," says Heidi Gruenspan (905-738-5030). A host does not want to come to her own party, she says, and count the seating cards to make sure none are missing or tell the caterer that Uncle Donald has turned vegetarian and two less guests are coming than expected. "We allow hosts to be guests at their own party. We take care of all the details."

Gruenspan recalls the time she received a bomb threat before a wedding ceremony. "We called the police and dealt with the entire issue without the bride and groom ever knowing. The wedding went off without a hitch."

Gruenspan's partner, Sarah Cherry (905-764-7121), remembers a bride who broke the heel on her shoe. "I always carry a little hammer and a few nails just for that purpose," she says.

It might be a little thing to have a needle and thread at the synagogue, says Gruenspan, but if the bride's train rips and there is nothing to sew it with, that can turn into a big thing. "Most party planners will come with a Mary Poppins bag full of items such as makeup, toys for kids, earring backs or pain medication. "Planners anticipate incidents before they pop up."

A party planner can also come up with ideas that add finishing touches to an affair, says Cherry. "Why not put some fresh flowers in the bathrooms or add a small bunch of dried flowers on each place card?"

A planner should be part of the party from the moment she meets with the hosts, months or even years before the party, until the last guest has left the hall, says Gruenspan.

Heidi Gruenspan and Sarah Cherry.

Most planners, she says, offer a set fee from beginning to end, so hosts know exactly what they are paying. "A planner can offer a list of tradespeople, such as florists, disc jockeys or photographers, and then help choose the the most appropriate one. We are there to help validate hosts' choices.

"Several weeks before the event, the planner will make calls to make sure everything is confirmed. Does the host want to worry about that?"

The planner also makes up a schedule for the family, as well as the caterer and the professionals such as the makeup person or photographer. "Each person will know exactly when they are expected to begin their duties," says Cherry.

Planners often need to deal with sensitive issues, says Cherry, such as separated families or mixed marriages.

"At a time such as this, tensions are often high. We have to sit down, ask a lot of questions and try to get a sense of how each side feels. With regards to separated families, we have to figure out a seating arrangement that makes everyone comfortable. Sometimes step-families do not want to sit together. We do not want to upset anyone, and we want the bride and groom to be happy.

"A lot of people," she says, "need explanations about a Jewish wedding. A planner should be able to provide all necessary details," says Cherry.

Other consultants advertising in this issue are Florence Wilder 222-2977; Judy Stein Consultant 905-764-2728; Marla Kay 905-882-2042; Raquel Senanes-Grad 398-0217; Risa Gold (Oziel) 905-882-5044; Up & Coming Events 905-886-8148.

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Loot bags complete your kids' parties

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

A party without a loot bag is like a dinner without dessert. No party is complete without them.

David Silverman, who owns Venture...The Toy Plus Warehouse (905-709-4370) with his father Larry, says that kids just love the excitement of getting something after the party. "They can't wait to get into the car, rip open the bag and show the loot bag to their siblings."

It does not have to be an expensive venture to provide each kid with an age-appropriate loot bag, he says. "An average loot bag costs about $3.50, and if parents desire, we can do one for $1. A good party place will work at any budget."

David Leese, owner of Loots (787-5668), agrees that parents do not have to spend a lot of money to make the kids happy. "Kids just love the thrill of receiving. As long as it's cool, they'll be thrilled."

He says that loot bags today have to be on the "cutting edge. Kids love Crazy Bones, Spice Girls and blacklight candles. Loot bags change with the times, but the prices can remain relative," says Leese.

A service-oriented party store will have a staff member guide a parent through the loot bag process, says Silverman. "They will shop with the customer and help them pick out price- and age-appropriate items. If parents fill out a worksheet with the age of each child and a desired budget, things are done quickly and easily."

A $3.50 loot bag could include a light-up key chain, toy insects, nail polish or body glitter. "The bags could also relate to the season. Parents can buy Chanukah loot bags for a birthday party near Chanukah, or for a kid's Chanukah party."

Boys love hockey loot bags, says Silverman, which include cards or hockey pencils and erasers. "A tin of crayola hockey markers is a loot bag on its own, and the tin becomes a keepsake."

Professionally packaged loot bags have become quite popular, says Leese, because "parents are working and just don't have the time to put together their own bag. "Bags could have some Crazy Bones, a sticker book and a small amount of candy. They're wrapped and inscribed with each child's name. Kids can't help smiling when they see a bag with their own name on it."

Leese says that loot bag orders can be phoned, faxed or e-mailed in. "Loot bags have definitely come into the 21st century," he says.

The thrill of getting a give-away does not stop when a child becomes a teenager says Silverman. "Bar and bat mitzvah-age kids just love the give-aways at dance parties. Blow-up instruments, glow necklaces, hats and sunglasses always make a hit. Parents can save a lot of money by picking out these items themselves and giving them to the disc jockey for distribution.

"Some customers have put a give-away such as nail polish, body glitter or a key chain at each dinner plate. It can be done on a small budget, but it makes a big impression," says Silverman.

Bar or bat mitzvah loot bags could include "cool and kitschy stuff," says Leese. "Feather pens or paint box bubble gum are great for kids of that age."

Other party shops advertising in this issue are Dominion Smallwares 665-9526; The Candyman Kosher & Natural Food 789-7173; Party Supply Depot 905-764-5457; Time To Party 905-737-2789.

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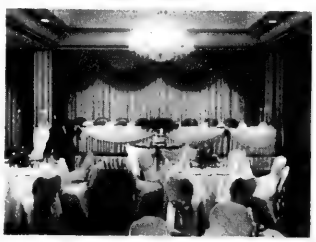

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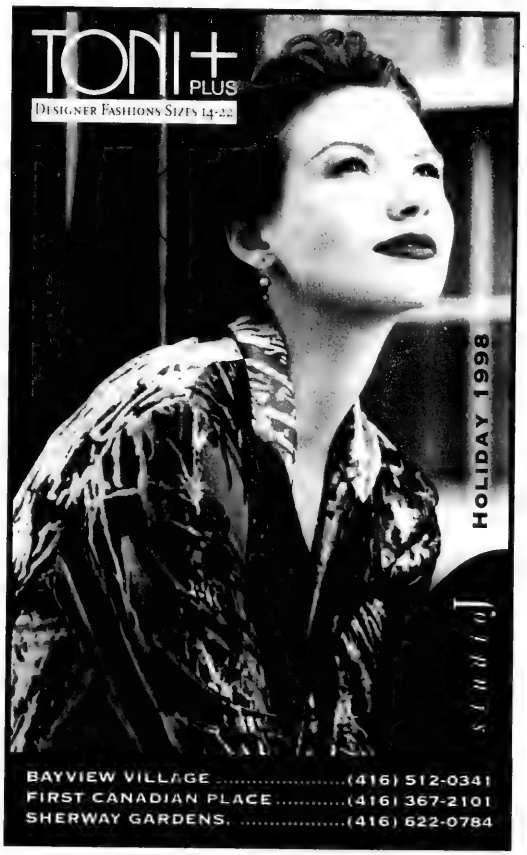

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Jody Pettle (left) and Lindsey Freedman get kids dancing to the music.

They've got the moves down, from salsa to limbo

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Kids have loved to dance since time immemorial. For anyone under 20, dance and party are almost synonyms.

In fact, children and teenagers today are more active in their approach to dancing than their predecessors. The older generation spoke of dance "steps." The focus was on the feet. The younger generation, in contrast, speaks of "moves," which involve the whole body.

And while kids still learn standard steps, er, moves, they seem to be less shy about improvising than their parents were. And rather than choose between one or two in dances, they're aware of many different styles and willing to try them.

The current swing revival, for example, is not confined to adults. Dancers Lindsey Freedman and Jody Pettle have got kids from age eight up moving to the music that was in when their grandparents were teens.

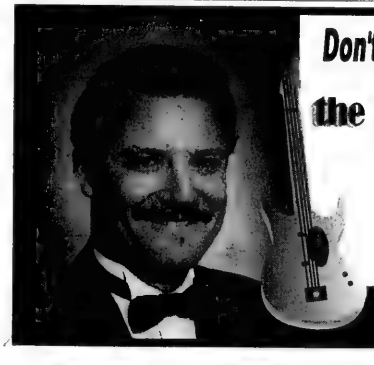
Partly in response to trends, but mostly because they love dancing and kids, Freedman and Pettle formed Let's Dance (373-8595), offering dancing and dance-related games to liven up any party. While they specialize in kids' birthdays, Let's Dance is for all occasions and ages.

Freedman and Pettle teach the guests the moves for everything from hip-hop to line dancing, from Spice Girls hits to retro tunes by the Village People.

One popular game is called "dance freeze." At the beginning, music plays and the kids dance, then the music stops and the kids freeze in position. They have to hold their positions. Move and you're out.

Freedman and Pettle often end an evening with a limbo contest, always popular among kids of all ages. The dancers with the coolest steps and moves get prizes, but the emphasis is on fun, not competition.

Every birthday party includes giveaways and custom-made loot bags. Let's Dance supplies its own music and equipment. Freedman and Pettle work harmoniously with the other professionals at a party, and are the official dance company of the Mandell Entertainment Group.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PARTY PLANNER

There's more to the beauty of flowers than meets the eye

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

At your special event, the florist will make a significant contribution to the atmosphere and mood. You not only want to choose the best flowers, you also have to work with your florist to get the best service.

Susanne Carlascio of Wild Flowers & Company (663-2913) and Gord Dick of Van Bassen Flowers (222-6751) have many suggestions on how to make sure the flowers match the joy and significance of your celebration.

The traits of a good florist, Carlascio says, include personality, packaging and selling oneself. These qualities give the client a crucial first impression. Equally important, of course, is a strong artistic sense.

Carlascio and Dick agree on the value of recommendations, references and reputation. Whether anyone providing a service is good or bad, news spreads.

In addition, they say, you should find an experienced florist, see their portfolio and individual photos, and look at live arrangements. Get prototypes of the centrepiece, Dick urges, and of other major items such as the bridal bouquet.

Don't be shy in developing rapport, Dick says. Get your ideas out; you don't have to be an expert or specialist to know what you want. Take two or three visits if you have to.

The professional expert is there to guide you, says Carlascio. Some clients need less guidance than others. They have pictures and clear ideas of what they want; these ideas just have to be interpreted. Other people feel out of their element with flowers and need more assistance.

Lillies are good all year round

Find out what's in season, advises Dick. Lilies are good all year round, for example, but especially in late fall. Tulips, on the other hand, while they can be had all year round too, are at their best in spring.

A good florist has a strong sense of color; he or she knows how to arrange flowers in harmony, and as Carlascio puts it, make them "sing together."

You wouldn't put exotic tropical blooms in an English country garden setting, for example.

Of course, there's more to flowers than meets the eye: there's fragrance too. This has to be considered in conjunction with such factors as foods and their aromas, ventilation, and whether the event will be indoors or outside.

Carlascio also sees tactile sensitivity as part of the florist's artistic sense, even though we don't actually touch the flowers. When we see the way light reflects from leaves and petals, our brains translate the visual impressions into textures, matte or glossy, downy or velvety; this is a vital part of the pleasure of looking.

Ask your florist if he knows the hall or venue, Dick advises. Listen to ideas on matching the flowers to the setting. Bright hues will lighten up a room that's a bit dark, for example, whereas in a room with light colors, deeper hues can form a pleasant contrast. Some shades and tints show better in natural light; some are more effective in artificial light, he explains.

Carlascio points out that a florist should also have props, such as containers to match a specific table setting. This saves you some legwork and helps ensure that the flowers harmonize with the ambience and the occasion.

Dick recommends booking your florist three or four months ahead, earlier if your event will take place during a busy season. The details should be finalized at least two weeks before your event. You can't get your name down early enough, Carlascio insists, especially for a summer bride.

"Make sure your florist is not over-committed," Dick urges. "Ask flat-out about a specific date. Your florist should have time to concentrate on you, and not try to squeeze you in among three or four other clients."

A conscientious professional, Carlascio says, will not over-book, and will attend your event in person. For this reason, she advises choosing a smaller, hands-on company, which depends on personal service for its survival.

In any field, the best service providers depend on repeat business, Dick says. He and Carlascio agree that florists who like people and flowers will keep their clients happy. If you feel good about an event, so will the florist, and vice versa.

Other florists advertising in this issue are:

Designs by Karen Baker 905-886-8100; Greenleaves &Petals 905-709-4080.

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Always go with a professional videographer

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

You probably would not ask your friend to cook the food for your wedding. Why would you have him videotape the whole affair?

"People think they can save money by having a friend be their videographer," says Randy Maxwell of All Event Video Corporation (254-9999), "but it's really not a savings; it is trading down."

Friends and relatives not in the business, he says, frequently encounter problems that only experienced professionals know how to handle – things such as running out of tape, running out of battery power, shaky images, choppy scenes, improper lighting or remote microphones resulting in poor and distant sound. "Do you really want to burden a friend or relative with that kind of responsibility?"

Ninety-five percent of the success of any video, says Maxwell, depends on who is in control. "Editing and special effects are not as important. A great camera is not great if it's in the wrong hands."

The creativity of the cameraman, he says, "makes a world of difference. He will not merely take pictures. He'll shoot from different angles and even get down on his knees if he has to. He also has the judgement to know when to film, and what scenes to capture."

Silvana Ramacciato of Together Forever Video (633-5971) says people who watch a professional video "live the wedding or bar/bat mitzvah again. Pictures do not capture the emotions of a video. When you watch a video, you're at the party."

The most up-to-date video camera, she says, is the digital camera. "The quality is superb, colors are crystal clear and the film can be reprinted again and again without losing quality. A wireless microphone can be clipped to the groom's lapel [under the chupah], so the couple is heard clearly and distinctly."

Most videographers have wireless cameras, she says, so there are no extension cords interfering with people on the dance floor. "Digital cameras also use less lighting. We use 20 watts lights so they do not shine in anyone's eyes. The stand-up lights bounce off the ceiling so there is a nice, even light. These are things that an amateur videographer will not have."

A videographer should know how to be low-key

Part of a videographer's service, says Maxwell, should be to interview the family a few weeks before the event, to establish exactly what it is they want. "Do they want each table filmed? Are there certain people, such as an aunt or out-of-town cousin that cannot be missed? These are questions that a professional knows to ask and they are things that make the video perfect."

A videographer should also know how to be low-key, says Maxwell. "The celebrants, not the video guy are focal. They should never interfere with, or pose family or guests. Microphones should never be passed around the table unless the host has specifically requested that be done. Clients should watch the video and comment how good it was, and that the cameraman was hardly seen all evening."

Most professional videographers know the venue they are about to film, says Ramacciato, "but if not, they should go out to the site before the event and make sure it is familiar to them. They'll know about the lighting and the angles – they'll be prepared for the job ahead of them."

Other videographers advertising in this issue are:

DMS Video Productions 905-881-7677; Redstone Pictures 256-4666; Video Affairs 905-889-0909; Video Excellence 905-731-4355; Video Productions by Josh 630-5558.

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Send in the clowns

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Want to liven up a party? Then send in the clowns. Better yet, how about hiring Madonna to sing for your guests, or Barbra Streisand, perhaps.

If your pockets are deep enough, you can hire the two divas to sing duets together. Or for a younger crowd, you might consider the Spice Girls.

The possibilities are endless according to John Balabik (410-5410) who runs Clown'n Around, an entertainment company offering entertainers and entertainment products for all age groups.

There are many talented and experienced entertainers on his roster, from clowns and magicians to celebrity look-alikes, Balabik says, and there is something for every budgets, he adds.

The traditional clown program, which is suitable for parties for younger children, lasts one hour and includes balloon sculptures, face painting, and a sing-along and games led by the clown. The package starts at $135.

For an additional $200 each you can rent a mini-ferris wheel, a candy floss, hot dog machine, or mini-donut machine. The price includes the supplies and delivery. An inflatable jumping castle, which starts at $225, is also available and is a popular item at children's parties, Balabik says.

Pony rides

But the pony rides may be more thrilling with the young set, he notes. For $225 an hour, a handler will bring two ponies to the party venue for an hour and organize pony rides for the children. All that is needed is a 20x20-foot space, says Balabik.

For something really different, he says Clown'n Around offers an exclusive party that may well be the ultimate party for Barbie devotees: Tea with Barbie. For $225, eight children and three adults can visit a real Barbie look-alike in her home – she was a Barbie doll TV model– and try on the more than 60 gowns and accessories made in children's sizes.

Barbie will also do their make-up in special hypo-allergenic products and give them a pedicure. Then they'll all sit down to tea and shortbread cookies. Mom and dad can also dress up and join in the fun.

The two-hour program can include additional children at $25 a child. Barbie also does home parties for the same fee.

In addition to celebrity look-alikes, Clown'n Around represents actors who will dress up as the children's favorite cartoon characters, among them, Teletubbies, Sailor Moon, Arthur, Barney and Batman. They all provide a one-hour program for $155, which includes balloon sculpture, face painting, and party games says Balabik.

There's no business like the entertainment business he says, "There's always something new."

Pony rides, Barbie and face painting are all part of this good time.

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Only limit is your imagination

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

An event planner can take an empty party room and turn it into whatever their clients desire.

"They can create a circus, a hockey rink, a Victorian garden – their only limit is their imagination," says Phil Greenspoon, president of Special Events by the Prop House Inc. (588-7725).

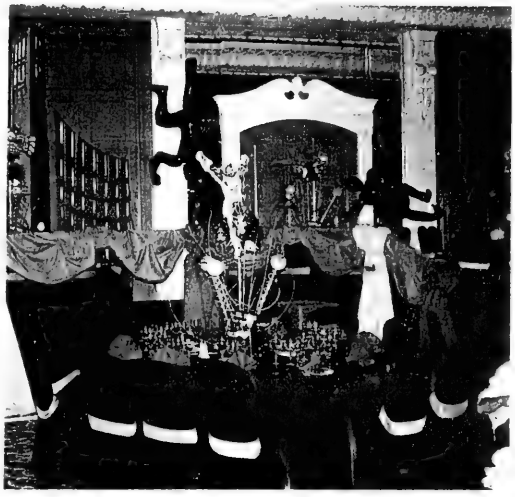
A theme, says Greenspoon, adds a lot of energy to a party. "Quite often, it represents the person being honored. A bar mitzvah party honoring a Maple Leafs fan can feature a ticket scalper handing out the guests' seating cards, and a dance floor decorated like a hockey rink.

"Each table has a hockey-themed centrepiece, and the disc jockey can sit in the penalty box surrounded by soft-sculpture hockey players. Disc jockeys love theme parties because it gives them a platform to perform."

Audrey Hyams Romoff of Special Event Architects (48-PARTY) says that depending on budget, an event planner can develop a color theme or produce an entire theme party.

"We can create a disco party with reflecting balls and lots of glitter and glitz, or we can have a simple black-and-white party. It all rides on the budget and the client's desires."

Party planners like Special Events by the Prop House can turn a party room into whatever your heart desires.



A theme, she says, is the umbrella that gives you the hook to hang everything on. "We can get the guests' attention immediately by incorporating the theme into the invitations, and that can be done inexpensively.

"When people receive an eye-catching invitation, they begin thinking about the event. There is immediate expectation. A good party starts at the invitations."

An event planner should initially draw out the client's interests and then work out a budget, says Greenspoon.

"If the budget is small, we might only have centrepieces such as a hockey stick and puck surrounded by glitter. Four- or five-foot-high centrepieces on every table can make a room look great. When guests walk in, the whole room looks full."

If there is room in the budget for more than the centrepieces, says Greenspoon, then the planner should start thinking about decorating the head table, the disc jockey's booth and the entrance to the party room.

"Then, if they can, they can link all the areas together. Any profes-

Continued on page B19

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PARTY PLANNER

Registries remove guess work

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Gift registries take the guesswork out of giving presents.

Ellis Chitiz, president of Deblins Linens (782-2910), says when guests buy a present that the bride and groom have registered for, "no matter what the giver chooses, she knows that it is something the young couple can use and that it caters to their taste."

When a bride comes into a store to register, he says, she should expect the staff to help her choose everything she needs to set up her new home. "A knowledgeable staff person can point out items that the bride may never have thought of herself."

By registering for gifts, he adds, the bride can choose gifts at a variety of price points, so there is something for everyone to buy, at any budget.

Rozsi Goodman of Goodman's China (638-2630) agrees that a bride should expect personalized service when she registers for gifts. "A staff person should work with her, finding out about her tastes, establishing a budget and matching items together. The bride should never be left without help."

When registering at Goodman's, she says, brides can choose from three types of registry systems – notification, delivery or pick-up. "If they've chosen to be notified, we send regular updates of what has been purchased for her and the gifts never have to leave the store, until she is ready to set up her home. The advantage of this is that the bride can switch items if she chooses and can move to a different price point if she is able to. It is a very flexible way of shopping."

Leaps and Bounds

Registering also makes life a lot easier for the wedding guests, she says. "If they are spending money on a gift, they want to know it will be put to good use."

Chitiz says that when registering at Deblins, which specializes in bedding, towels, home accessories, and casual and formal table linens, the bride's choices are entered into a computer that can be accessed from any of the three Deblins stores. "When a bride calls, we can tell her exactly what she has received and she can decide whether to add to her list or make some changes.

Registering at Deblins, he says, is a practical choice. "Everyone needs blankets, linens and towels. They can be both functional and decorative."

The registry business is growing by leaps and bounds, says Chitiz, because people "just do not have the time any more to run around looking for the perfect gift. It takes the risk out of buying."

Goodman says that, especially with china, she has found that if a bride does not register for a good set when she gets married, chances are she will never get one. "Somehow, after the honeymoon, there is always something else to buy. Then they have children and good china is the last thing they think about. Not that they would not like to have a set, it's just that other things come first. I always encourage brides to register for that good set and they'll have it for life."

Also advertising in this issue are The Earring Gallery (905-763-2210); Eurogem Jewellers Diamond Centre (905-669-3636); Laurentian Jewellers T.O. Ltd. (782-3588); Matana Judaica (905-731-6543); Tri-Versa Global (905-771-6494).

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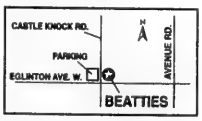

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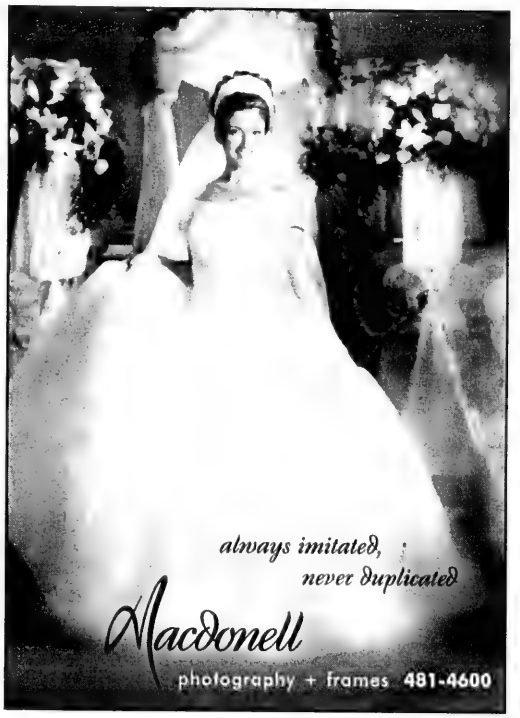

RPG Entertainment says interaction begins the moment you book the company.

Live and interactive

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

If you're planning a celebration, someone will probably ask if you're having interactive entertainment. This phrase is bandied about a lot these days. But what does it mean? And does it fit into your entertainment plan?

Philip Hart of Hart Entertainment (762-2200), and Rob Gray of RGP Entertainment (485-4195) agree that in the broadest sense, interactive entertainment includes traditional activities like dancing. You're interacting with other guests, not sitting still as a spectator or playing a solitary game.

In a sense, Gray says, interaction starts the moment you book your entertainment company. Your relationship is synergistic because you stimulate each other to come up with ideas.

Usually, though, interactive in this context means that the audience interacts with the entertainers. It's about encouraging guests to have fun by helping to provide the entertainment.

Hire professionals you trust, advises Hart, but give lots of input so that they know what you want.

And book them a year ahead, Gray advises: you'll need plenty of time to work out the details.

Some events, like Purim parties, use more interactive entertainment; others, like traditional weddings, use less. No occasion is 100 percent interactive, so decide whether you want a little or a lot.

The common denominator for most parties,Gray says, is the focus on the guest of honor. At a wedding, all the guests should have a good time, but especially the bride and groom.

Consider your demographics, Hart urges. A bounce castle is great for 4- to 9-year-olds, he says, but not at a bar mitzvah, where most kids are teens or pre-teens. Where the guests range in age from four to 104, he recommends carnival themes and other similar ideas, which, with simple games like ring toss, appeal to all ages.

Attitudes change with time, too. In dancing, Gray sees a shift to a mixed format, where the DJ or band leader steps offstage and leads a dance, then follows this with dancing for couples. Today, this is often done to introduce a new generation to swing music, which is enjoying a comeback, he says.

As for theme parties, there's virtually no limit to what you can do, from medieval pageants to game shows. Sometimes, too, Hart has learned from experience, a facility used in one theme can be adapted to another. A portable laser maze, for example, fits equally well in a James Bond theme or at a science fiction party.

True interaction happens when all the guests are involved, Gray says. It means the entertainer is visible to everyone – sometimes on stage, where everyone sees him at once, sometimes mingling and talking with guests one on one. And it needn't be complicated. It can be as simple as getting guests to sing the chorus of a song.

Adapt

A good entertainment company, Hart says, can adapt to any size and locale, from 12 teens in a basement to hundreds of conventioners in a large hall. In this connection, he stresses the need to give the locale a thorough inspection: size, layout and facilities make a difference.

Guests like the unexpected, Hart says: With miniature golf, for example, you can bring in an instructor. They also like the personal touch, he says: things like putting "Rachel's Bat Mitzvah" on a golf scorecard.

Gray likes breaking the entertainer-audience barrier, by having the DJ mingle with guests at dinner to talk about their favorite music.

Original ideas and what you do with your props or apparatus, are more important than the equipment itself, according to Gray and Hart. And make sure that any equipment not provided by the DJ comes with an operator who understands it, and clicks with the DJ and other party professionals.

Don't confuse interactive with high tech. Something as low-tech as getting a friend of the bar mitzvah boy to ask questions during a game show is just as interactive as virtual reality. Interactive entertainment was with us long before the phrase was coined.

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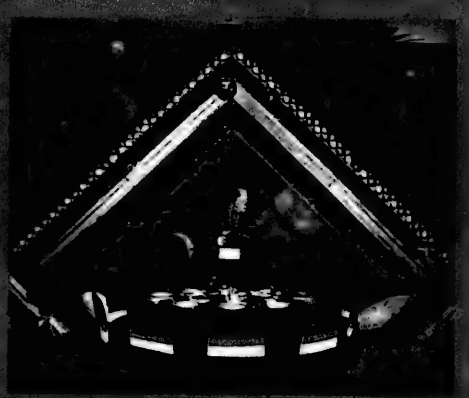

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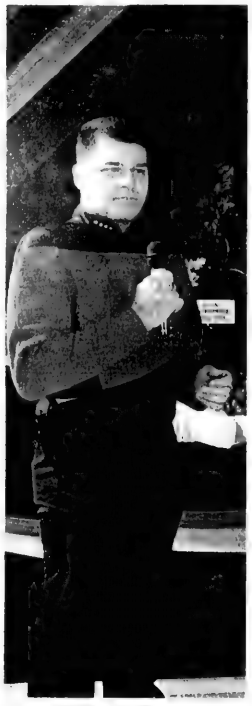

Planners can organize any theme party including Star Trek.

The only limit to your party's themes is only your imagination

Continued from page B16

sional can guide hosts through the whole process of decorating a room to a specific budget."

One concept that has guests talking for days, he says, is the live centrepiece. "For a cocktail party, the centrepiece could be someone's face painted to blend in with the rest of the table. The person goes underneath the table and puts her head through a hole in the centre. When guests realize what they are seeing their energy level goes through the ceiling.

"Planners can incorporate live hockey players, musicians or psychics into the centrepiece. Once the centrepiece realizes they've been noticed, they respond to the guests. Everyone loves it."

The goal of a party planner, says Romoff, is to have guests walk into a room and say Wow! "We want them to be transformed into the mood of the party."

Other decorators advertising in this issue are: Perlit Novelties (665-4838); Artistic Creations (905-508-8193).

A walk on the singles' side

TERESA STRASSER.
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

I remember coming home from my first date with a boy.

There was my mother, waiting up in the buzzy fluorescent light of our kitchen. She was gripping a cup of already cold tea, her elbows propped up on the table.

This was a big moment for her, a single mother watching her only daughter enter the potentially painful world of men. I waited for the onslaught of probing questions as she tightened the belt on her faded chenille robe and looked up at me excitedly.

"Well, what did you have?" she asked. "What did he have? Was it good? What came with it? Did you have dessert?"

An alien could have landed in our kitchen at that moment and have easily been able to deduce one thing about our family: Jewish.

Like many Jewish families, food was at the heart of our rituals, even though we weren't very religious. Every year, when the streets were deserted on Christmas, we ate chicken chow fun at the Hong Kong restaurant.

There were the usual Jewish soul food favorites — kugel and brisket and chicken soup. And there were rules: Two people should never order the same thing, so as to avoid culinary redundancy.

I was raised to love food. Still, on that first dinner date I inexplicably suffered from the fate of many young women of all faiths. I'll call it "Salad Syndrome." That night, and dozens to follow, I ordered nothing but a salad, which I daintily ate as though the jejune meal was the most satisfying dish ever.

I am not a big girl, but neither am I small. Who was I kidding? It had to be pretty obvious that I was putting away more than artfully arranged radishes and oil and vinegar dressing. Make no mistake, however, this was no eating disorder. I ate just fine. Just not in front of him.

I don't know what I was trying to hide. Was it my appetite? Not just for food but for all of life's more visceral pleasures. Or was I simply trying to hide the food in the teeth, the garlic on the breath, the bread crumbs on the chin that would clearly define me as human.

I guess I wanted to be more mysterious than mortal, more refined than ravenous, more lettuce than lamb chop.

To me, a man who likes to see a woman eat is as good a catch as that salmon. And a man who feels comfortable sharing food? That's even better.

Last weekend, I fixated on a woman's plate at an all-you-can-eat buffet in Las Vegas. She was dining with her boyfriend. I looked at her sparse array of celery sticks, garbanzo beans and small hunks of cantaloupe and felt I knew her. "Salad Syndrome," I thought to myself.

I wanted to lean over and whisper, "Why don't have a little slice of cheesecake? It's not going to kill you — at least not today."

I wanted to tell her that food isn't always a guilt-inducing vice, an attempt to stuff the hungry inner child, a replacement for love or a sign of weakness. Sometimes food is just a snack. And it tastes good.

I wanted to grab a fistful of her bitter celery sticks and let her know it was time for lunch, not a showcase meal for her meathead boyfriend.

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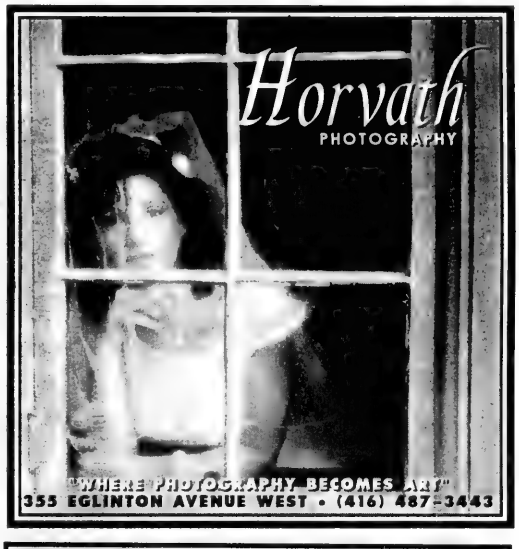

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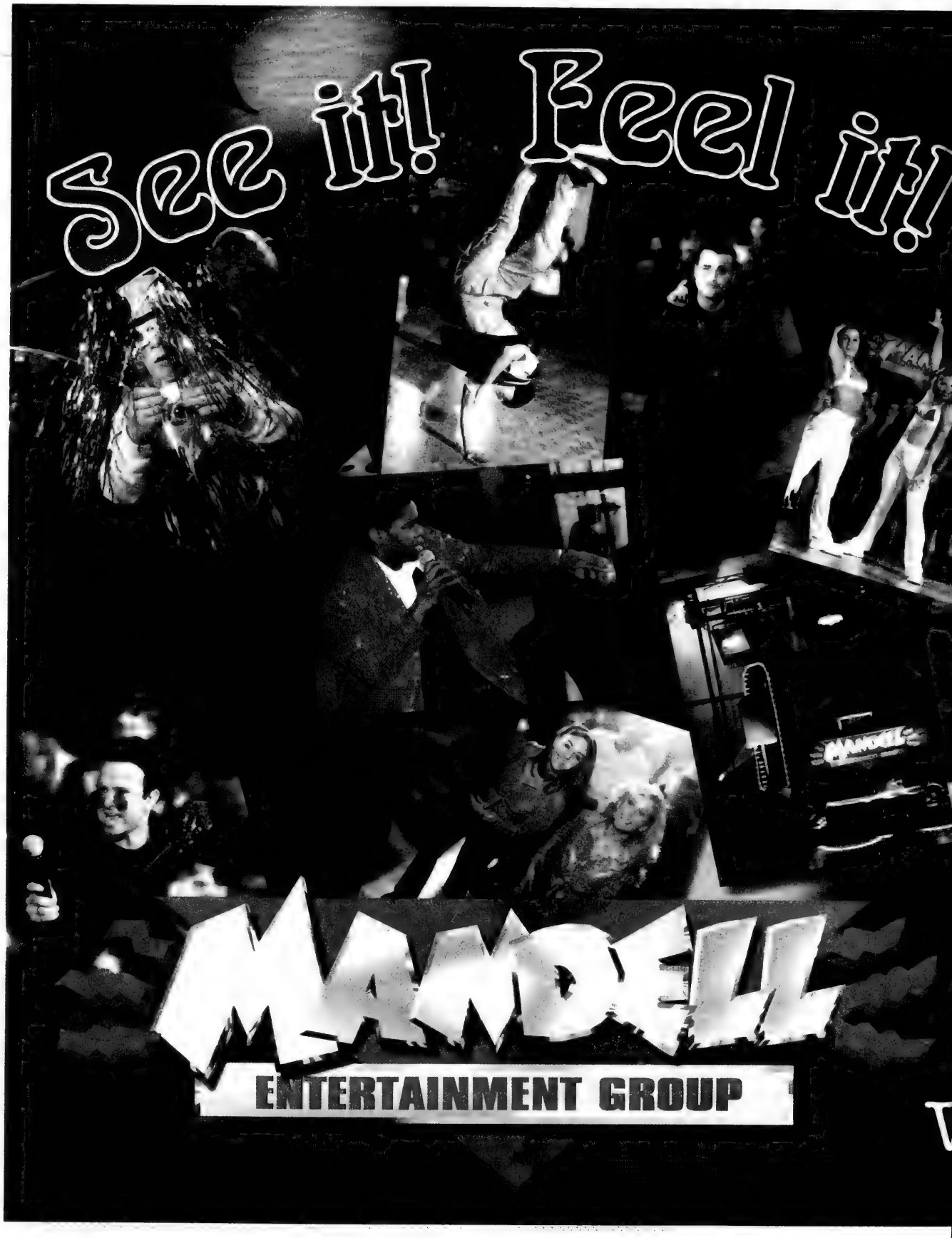
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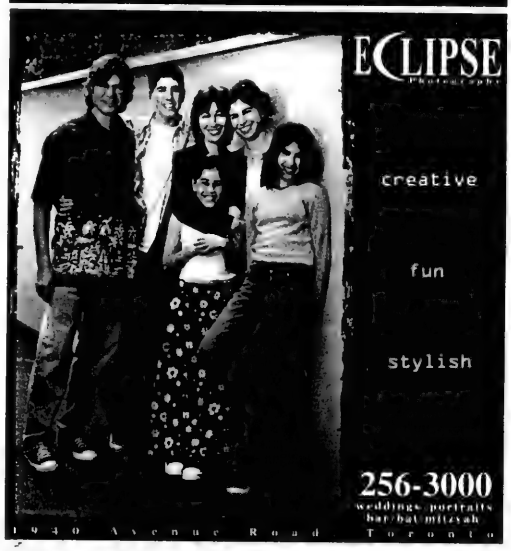

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Photographs

All that's left when guests are gone

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Pictures capture the emotion of the moment, says Arnold Machtinger, owner of Photos by Arnold (905-881-6372.)

"While videos are a recording of the event, photographs reveal the emotions of the subject. Pictures and video definitely complement each other. There is room for both at a simchah."

Machtinger urges people to view a photographer's work before hiring him. "If you don't see his work and he gives it to you for free, it might still be too expensive."

It is also important to find out who will be actually photographing the event. "Don't assume because you meet a photographer, he will be the one taking the pictures. Make sure you ask. You deserve to know what you are getting for your money.

"It is also important to establish at the first meeting, what is included in the photographer's base price. Discuss your budget, and together, you can decide what you can have done. Everything should be up front. You don't want to have any surprises."

The photographer should stay for the entire party, from the portraits before the event until the guests say goodbye. "He should always ask if there are any particular shots the hosts want. Sometimes the hosts are excited and forget to mention someone. A good photographer will be able to guide them along, so all the right pictures are taken."

Photographer should be dressed like a guest

The photographer, he adds, should be dressed like a guest and should act as unobtrusively as possible. "No one wants a camera shoved in their face, but they do want their picture taken. A good photographer knows how to shoot without getting in anyone's way. He can also anticipate what is going to happen and grab the moment."

Clients can expect the photographer to shoot almost 300 pictures at a wedding or bar/bat mitzvah. "The average sale is about 36 or 40 pictures, so the clients have tons of pictures from which to choose. If the pictures aren't shot in the first place, however, the choice will not be there. It is always better to overshoot. Clients cannot buy what is not there."

Negatives should always be kept, he says, so clients never have to make a "final, final decision. They can always buy more pictures."

Happy clients, says Machtinger, know that all that is left after a simchah is the photograph album. "When the party is over and done, what else is left? If you want to remember your event properly, budget for photographs accordingly. It is something that no one ever regrets."

Other photographers advertising in this issue are Eclipse (256-3000); Horvath (487-3443); Macdonell (481-4600); Mark Stern (383-1333); Party Shots (905-881-6372); Platinum Studios (785-8865); Signature Photography (784-4488).

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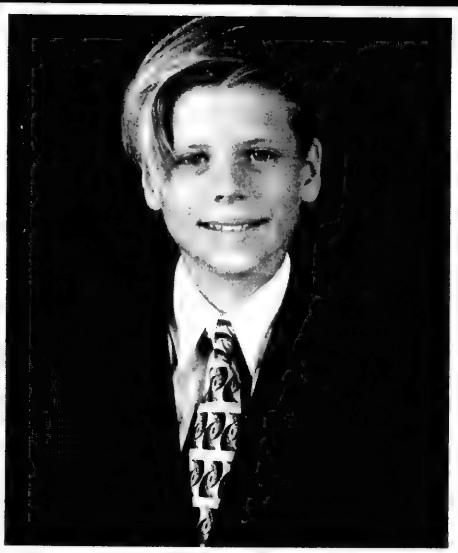

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PARTY PLANNER

Judaica:
Add a special meaning to gifts

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

A Jewish gift adds special meaning to a bar/bat mitzvah or wedding.

"Its wonderful to receive a gift that touches the spiritual meaning of the life event," says Riva Green, who owns Matana Judaica (905-731-6543) with Naomi Raanani.

Robin Bergart, store manager of Israel's Judaica Centre (256-2858), says that people are "flattered when their guests remember the occasion by its connection to Judaism.

"I received a kiddush cup for my bat mitzvah, and when I got married I used the same cup at my wedding. It was engraved with the name of an aunt who had died, so it really meant a lot to me. It was a gift that lasted long after other gifts were forgotten."

Green says that her stores offers a registry service for bar/bat mitzvah or wedding gifts, "and you'd be surprised about the gifts that the kids pick. They've chosen a chanukiah, a kiddush cup or a shofar. Some kids have chosen books on Jewish art, Israel, Jewish history or the Holocaust. They feel that by choosing these gifts, they are keeping with the spirit of the occasion."

A chanukiah, she says, is one of the top selling gifts, especially if the event is around the Chanukah season. "People choose any style from the traditional chanukiah to modern versions made out of glass or ceramic. We have fun chanukiah such as Disney or Sesame Street, or an artistic one that features a klezmer band."

A top selling gift

Bergart says that kids have received a Torah pointer or a shofar that comes with a stand so it can be displayed during the year and used during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Wedding gifts, she says, are less focussed on the individual and more focussed on the family and family rituals. "A mezuzah , challah cover or seder plate, for instance, are gifts that recognize that the couple is Jewish and that there is a connection between the couple and the gift giver."

Many of these items, she says, are works of art in themselves, so even when they are not being used, they can be displayed and enjoyed.

Green says that she deals with artists who make limited edition kiddush cups, seder plates or Shabbat candles. "These things are a double gift – a religious item and a piece of art. Young married couples really appreciate the gifts for what they are."

There are so many occasions, says Green, when people can give gifts that are not connected to Judaism. "Why not make a bar/bat mitzvah or wedding a special event and give a gift that acknowledges the special occasion?"

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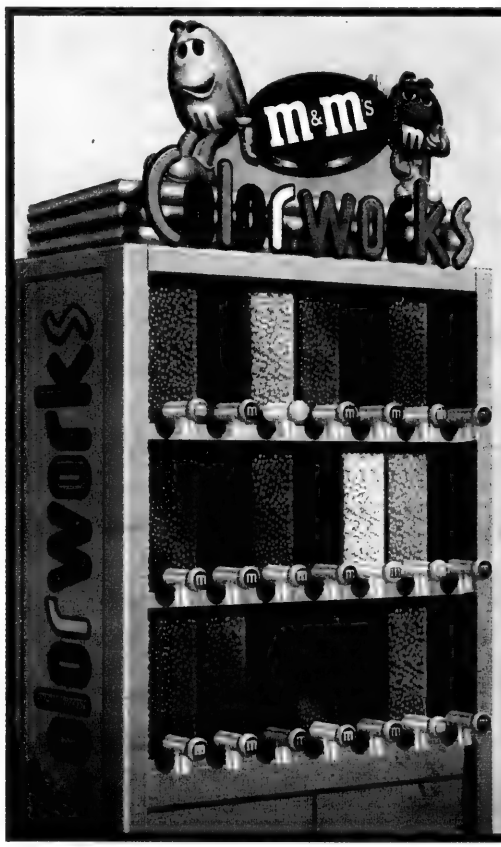

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A good caterer has many talents

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Have you chosen the caterer for your next party? Two experts with ideas on how to choose, are Deanna Schaffer of Malmar Catering and Tastefully Yours (638-0091), and Perla Azulay of Prestige Fine Cuisine (782-7840; out-of-town 1-888-735-0374).

A good caterer likes food, people and parties; she's good with decor, psychology, organization and money. And she gives your party the same commitment that she would if it were hers, Azulay and Schaffer agree.

Caterer and client need trust and rapport from the beginning. If the rapport is there, Azulay says, you know within five minutes; it's like two friends speaking together. You feel as much at ease as if you were invited to your own party as a guest.

Be open about your likes and dislikes in food and decor, Schaffer advises, so that the caterer can envision exactly what you want. Be open about your budget too.

Within every budget range, there's a range of quality, she says, and a moderate amount well spent buys better food and service than a lavish sum where caterer and client misunderstand each other.

You, the client, are in charge; the party is first of all a showcase for you, only secondarily for your caterer, Azulay says. At the same time, she adds, you have to accommodate your tastes to hundreds of people; you have to make everyone happy, not just specific groups.

Schaffer says the caterer can't please absolutely everyone 100 percent. Personal tastes and requirements are too variable. A caterer who's ready to accommodate the unusual, however, can please almost everyone.

In the end, however, you have to trust the caterer to carry out your wishes, whatever she may think.

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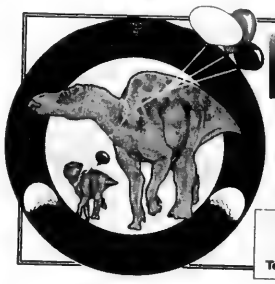
In choosing the menu, Schaffer recommends tasting a sample meal first. Recommendations and references are important, but there's no substitute for trying the food yourself, she says.

Azulay qualifies this, pointing out that sample meals show what the caterer *can* do, but not what she *will* do for a huge crowd, with time constraints and unexpected glitch-

Continued on page B36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PARTY PLANNER

Party on the 'beach' year-round

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

There's nothing like a beach party in the middle of February.

At NorthBeach Volleyball (446-0777), beach parties are a year-round affair. The indoor beach volleyball facility, founded in 1993, is housed in a 30,000-square-foot space at 74 Railside Rd.

The centre is made up of sandy volleyball courts. "We're really Toronto's biggest sandbox," said NorthBeach Volleyball co-founder Roland Macrae. "We're giving people the beach. They're playing in the sand in the middle of winter."

He said he has worked to turn a former factory space into a "tropical paradise" that offers beach volleyball enthusiasts a year-round venue.

Finding a venue for volleyball was the reason the centre was established, Macrae said. He and his wife had been looking for a place to play volleyball. They found one in a school, but they could only play there once a week, he said.

He had also played some outdoor beach volleyball with his neighbor. The two became business partners and set out to establish a venue that combines beach and indoor volleyball, he said. "We would have the best of both worlds."

They hoped to attract players of both types of volleyball, he explained "We didn't know if the concept existed…There was a rumor there might be an indoor beach volleyball centre in the States. Nobody knew the name."

He contacted the New York Volleyball Association and by coincidence the person running the association happened to be the owner of an indoor beach volleyball facility in Rochester; so the partners had a model for their volleyball centre.

Getting landlords to see the wisdom of the concept was a hurdle the partner had to surmount. But within three years, they outgrew their first location in Markham and are now located just east of the Don Valley Parkway off of Lawrence Avenue East.

Clients started asking to hold parties at the centre, Macrae said.

"We didn't know anything about birthday parties." But they put a package together which was well received, he said.

"We [now] get up to 1,000 kids a month when we're busy."

NorthBeach Volleyball is used by day camp groups during the summer and is also the venue for corporate parties and community group events, he said. The facility has also been used for informal bar mitzvahs – hosts bring their own caterers and DJs and make use of the centre's dance floor.

NorthBeach Volleyball has become a popular birthday party venue according to Macrae. He said birthday party packages start at $6.50 per child for a minimum of 15 children. This package, called the "picnic package," does not include food or drinks – people create their own menu, he said.

The second package, called "the beach party," includes food and beverages and costs $8.50 per child for a minimum number of 15 kids. For an additional $15, a party supervisor can be hired to run the party, he said.

"Most people are happy to have someone else run the party.

"The games person's job is to keep the party really exciting. They do relay races. They do volleyball sand castles. Five- and 6-year-olds enjoy doing different games. They use a lot of beach balls. They're soft and stay in the air a long time."

He said the centre also makes sand toys available for the younger children. "They just like to dig and play."

The birthday party host can rent a court for $48 an hour, so that parents of the guests can play a game of volleyball while they wait for their children, he said. "They have just as much fun as the kids."

Other places to throw a party are Acqua Ristorante & Bar (368-7171); Atlantis Complex (260-8000); Baycrest Hospitality Services (785-2500, ext. 2477); Beth Radom (636-3451); Casa Loma (923-1171); Estate of Sunnybrook (487-3841); Hanks Diner (905-474-9930); Le Parc (798-7246); Liberty St. Cafe (533-8828); Millie's Bistro & Gourmet Market (481-1247); Novotel North York Hotel (218-3866); O Mei Restaurant (635-5050); Paradise Banquet Hall (661-6612);Pickle Barrel (493-4333); Premier Ballroom & Convention Centre (905-709-1759); Radisson Plaza Hotel (515-2578); The Rink (410-7469); The Rock 'n' Diner (449-5245); ROM (586-5859); Scaramouche Restaurant Pasta Bar & Grill (961-8011); Sheraton Centre (361-1000); St. Lawrence Hall (392-7130); Tri Elm-Beth Jacob (222-1230).

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A virtual wedding

By NEILIA SHERMAN
Special to The CJN

Technology met tradition at the wedding of Alan K'necht and Carrie Silverman (known as gOgO BegOnia) last August.

Touted as the world's first Video Gesture Controlled Virtual Reality wedding, the nuptials combined the use of video, virtual reality and computer technology in order to make this couple's vision come true.

gOgO had been dreaming of having a "virtual" wedding since she started doing media relations for the Vivid Group, a virtual reality company, six years ago. K'necht was a bit reluctant at first, because he wanted to be sure that the religious requirements of a Jewish wedding would be met.

They consulted with Rabbi Joseph Kelman, who gave them the go ahead and then Rabbi Phillip Scheim took over when Rabbi Kelman had to be out of town on the date of the wedding.

The unusual ceremony, which took place at the Civic Garden Centre in Edwards Gardens, positioned the bride and groom in front of a camera that captured their live image and placed them under a computer-generated chupah in various virtual reality situations.

Wedding guests were able to watch the couple perform their ceremony from within a unique interactive digital world. The couple chose Canadian paintings by Tom Thomson to create 16 different virtual worlds, four for each season, with which they would interact. They touched snow in winter and leaves in autumn; the bride dropped flowers in the spring; and the groom broke a virtual glass in summer.

Guests were treated to a pre-wedding show that depicted the bride and groom in various virtual situations such as playing drums, playing human ping-pong, catching underwater fish and body painting.

Interestingly the non-traditional technology helped bring the past to life, as K'necht's family members were shown with a visual family tree.

K'necht says the reaction of his relatives was positive. "They appreciated the way in which I was able to include my ancestors in the ceremony, even if they were no longer with us."

K'necht, an Internet Consultant, came up with the idea of Netcasting the wedding as well as building a wedding Web site [www.knecht. on.ca/algo].

" The Web site proved very valuable," he says, " as many of my relatives and friends in other parts of the world got the opportunity to get to know gOgO before they met her at the wedding. And by allowing Web site visitors the opportunity to leave us messages, we were able to make them feel part of the whole thing."

Alan K'necht and gOgO.

Rabbi Scheim, a computer enthusiast, was pleased that he was able to perform the non-conventional ceremony. He says that although it was unusual, all of the traditional elements were adhered to.

"In these times, the marriage of two Jews is worthy of encouragement and my impulse is to try hard to say yes if the essential requirements of tradition are met," he says.

Since the ketubah, the blessings, and the giving of a ring took place " in reality," the form of the chupah and the glass breaking did not impact on the validity of the ceremony.

Technology, while often regarded as impersonal, actually facilitated many touching moments, as images of the couple's extended family were brought to life on screen.

Also shown were childhood pictures of both bride and groom and a travelogue of the adventures they went on before getting together. K'necht explored Australia and Israel, while BegOnia lived in Asia and Africa. Guests were also treated to the image of Alan and gOgO, (then just Carrie) sharing their first kiss at his bar mitzvah. They went their separate ways then, only to be reunited through the Internet a couple of years ago.

gOgO wore a formal wedding gown and veil for the ceremony, and later changed into a clingy white dress, which she wore with an African wedding veil and white platform shoes.

Surrounded by cameras, a large television screen in front of them, the couple went through their personalized ceremony, as their guests gazed on in amazement, sometimes laughing, at other moments solemn.

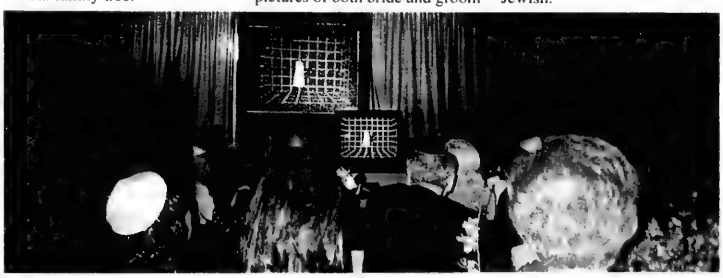
The groom's father, proclaimed the wedding to be "a taste of things to come in the 21st century."

There was a feeling that both sets of parents had been apprehensive about how their guests would view such an unusual wedding. Yet, throughout the reception, a strong sense of family and a commitment to Jewish traditions was evident.

At one point, both sets of parents were honored, as their contemporaries and those of their children came forward and circled them in the traditional *mizinke* dance. According to custom, when the last child is married off, the occasion is marked by a special ceremony during which the bride and groom place wreaths of flowers on their parents' heads and all sing and dance for them.

It was an image that showed the coming together of the old and the new to perpetuate an ancient custom with a new millennium twist.

Guests were good natured about the unconventional wedding in spite of the extensive media coverage and the unfamiliar vegan food. Jean Bernholtz, a close friend of the groom's parents, said she enjoyed herself immensely: "It was upbeat, nobody was bored and it was very Jewish."



Guests watch the wedding ceremony on a computer screen.

PARTY PLANNER

The centre of the party

What people remember most about any simchah is the quality of the music

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Every celebration should be unique, says band leader Morris Kast of Morris Kast & the Sky's Band (565-1620 or 905-731-0881).

The uniqueness, he says, comes from the music. "It's the centre of the party. What people remember about a party is the music."

There are a lot of bands out there, though; so how do you pick the one that will treat your event as one of a kind?

"You have red-letter days a few times in your life," says Larry Rodness of the Larry Rodness Band (650- 5858). "But you want a band that makes *every* performance a red-letter event."

Know a prospective band in advance as well as you can, advises Rodness. Get references and recommendations, see a video, hear them live. Find out how many members they have and how long they've been playing. Look for tasteful dress, high standards of conduct and extensive knowledge of the business side of entertainment.

Kast suggests getting references from the band's last five jobs. Never mind how they sounded a year ago; they have to be good now. And no matter how well they play a standard tried-and-true repertoire, you want a band that grows and learns.

Rodness and Kast both attach great importance to rapport with the band leader. You're placing the success of your event in his hands, so the bandleader has to merit your trust.

Besides being a good musician, the leader has to work well with you and with other party professionals like videographers. He or she has to be well-organized and able to minimize crises like power outages so that they don't disrupt the evening. And while he needn't be a technical expert, he should have top-flight equipment and a top-flight technician to man it.

It's the leader's responsibility to watch the crowd and match the music to the mood: gentle or laid-back at dinner, for example, but energetic when it's time to dance, to keep the dance floor full, Kast says.

Rodness recommends choosing a band with plenty of singers. In a party band, he says, they matter more than instrumentalists.

Kast also sees singers as essential. "The more there are, and the more versatile, the better," he says.

Party music is quite different from a concert, Rodness says. You go to a concert to hear a specific singer, instrumentalist or group, or music in a specific style. At a party, the band come to you, and should match your tastes and that of your guests.

Both band leaders say they need a wide repertoire to please a large, diverse crowd. Kast goes so far as to discourage hiring a band known for a special style. Opt for versatility and a band big enough to have plenty of specialists, but not a specialty band as such.

Sometimes you may want a specialty band – say, Dixieland for a 1920s theme party, or rock & roll for a teen's birthday, they suggest. At extended-family events like weddings or bar and bat mitzvahs, however, there may be requests for anything: old standards, swing, Latin, disco. The better-travelled and more diverse your guests are, the harder they are to satisfy.

A party band has to please everyone all night long, not just one group for a few hours. And while music lists help to provide some overall structure, a good band can improvise as well.

Find out how many breaks the band takes, and how long – and make sure they take them when music isn't needed. During the main course and when the sweet table opens are the best times, suggests Kast, who advocates taking two breaks; Rodness prefers three.

Hire professional, full-time musicians, says Kast.

Rodness recommends hiring members of a professional union like the Toronto Musicians' Association. As a craft union, they have a vested interest in upholding high standards, and if you have a dispute or complaint, they will mediate.

Remember, warns Rodness, that low price and good quality don't always go together.

Both he and Kast advise booking your band as soon as you have the date and the hall. The best bands are in high demand, so call as early as you can.

Other bands advertising in this issue are:

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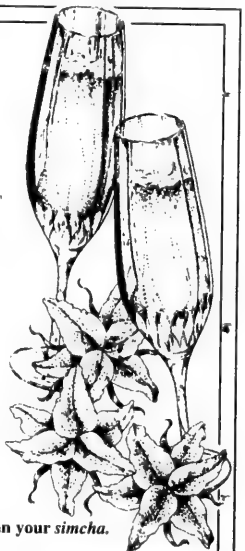
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Henna painting in demand at simchahs

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

The old adage, "East is east and west is west," no longer applies in this day and age; eastern countries have increasingly embraced western culture, while western societies have adopted many eastern customs.

Acupuncture, meditation and yoga are among the eastern practices commonly accepted in western societies. Now another eastern tradition has become all the rage – henna painting or mehndi, the art of adorning the body with a paste made from the henna plant.

Mehndi has been practised in India, the Middle East and Africa for centuries, and has just recently become a popular trend among youth in North America.

Indeed Henna painting is now in demand at bar/bat mitzvah parties.

Two Toronto-based women, Lisa Karachinsky, 24, who runs The Henna Girl (372-5641) and Melanie Marcus, 22, who runs Little Miss Henna (905-731-0067), have been capitalizing on this new trend by offering henna painting services at simchahs, parties and corporate affairs.

Over the centuries, people have always liked to adorn themselves, Karachinsky, a graphic arts student at the Ontario College of Art, said in an interview. She attributes the recent popularity of mehndi to its use by celebrities like Madonna and Mira Sorvino.

In fact, the Toronto henna artist herself has had the opportunity to adorn some Hollywood celebrities. She created designs for Yasmine Bleeth and Richard Grieco at Florio Design, a Yorkville hair salon, and she was asked to do an arm band for Christian Campbell, (brother of Neve), for a television film."It was very exciting," she said. "I created a tribal arm band for him [Campbell]. It was great."

An intern at a magazine in New York City (N.Y.C.) this summer, Karachinsky noticed henna artists practising their craft in some of the upscale jeans stores in Manhattan, she said. "The work they were doing was unoriginal. I thought, 'I'm an artist and a designer. I can do that much better.'"

She went to do research on henna design and technique in N.Y.C.'s Jackson Heights, where the East Indian community tends to be situated, she said.

"I knew I was going to bring henna to Toronto... For me it is perfect. I can earn money using my creative talents."

She initially began her work at Lunatic Fringe, a jeans store on Eglinton Avenue, and at Florio Design. After Rosh Hashanah, she expanded her work to bar and batmitzvahs and other private parties.

Karachinsky also had booths at the Molson Indie and the CNE, where she trained people to help, because there were constant lineups for the henna designs.

Henna is a good activity for bar or bat mitzvahs, she said. "The kids want it. Mothers don't have to worry. Henna is all natural and dries on the surface. It fades and disappears as the skin exfoliates."

It usually takes her under five minutes to adorn each person, and she can usually accommodate 50 to 70 kids in a evening, she said.

Lisa Karachinsky

"The adults get in line as well."

There are a wide variety of designs for adults to choose from, including Celtic or tribal designs or an astrological sign. The children get flowers, butterflies, bracelets or designs running up and down their fingers, she said.

People should avoid using black henna, Karachinsky noted, because according to her dermatologist, that color dye may be toxic.

Little Miss Henna is run by Marcus, a graduate of both Western and York universities who plans on going to dentistry school. "I've always wanted to be a dentist. I want to do orthodontics to put smiles on people's faces," she said.

These days her henna creations are making people smile. She's been working at bar and bat mitzvahs and sweet 16s; the henna is a hit with both hosts and guests, and she's getting a lot of business through word of mouth, she said.

"The parents love it more than the teens. Grandmothers like it just as much."

While travelling in Europe this summer, Marcus saw that women and men were using henna, she said. "A lot of them had their hands dyed or they were wearing henna arm bands.

Seeing their work, she said she decided that she would also take up this art form. "I said to myself, 'I can do this. I'm artistic.' So I began doing it... I became really involved with it.

"The designs and the drawings came naturally. I can look at a picture and draw the exact duplicate free hand without using a stencil.

"Henna is a flower from the Middle East and India," Marcus explained. "Its [dye] is all natural and will last from two to three weeks. It just goes on the first layer of the skin."

People like it because it wears off, she said. "It's just a temporary tattoo... If you do make a mistake, you can remove before it dries. It takes between five and 10 minutes to dry."

Hindu, Indian and Sephardi Jews use henna on the skin before a wedding, she said. "Generally it's women who do this. There's a myth that the darker the henna goes on the skin the greater the love of the husband for the wife."

She got her first customer while talking to a sales clerk about her henna business; a customer overheard the conversation and promptly booked Marcus for a bar mitzvah, she said.

She usually begins the henna painting during cocktails, she said, but stops during dinner and resumes during the dancing.

Marcus does anklets, wrist bands, rings and whole palms. "I apply it with a bottle with a pointed mettle tip. I fill up the bottle with henna and apply it freehand. A simple design can take a minute, but a very intricate design on the palm of the hand could take 20 minutes," she said.

On average she spends five or 10 minutes with each person; at a bar or bat mitzvah, she does simple designs for all the children, which take about two minutes a child, she said.

Younger kids like the Nike sign, flowers or Chinese symbols, while 16 year-olds prefer arm and wrist bands and rings with a design on the hands, Marcus said.

"I love doing henna," she said. "It's so much fun. The kids love it. They have a great time with it."

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The High Holy days don't have to be a mystery

By RICK LEVINE
Special to The CJN

Choosing a date is the obvious first step in planning a bar or bat mitzvah. Finding out the dates in which the High Holy Days will fall in a couple of years, is now possible with the online Hebrew calendar, HaYom.

Available in Macintosh and PC, HaYom tells you about the upcoming Jewish Holidays and Hebrew months, as well as a bunch of other interesting information – not to mention a little built-in music for the occasion.

When the HaYom program starts, it presents a window telling you the Hebrew and civil dates, the sunset and sunrise times, and a saying or something interesting about the day. If it is a special day such as a new month, appropriate information will appear.

What I really like about the program, is the ability to view and generate future calendars. Before personal computers, we had to rely upon store-bought calendars, which only had available dates for the upcoming year. With HaYom it is possible, not only to check calendar dates well into the future, but also to know for example, the days when Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will fall.

Now you can plan a simchah well in advance around these important holidays.

As I entered HaYom a couple of weeks ago, I found the following information: Monday, November 16, 1998/Heshvan 27 5759, the sun sets at 5:47 p.m. and will rise at 8:17 a.m. The quote for the day was, "Happiness, in fact, may be defined as the certainty of being needed."

A positive outlook like this may be all that is needed to start the day off on the right foot.

This is a great little computer program with many useful features, and is a must for anyone who requires information on future Jewish holidays.

By the way, for the benefit of those who don't own the program, Yom Kippur falls on Monday Sept. 20, 1999, Monday, Oct 9, 2000, and Thursday, Sept. 27, 2001.

HaYom is available by writing to the software's author A.G. Reinhold, 14 Fresh Pond Place Cambridge MA 02138-4430.

Further information can be obtained on its Web site [www.hayom.com].

There is another company dedicated to developing excellent software for the Jewish community.

DAVKA Corporation has been marketing Hebrew titles for years, and among their many useful products is the Simchah Planner, which claims to make planning simchot a snap.

Simcha Planner, available only for MS Windows, is a database program that allows you to keep track of all aspects of guest information, from table assignments to specific meal requests. Create guest lists and track responses, address envelopes, arrange table seating and create and print a wide variety of useful lists.

It seems to me, the only thing the program doesn't do, is pay for the simchah!

DAVKA has a catalogue of Hebrew software titles, which can be obtained by contacting DAVKA at 773-465-4070 or on its Web site [www.davka.com].

Good luck with your simchah planning and don't forget Chanukah falls on Thursday, Dec. 2nd in the year 2010!

A Jewish wedding Ukrainian style

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Even when the celebration was over, Natan Kitaykisher couldn't believe that Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz had just conducted his wedding.

"I still cannot believe in what I've just seen," said the 26-year-old leader of the Jewish congregation in the Ukrainian town of Slavuta. "I could never dream of it."

Slavuta was not on the original itinerary of Rabbi Steinsaltz, an Israeli rabbi known for his translations of the Talmud into modern Hebrew, English and Russian, who was leading a group visiting the Jewish memorial sites in southwestern Ukraine.

But Kitaykisher, who studied a few years ago at a yeshiva run by Rabbi Steinsaltz in Moscow, heard of the rabbi's plan to come to the area and asked if it was possible for him to arrange a stop in Slavuta.

Because the synagogue in town was so rundown, the ceremony was conducted outside the the town's only modern public facility – a concert hall.

Most of the town's Jews showed up, many of them out of curiosity.

The heroes of the occasion – Kitaykisher and Eleonara Rabina, an engineer from a neighboring town – looked tense during the affair.

The wedding was performed in accordance with Jewish ritual. A red-velvet canopy with silk yellow fringes was brought from Kiev, as were a ketubah and kosher wine and food for the few dozen guests.

The only substitute allowed was a light bulb wrapped in plastic, which the groom used instead of a glass to crush at the end of the ceremony.

The wedding, which featured a local band playing Jewish melodies, was the first Jewish religious wedding in the town in at least 15 years.

In the 19th century, the town's name became famous for its printing house among Jews in the Russian empire, as it was one of the few Jewish printing houses functioning in Russia at the time. The Slavuta Brothers printing house, as it was known, issued the bulk of chassidic literature printed and even had a copyright on the Babylonian Talmud in Russia.

Continued on page B39

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Caribbean paradise an ideal place for your honeymoon

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

St. Croix, an island paradise in the heart of the Caribbean can be the perfect honeymoon spot.

It is rich in history and varied in architecture. Its eclectic culture is a mix of different nations: Spain, England, France, the Knights of Malta, Denmark and the U.S.

This tranquil tropical island has breathtaking rolling hills dotted with sugar mill ruins, old plantation homes, spectacular beaches and an exotic rain forest.

Adventurers and romantics alike will marvel at the many activities and historic attractions offered throughout the island, including Christiansted National Historic Site comprising of Fort Christiansvaem, the Steeple Building, the Old Scale House, and the Old Customs House.

Other places of interest are Fort Frederick, St. George Village Botanical Garden, Salt River and Columbus Landing, St. Croix Leap – a woodworking shop in the rain forest, the St. Croix Aquarium and the Cruzan Rum Factory. Touring the island can be fun by bike or on Sweeney's Safari Bus.

St. Croix with its two quaint cities, Christiansted and Fredriksted, is the largest of the United States Virgin Islands and boasts of three unique properties perfect for lovers seeking an intimate escape from winter's doldrums.

Rest and relaxation come easy at the Tamarind Reef Hotel, the Hibiscus Beach Hotel and the Hotel Caravelle, all individually family-owned.

Billowing palms

Surrounded by billowing palms, the Tamarind offers its guests an island oasis on the edge of the sea. Adorned with a golden beach and its own marina, this distinct AAA Three-Diamond resort, situated on St. Croix's northern coast is ideal for families.

Complimentary snorkeling equipment, windsurfers and ocean kayaks are all available. Otherwise, guests may want to lounge by the pool or test their sporting skills on the tennis/croquet courts.

In addition to a host of amenities, some of the 46 tastefully furnished pastel colored seafront rooms come with kitchenettes. Rates are from $145 US based on double occupancy. Of course the hotel isn't exclusive to honeymooners and children six and under stay free.

Be sure to ask about their discounts to "virgins" – we're talking only about first time visitors here.

Hotel Caravelle, a charming European-style hotel, located on the water's edge in historic downtown Christiansted hosts guests who enjoy being were the action is.

The hotel has 43 newly-refurbished rooms surrounding a refreshing swimming pool, a casual waterfront restaurant and bar overlooks the busy harbor. You can shop till you drop at Hotel Caravelle's duty free arcade.

Believe it or not, guests at the Caravelle can earn a diploma from the University of St. Croix. Participants in the environmental studies program must book one of two island tours offered by local operators and stay at the hotel for at least three nights. Upon completion, families are issued an island ecologist diploma.

The Hotel Caravelle has teamed up with St. Croix's newest dive shop SCUBA to offer its guests a number of memorable packages. A four day excursion costs $391 and includes a superior room and two dives.

Deluxe rooms, double occupancy, are from $149-$169. Kids under 12 stay free. Family packages are available.

The Hibiscus Beach Hotel is only 15 minutes away from the airport, 10 minutes from Christiansted and 20 minutes from challenging golf courses.

Moreover it's only seconds away from one of 38 oceanfront rooms to a comfortable hammock swaying over one of the prettiest beaches on the island. Guests can play in the sands and salt waters that the turtles call home for as low as $130 per night, double occupancy.

A package deal four four nights including rental car, sports activities and all meals and drinks is $1,715 US a couple.

To find out more about St. Croix and hotel reservations contact your travel agent.

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D&D offers several tent packages that include tables and chairs.

D&D accommodates all your guests, no matter how many

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

If you're thinking of throwing a small dinner party for 400 of your closest friends, D&D Rentals (665-9570) can help you plan the affair.

D&D stands for Dorice and David, a husband and wife team who run a party rental business out of their 10,000-square-foot headquarters at 56 Martin Ross Pkwy., one traffic light north of Finch off of Dufferin Street.

The Silvermans, who prefer to be called by their first names, began their rental business in 1982. The Dublin natives initially rented tools, but increasingly the demand was for items like tables and chairs, and they shifted their focus, David said.

Today they deal exclusively in party items, he said. "Renting is performing a valuable service for a large number of consumers who don't want to purchase the desired articles, but need them for one affair only."

D&D carries everything from linens, cutlery and dishes, to tables chairs and tents. The company specializes in the rental and assembly of tents, which David said can be used for a variety of occasions – bat/bar mitzvahs, showers, birthday and anniversary parties and other special occasions.

"People who want to have the affair at home are looking for a certain kind of ambience. It's not a moneysaver, necessarily, but you can do it for different prices.

"Over the years we've acquired considerable expertise in tents," he said.

Before erecting a tent, D&D will measure and inspect a site, and provide the customer with a free estimate and a computer-assisted design for the space. Some people have no idea about what they can actually do with their garden, he said.

"We fill out the empty spaces for them. You see an empty piece of land and you can actually build it up. We visualize for the customer what we can do for them.

"Once we see the space, we can offer suggestions on how best to do the layout. We do a layout on the computer. We draw the tent and chair layout in 3D."

D&D carries frame tents – spacious tents without centre poles – that can accommodate from 40 to 400 people, he said.

The set-up takes place a couple of days before the affair so that the clients have enough time to decorate and organize the interior, he said. The tenting season generally runs from the end of April to the end of October, depending on the weather, said David. "We provide heaters to keep people warm."

D&D offers several basic tent packages that include lights, cutlery, china, linens, tables and chairs. A basic package for 40 guests will cost approximately $700 with tax; the same package for 400 is $6,500.

A 30 x 40-foot tent will accommodate 120 people, a buffet table

Continued on page B33

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PARTY PLANNER

D&D carries everything from linens, cutlery and dishes to tables, chairs and tents.

Rental co. can handle any number of guests

Continued from page B32

and a bar and will cost just under $2,000, but if people want to dance, a 30 x 50-foot tent will hold a 15 x 18-foot parquet dance floor that will add an additional $900 to the bill, he said.

A party with a dance floor for 200 people will require a 40 x 70-foot tent with an 18 x 24-foot dance floor and cost just under $5,000 including taxes.

All the packages can be upgraded with more elegant dishes and chairs, hidden ceilings, and fancier draping and interior decorating, he said.

Other rentals available at D&D include coffee urns and chafing dishes in varying sizes, bars, bar equipment, popcorn, hot dog machines, and large group barbecues, David said.

He buys new dishes for Pesach, and people who want kosher dishes for their seder use the new dishes directly from the box, he said. "I do a lot of business at that time of year."

For corporate clients, D&D rents out urns, coat racks, and can set up staging and draping for corporate meetings and trade shows, he said.

D&D offers a pick up and delivery service, but most people come in to pick up small orders, David said. If D&D doesn't carry an item that is requested, David will get it or direct the person to a competitor because, he said, "the customer is important to us."

Other rental places advertising in this issue are Chair-man Mills (391-0400); Higgins Party Rentals (252-4050).

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Debra & Ernie Raphael are carrying on the family tradition in their new location at 1750 Steeles Ave. West, Unit 1 (across from Steeles West Market). Ernie Raphael has been in the jewellery business since 1951, where their first location was opened in Kitchener, Ontario. They began importing diamonds directly from Israel and Antwerp in 1973 as well as gold directly from Italy.
Ernie's wife, Debra has been in the jewellery business for the past 25 years, and enjoys not only selling but custom designing jewellery for their customers as well.
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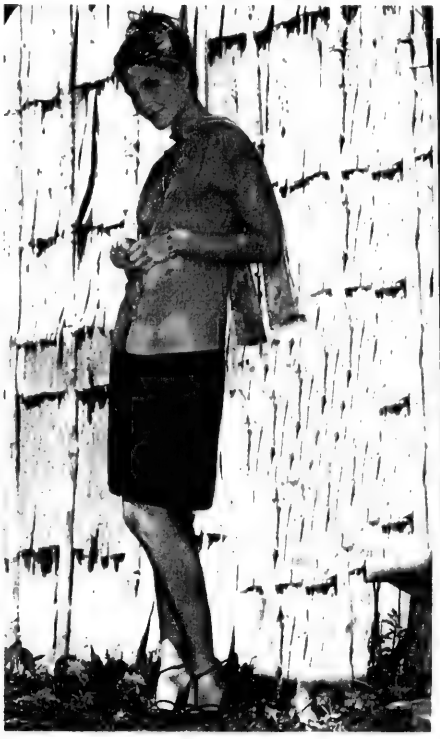

These outfits from Tilly's show that Tilley's isn't just for hats.

Dressing for elegant parties

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

You're invited to an elegant party or maybe you're just going out for a night on the town and you need a new outfit.

Why not stop by Tilley's Endurables at 900 Don Mills Rd. or 207 Queen's Quay W. on the main floor.

Tilley's, you may be asking, the company that makes those wide brim cotton hats?

Yes, you may be surprised to know that Tilley's (441-6141), the noted travel and adventure clothing company, introduced evening wear – TilleySilks – several years ago.

TilleySilks look and feel like fine quality medium-weight silk, but they're made from a Japanese woven microfibre which is machine washable and dryable, and require little or almost no ironing, according to Nathalie Belanger of Tilley's marketing department.

She describes the line as "dressy with the right accessories, but not formal."

There are various mix-and-match pieces that make up the TilleySilk collection, among them a tunic top, tunic vest, camisole, long sleeve blouse, and long and short mock wrap skirts, which can all be accessorised with the Tilley sashes, belts and scarves. The colors range from evergreen and aqua to purple, fuchsia and black.

This year's eveningwear has been augmented by the new Soho collection, a line made of a polyester fabric in a flowing black and stone print, which is easy care and can be packed small without wrinkling. It can be paired with TilleySilks or TilleyKnits, says Belanger.

The Soho collection offers the sarong skirt in two lengths, one which is ankle and the other knee length. The sarong looks like a wrap skirt, but has an inner skirt made of plain black chenille, she explains.

She says the wrap styling is made with a special fold to prevent it from being blown open; it also has a draw string waist for comfort, and it can be worn with a matching camisole; and/ or the new black tailored jacket which has been added to the TilleySilk collection.

Comfort is an important factor in the clothing at Toni Plus (512-0341) which sells fashion for larger women, says company founder and president Toni Tiraborelli.

To add to the comfort, you see a lot of clothing with elasticized waists, says Tiraborelli.

Continued on page B35

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PARTY PLANNER

Outfits like this one by Toni Plus (left) and by Tilly's (right) appeal to all sorts of women.

Toni Plus fills void in market

Continued from page B34

Toni Plus, founded in 1992, has four retail locations. Tiraborelli, who was running a retail womenswear chain, was approached by the upscale North York mall, Bayview Village, to open a fashionable clothing store for larger women, she says.

"We were filling a void in the market place for better quality and more fashionable clothes for larger women. [At the time] there was a lack of designers in the plus-size market. We worked very hard to get some designers on board."

Canadian designer Brian Bailey is one of the Toni Plus' main designers, and now international companies like Anne Klein and Ellen Tracy also have collections for large women, Tiraborelli says.

From the start, Toni Plus, which carries sizes 14 to 22, had a positive customer response because they liked the merchandise mix, she says. "We were getting calls from across Canada."

The store did a trunk show for its clientele in Calgary – customers ordered from the samples – and finally she decided to open a store there, which is located at the Calgary Eaton Centre.

This year's styles tend to be simple and functional. The long tank dress with side slits is very important, and these basic pieces can be dressed up with accessories like boas, she notes.

"There's a shift to more sportswear for evening dress. A velvet suit can be teamed up with a beaded shell." Long, slim ankle-length skirts in stretch and burnout velvet are popular this year, she adds.

Black is always big for after-five-wear; other colors being shown are jewel tones like amethyst and deep claret. Silver is more important than gold as an accent color according to Tiraborelli.

The tuxedo pant suit, which she describes as slim ankle-length pants and a jacket in matching material, is usually in a fine black wool fabric with satin lapels, she says.

The look is completed by "a sexy camisole," she adds. In addition to its flagship store at Bayview Village, Toni Plus has two more Toronto locations – Sherway Gardens and First Canadian Place.

Other fashion places advertising in this issue are Jordan's Apparel Ltd. (667-1175).

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Book caterer as soon as you can

Continued from page B24

es. Suppose a speech is five minutes too long and a dish has to come out late; it still has to taste good. The last piece of chicken served has to be as fresh and moist as the first, she says.

Book your caterer as soon as you have the hall, advises Schaffer, even if it's years ahead. Your first meeting should establish rapport. At the second meeting, talk about likes and dislikes and get the caterer to offer you different options, and a sample meal.

Thereafter, stay in touch and exchange ideas. At your third meeting, review your options and finalize the menu; at the fourth, you should finalize the contract and make a deposit. Hold your last meeting, to clear up details, a few weeks before the party.

In Azulay's experience, a client usually starts by saying what she feels is expected, not what she really wants. The caterer has to be a good, patient listener, who doesn't rush clients or put them on the spot, she says.

Clients are smart, Azulay says, and know what they want. However, they need to be encouraged to come out and say it – and they do this only with professionals whom they trust.

Schaffer concurs. Clients start off shy, but once the caterer draws them out, they become effusive, even poetic, she says.

Both Schaffer and Azulay see their profession as a challenge. People talk about whether a caterer is good or bad. If a caterer is bad, people tend to remember it longer than if she's good, they say.

Until the party, moreover, neither you nor the caterer knows how things will work out. This sums up why you need trust. There are always problems, but if the professionals at your party help you minimize them and deal well with those that do come up, your event will be a success.

Other kosher caterers advertising this issue are: Caterers York/Sweet York Desserts (783-4293); Le Parc and Beverley Hills Caterers (798-7246); Tri-Elm Bnai Torah/Beth Jacob (631-7322); Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers (905-738-6880).

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Travel through time

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

Visitors to Jerusalem can take a whirlwind tour of the city's past on the Time Elevator.

For this ride, you don't need a hat, sunscreen or special hiking boots. All you need is your imagination.

Since its inception on Aug. 20, more than 5,000 virtual travellers have taken the Time Elevator back into Jerusalem's past, from the era of David and Solomon, through the Crusades, and into the heart of the Six Day War.

Yehuda Malimovka, general manager of Time Elevator, said he expects some 400,000 visitors to travel on the ride within its first year of operation.

The Time Elevator, housed in Beit Agron in downtown Jerusalem, is a 25-minute ride that turns your world into one of illusion and virtual reality.

The ride features the latest in multi-media and simulator technologies. Riders are seated on platforms that move in front of three large screens. The soundtrack – simultaneously translated into six languages – is piped in through individual headsets which deliver unbeatable surround sound.

The ride is translated into Russian, French, German, English, Hebrew and Spanish. Although the show deals with Islam, Malimovka said, there is no Arabic translation.

The voyage through Jerusalem's past, all but catapults you out of your seat as the Time Elevator makes its way down an underground roller-coaster maze.

The warning given about the ride – not suitable for anyone prone to dizziness or motion sickness – is not to be taken lightly. There is nothing virtual about the ride itself: you get jolted forwards, backwards, and from side to side.

For pregnant women, children under the age of five and those prone to dizziness, there are stationary seats.

Kids take a trip through time. Since Aug. 20 over 5,000 travellers have gone into Jerusalem's past.

When the lights go down, your journey through the past of the world's most influential city has begun.

Within the first minute, you are plummeting down a large gaping underground hole. Wooden beams stop you from crashing into a large man with a grey beard who is wearing a black robe and black kippah. This is Shalem, your tour guide.

After exchanging a few pleasantries with Shalem, played by Chaim Topol (star of *Fiddler on the Roof*), you ride through the underground tunnels to an open barren area where you find Abraham about to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah.

From there, you are whooshed into the era of David and Solomon. Here you witness the famous Judgment of Solomon, in which a baby claimed to be the son of two mothers, is delivered to his rightful mother. In our story, Shalem is that baby.

The producer has Solomon bestow the gift of immortality on the baby, which enables Shalem, a 2000-year-old character, to recount the story of Jerusalem through the telling of his own adventuresome life.

Among the episodes in which Shalem appears in Jerusalem's history, we see him rebelling against the Romans, living as one of the only Jews left in an idol-filled Jerusalem in the midst of Aelia Capitolina, and crying at the Kotel in the aftermath of Jerusalem's liberation in 1967.

This condensed tour of Jerusalem's past does not inundate you with facts,but at the same time it is informative. The ride will excite both the well-researched and the newcomer to the history of Jerusalem.

The Muslims conquer Jerusalem, and build the Dome of the Rock. It is the first time that three monotheistic religions meet in Jerusalem.

There is only 25-minutes allotted to Jerusalem's 3,000-year-history so you are rushed from here to there. From the Crusades you are transported into the War of Independence, the Six Day War and finally, modern-day Israel.

The Time Elevator ends with a spectacular panoramic view of Jerusalem, and you are left with a feeling of wanting to travel around Jerusalem again.

The ride is housed in Beit Agron, 37 Hillel Street, Jerusalem. Tel: 011-972-2-625-2228 Fax: 011-972-2-625-2227.

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PARTY PLANNER

Dressing up your sons for a simchah

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

You've got an affair to attend and the whole family is invited – even your son. You double-check the invitation and there it is in black and white – "and family."

Reality sets in. Your son is definitely on the guest list. And you start to think: Will he sit still? Will he spill his drink as usual? Will his outfit stay clean for longer than five minutes?

Then you come to the ultimate question: What will he wear?

Well we have no ready solutions here for teaching boys etiquette. But there are experts who can help you dress your sons for a simchah or special event. Beatties (481-4459) at 430 Eglinton Ave. W., near Avenue Road and Amore Children's Boutique (654-8117) 1242 St. Clair Ave. W., just west of Dufferin, are two stores that specialize in dressing boys of all ages and sizes (husky as well) from head to toe in casual and dress clothes.

(Beatties also has a men's division, while Amore carries girls' clothing.)

Both Bruce Hadden, founder of Beatties, which is more than 45 years old, and Susan Young owner of Amore, which has been in the same vicinity for 15 years, offer suggestions on how to dress your boys.

Beatties, which occupies 4,000 square feet of retail space, offers fashionable, higher quality clothing, says Hadden. "We carry brand names like Tommy Hilfiger, Nautica, Calvin Klein, North 44... We run promotions. We really focus on offering special values on brand names for our customers."

Amore, described by Young as a "department store for children," specializes in European children's sportswear from France and Italy, offering such brands as Miniman, Marese and Jean Bourget from France, and Mimi from Italy, she says.

"We carry newborn up to size 16. We do quite a lot of boys' suits and tuxedos which are made in Canada. Catamini is designed in France."

Both Hadden and Young agree that the first suit purchased is frequently the bar mitzvah suit, although Amore also offers tuxedos and formal wear for ring boys.

Hadden suggests that people buy the bar mitzvah suit six months ahead of time. "I reserve it for them. They come back for the fitting about two weeks before the bar mitzvah. We don't alter it until then. We'll change the suit if the child has a growth spurt."

Black and navy, and taupe for spring are the most common colors for the bar mitzvah suit, he says. Boys' suits start at $99 and can go as high as $299. Every bar mitzvah suit comes with a $25 gift certificate, he adds.

Young notes that a dark suit in gaberdine, a light-weight year-round wool is the best purchase for a bar mitzvah suit because it can be worn all year round.

"Black and navy are still the most popular. We sell a lot of coordinating vests, as opposed to three-piece suits," she says.

"The tendency for a bar mitzvah is to buy a suit two or three months in advance. We can anticipate the size. I'm pretty good at guessing. We give advice on how to fit the children."

No alterations are done until about 10 days before the event to ensure a perfect fit, she says. "The growth spurts are in the legs and arms."

An elegant but more relaxed look is a blazer, Young says. "The print could be hound's-tooth or Glen check coordinated with solid-color pants... Boys' fashions follow the trends in menswear – blazers now are single breasted because this is what men are wearing more of."

Vests can be worn with dress pants, she says. "Generally a print vest is coordinated with solid color pants. They get the dressy look without the expense of buying a suits."

At Amore, suits start at $180, blazers at $150, vests at $39, and dress pants at $49, she says. A banded or Mandarin collar shirt can be paired with a vest or blazer; a mock turtle neck or a dressy long sleeve polo shirt can be worn instead of a dress shirt, Hadden says.

"We're the only ones [in Toronto] to carry the Italian knits for boys. The dress polo knit is higher end so it looks dressier."

Beatties also carries a line of dress shirts that require very little ironing, he says. "Pierre Marie offers a button down shirt in white, blue and stripes that retails for $29.95. Just throw it in the washing machine and dryer."

Children invited as guests to a bar mitzvah can wear dress pants and a sweater or vest a in cotton or silk, he says.

Dressed up at Beatties.

Other boys' fashion places advertising in this issue are Crawford Boys 782-8137; Jordan's Apparel Ltd. 667-1175.

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COMPLETE PARTY PLANNING BY PROFESSIONAL EVENT COORDINATORS

Let kids party somewhere else

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

If the thought of 15 or 20 children running around your house doesn't thrill you, you may want to consider holding your child's birthday party at an indoor playground or specialized party facility.

These places are geared to large groups, there are usually plenty of activities to keep the children occupied, and best of all, someone else gets to clean up the mess.

Playland Kids Play and Party Place (667-PLAY), a 3,500-square-foot facility at 5050 Dufferin St. Unit 106, just south of Steeles Avenue, offers children a wide range of activities to choose from, says owner Mira Shlyonsky.

She immigrated to Canada in 1976 from the former Soviet Union where she was a teacher. The party business she started six years ago was a way to get back to working with children, said Shlyonsky, now a grandmother of two.

The spacious playground area with custom-built tunnel and slides has motorized bicycles and pedal cars, play houses, a beauty salon and a workshop, as well as a separate area for infants. Children also have use of the arcade and video games.

In addition, Playland has two specialty rooms – a glamor room with costumes, makeup and face painting done by staff members; and a warrior room with a staff supervised laser game for children over five.

During the week Playland is a drop-in centre. The drop-in hours vary on weekends, and people are advised to call on Fridays for an updated message on the weekend hours, Shlyonsky said.

The cost of the drop-in is $6 for the whole day with in-and-out privileges; an additional $2.50 will cover the laser game, which lasts about 15 minutes, she noted.

Playland also offers a baby sitting service at $4 per hour for any child, toilet-trained to 9 years old.

A birthday party at Playland lasts two hours. Guests have the use of the playground and their choice of one of the specialty rooms, as well as use of one of the two party rooms for an hour and a half, Shlyonsky said. "The place is spotless and we supply invitations."

A birthday, holiday or special occasion party includes a host to supervise the children and clean up, cake and juice, and pizza from several selected places; for a small additional charge, kosher pizza is available from My Zaidy's, she said.

The cost, at $10.95 per child with at least 10 children, includes a free gift for the birthday child. At least 20 children are required for what Shlyonsky terms a "private party" or exclusive use of Playland.

Playland also offers catering, balloons, loot bags and entertainers as an optional service, she said.

For an unusual birthday party, parents may want to consider inviting some unusual guests to the festivities – perhaps an iguana or a python or a horn frog. At Reptilia (905-761-6223) a 6,000-square-foot reptile and amphibian breeding facility, educational centre and retail store, children attending birthday parties have the opportunity to have "a close encounter with reptiles," Reptilia general manager Josh Feltham said.

"It's as close as you'd ever want to get. This is a hands-on experience. The child gets to hold various kinds of reptiles and snakes, lizards, turtles and tortoises, under supervision."

Located at 91 Fernstaff Crt., Suite 8, in Vaughan, one block north of Langstaff Road just west of Dufferin Street, the 3-year-old facility offers an original venue for a birthday party and is an educational experience to boot.

Reptilia will also do a home party and bring some of the animals to a person's house within the Greater Toronto Area, Feltham said.

The birthday parties include a presentation about the different types of reptiles and amphibians – how big they get, where they live, what they eat. The presentation lasts between 45 minutes and an hour, and is held in a classroom that can accommodate up to 36 people.

The starting cost of the party ($169 Monday to Thursday, and $199 on weekends) includes two slices of pizza, beverage and cake for 12 people. A lower price can be negotiated for kosher parties, he added. There is a $50 charge for every four additional people.

"Reptilia started as a store, but it quickly became clear that education was an area to focus on," Feltham said.

Reptiles and amphibians can be good pets for children who have allergies, but certain reptiles commonly sold as pets, such as iguanas, do not necessarily make good pets.

A wedding in Ukraine

Continued from page B30

The local Jewish community was destroyed during the Holocaust. Among those Jews who returned to the town after World War II was Rabbi Yitzhak Liberzon, who was one of a handful of rabbinical authorities to stay active in the post-war Soviet Union.

The community was rebuilt as a result of Rabbi Liberzon's efforts. Since the rabbi's death 15 years ago, however, the community has gradually declined.

According to Yakov Baram, chair of the Jewish community, the town of 35,000 individuals is now home to 240 Jews.

At least one Jewish activist in Slavuta said the present will be the final chapter in the region's Jewish history. "There is no chance for revival here," said Mikhail Lerman, the leader of the region's Jewish population. "Our future is in Israel."

Kitaykisher disagreed. After the wedding, he said, a young couple came up to him and asked if he could help arrange "a real Jewish wedding" for them, too.

Party planning event

Rick Levine and Lynn Cohen will be holding their annual flagship party planning event Jan. 26th 1999 between 6pm and 10pm at Le Parc Banquet Hall, on Hwy #7 at Leslie Ave. in Markham.

This event will appeal to everyone who is in the planning stages of a wedding,bar or bat mitzvah or corporate event.

The party planning public will mingle with over 70 of Toronto's finest party planning experts who will share invaluable tips and expert advice.

Demonstrations, samples, music, and many helpful activities will take place throughout the show. Dozens of useful contacts can be made in one evening to help a person plan the perfect celebration. Admission and parking are free.

This event is in its seventh year and will be an evening of fun and entertainment for the entire family.

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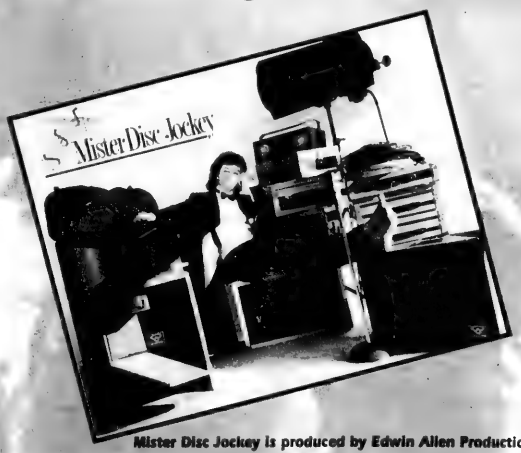

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January–February specials to Israel
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For Better or for Worse cartoonist honored by JWI. *Page 6*

Ottawa man Ben Feinstein celebrates 100th birthday. *Page 17*

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Rabbi's book a deft blend of humor, wisdom and instructive tales of healing. *Page 40*

NCSY, Canada's largest Jewish youth organization, to honor Ed Mirvish. *Page 41*

Sports

Ruby Richman, 64, plans to lace up his basketball shoes once more. *Page 58*

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Lebanon role debated

Pullout considered after losses mount

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — An alarming rise in the number of Israeli troops killed in southern Lebanon has re-ignited debate over the wisdom of Israel's continued presence there.

The debate was sparked by the deaths of seven Israeli soldiers and the wounding of nine others in roadside explosions during the past two weeks in Israel's security zone.

On Sunday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convened his Inner Security Cabinet for the first of what he said would be a series of discussions about the situation in Lebanon.

Israel has long debated whether to remain in southern Lebanon.

Defenders of the policy say it is necessary to protect Israel's northern settlements until comprehensive agreements are reached with Syria and Lebanon.

Critics of the policy have argued that it only leads to more casualties.

Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon said Sunday that negotiations with Syria and the hostilities in southern Lebanon were separate issues that must be resolved independently.

"If we link the security situation in Lebanon to negotiations with Syria, our soldiers in Lebanon and Israel's northern border settlements will become hostages to Syria, and targets for terrorist attacks, which will likely increase," he said.

Sharon has previously called for a phased, unilateral withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, accompanied by a strong warning to Beirut that continued attacks on Israel from its territory would result in the bombardment of essential infrastructure installations.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai has been a leading advocate for an Israeli proposal advanced earlier this year that was rejected by Damascus and Beirut.

Continued on page 37

MISS WORLD 1998
Miss Israel Linor Abargil smiles after being crowned Miss World 1998 in the Seychelle Islands on November 26. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Canada sends 7 to Washington

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada is sending seven delegates – including two well-known Jewish community activists – to this week's historic Washington Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets.

The Canadians will join delegates from 42 countries, including representatives of Jewish organizations and survivor groups, to follow up on last year's London conference on looted Nazi gold.

The Washington meeting, which ends Thursday, will delve into categories that have not been as exhaustively explored as plundered gold or dormant bank accounts – namely, artworks and insurance policies.

Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets

The conference's goals include sharing scholarly research related to Holocaust assets, prodding governments to search and open relevant archives, taking steps to return assets, and advancing Holocaust remembrance and research.

A keynote address is scheduled from U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel will also address delegates.

Special emphasis will be placed on Holocaust education, said delegate Irving Abella, a former president of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

"At the end of the London conference, it was decided it would be inappropriate to end the 20th century arguing over how to divvy up assets," Abella told *The CJN*. "So [in Washington], we'll be stressing Holocaust education, using the Holocaust as a metaphor."

The Canadian team is composed of Abella, Rochelle Wilner, a senior vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada, and the following officials and government representatives:

- Howard Strauss of the Oceans, Environment and Economic Law Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs. He will head the Canadian contingent;
- Charles Black, a senior advisor on insurance for the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association;
- Paul Marsden of the National Archives of Canada;
- Susan Murdock of the Department of Canadian Heritage;

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INSIDE

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's first withdrawal has crea 'Jewish enclaves' in the West Bank. *Please see page 9.*

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Argentine war crimes commission cr ge 36

The News in Brief

CANADA

Paper Gets 'Directive'

VANCOUVER — The editor of a community newspaper here says he has been given a "directive...from high up in the company" not to publish any more articles critical of Israel, following a Nov. 1 column in the *Vancouver Courier* which stated that actions by Hamas are "morally and legally correct."

Scholarships Available

TORONTO — Associated Hebrew Day Schools is accepting scholarship applications for graduates of Jewish day schools. The scholarships are granted annually, and are designed to assist Associated graduates pursue post-secondary Judaic studies in Israel. Candidates must be graduates of Grade 8 at Associated, as well as graduates of a recognized Jewish high school or yeshiva. The deadline for applications is March 31, 1999. Requests may be made in writing to: The Scholarship Committee, Associated Hebrew Day Schools, 6100 Leslie St., Toronto, M2H 3J1.

ISRAEL

Mossad Official Resigns

JERUSALEM — The chief operations officer in Israel's Mossad has stepped down following the recent arrest of two Israelis in Cyprus on charges of spying. The Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* reported that Mossad head Efraim Halevy accepted the resignation of the official.

Jewish Man Charged

JERUSALEM — Israeli prosecutors charged a Jewish man with murdering an elderly Palestinian last month near a West Bank settlement. The suspect, a 28-year-old yeshiva student, turned himself in a few days after the incident.

Airport Hailed

JERUSALEM — Yasser Arafat hailed the opening of the new airport in the Gaza Strip as a step toward Palestinian statehood. The airport will "pave the way to Jerusalem, the capital of Palestine," he said at the inaugural ceremony. A flight from Egypt was the first to arrive, followed by planes from Morocco, Spain, Jordan and Israel.

WORLD

Jews Prime Targets

NEW YORK — Jews and Jewish property were the prime targets of crimes motivated by religious prejudice, the FBI said last week. The bureau's annual report on hate crimes tallied 1,087 crimes directed against Jews and Jewish institutions in 1997, almost 80 percent of all religious-based crimes. Also last week, the Anti-Defamation League released the results of a national poll showing that the number of Americans with strongly anti-Jewish views has dropped from 20 percent to 12 percent over the past six years.

France Absolves Itself

PARIS — After 18 months of research, a commission of experts said last week that none of the buildings or apartments owned by the municipality were seized from Jews under the war-time collaborationist Vichy regime.

Le Pen Ban Reduced

PARIS — A French appeals court has reduced a ban preventing National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen from holding public office to one year. But the far-right politician said he would seek to have the ruling overturned by the country's supreme court.

Jews Condemn Murder

MOSCOW — Jews in Russia are viewing the recent murder of liberal lawmaker Galina Starovoitova as a setback for human rights. The 52-year-old Starovoitova, a longtime supporter of Jewish causes and critic of anti-Semitism, was gunned down Nov. 20 in her St. Petersburg apartment building.

Bush to Israel

AUSTIN, Texas — Gov. George Bush is scheduled to travel to Israel this week for a week-long trip sponsored by the National Jewish Coalition, a Republican group. The visit will be Bush's first, and is widely seen as an effort to shore up Jewish support for his potential presidential candidacy.

Gene Identified

NEW YORK — Scientists have identified a genetic mutation that is a major cause of deafness among Ashkenazi Jews. A test for the mutation is expected to be available next year.

Henry Rosenthal, *Outlook* Editor, Dies at 78

VANCOUVER — Henry Rosenthal, a leader in the Canadian Jewish leftist movement and editor of *Outlook*, died here recently of lung cancer. He was 78.

Rosenthal, a man of many interests, including music, edited *Outlook*, a monthly magazine devoted to advancing Jewish social justice, activism and cultural values. He and Ben Chud became co-editors in 1979, until Chud's death in 1986.

The publication, originally called *Canadian Jewish Outlook*, was founded in Toronto in 1963 as a vehicle for the United Jewish People's Order and other socialist views. It moved to Vancouver in 1979, and continued its strident support for the Israeli peace movement and self-determination for Palestinians, as well as advancing secular, humanistic values.

Rosenthal was born in Russell, Manitoba, and graduated from the University of Toronto. He did graduate studies at the university's school of social work, and went on to direct youth activities at the YMHAs in Winnipeg and Montreal.

He was also a gifted violinist, most recently, with the Kitsilano Trio.

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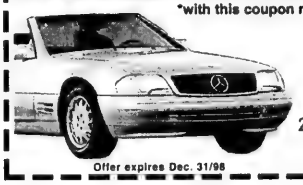

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Canada Christian College drops Jewish studies

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canada Christian College has agreed to drop its department of Jewish studies following a meeting last week with officials of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Congress had expressed concern that the seven-year-old department was a front to missionize to Jews and to train students to convert Jews to Christianity. [*CJN*, Nov. 19].

The Toronto Bible school "has agreed to permanently discontinue its department of Jewish studies in all forms," college president Charles McVety told *The CJN*.

"We want to make it very clear that the Canada Christian College does not approve of or engage in any process to convert Jews to Christianity," McVety added.

The move, however, "is not a very big issue," as the Jewish studies department offered just three of the college's 60 courses, and enrolled about 10 students.

In return for the dropping of the department, CJC has agreed to withdraw a letter it sent recently to Ontario Education minister David Johnson, protesting that an MPP's private members bill was seeking to upgrade the college's status to allow it to grant recognized undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Currently, the college, which enrolls about 150 full- and part-time students, grants only diplomas.

It looks like the bill, drafted by Scarborough Tory MPP Jim Brown, will die before it reaches the legislature, which is scheduled to recess for its winter break soon, McVety said.

He said only one teacher in the department, Malvern Jacobs, "has Jewish origins," and he will be reassigned to other duties.

There are no other courses at the college in missionary work or in ministering to Jews, McVety assured.

In its letter to Johnson, CJC had alleged that a "prime focus" of the college is to proselytize to Jews, and that a number of faculty members had "made a career of focusing on Jews for conversion."

It called on the minister to turn down the college's request to confer degrees.

In a letter to CJC Ontario region chair Keith Landy, McVety said the Canada Christian College "is very pro-Israel," and made a sizeable donation to the 1998 UJA campaign.

Landy told *The CJN* the college was "anxious to please" Congress, and recognized the Jewish community's "serious" concerns about its department of Jewish studies.

CHANUKAH CELEBRATIONS

Jamie Benyovits (left), Max Saltzman and their fellow classmates from United Synagogue Day School are learning about the customs and mitzvot of Chanukah. For more on Chanukah see Chanukah Foods starting on page 30 and Chanukah Gifts starting on page 44.

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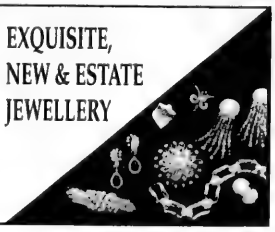

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From the editor's desk

Over the next few weeks, this space will contain reports from and reflections on my visit to Israel last month.

* * *

The son's burden

The General Assembly of the UJA Federations of North America (GA) that concluded in Jerusalem on Nov. 19 was held in the International Conference Centre (ICC).

The ICC is an impressive building. It strides high atop the very first hillside promontory that comes into view for visitors arriving in Jerusalem from the Tel Aviv highway. Set back many metres from the roadside of Jaffa Street, opposite what used to be the city's central bus station, it is known in Hebrew to most people still as *binyanei ha'umah*.

It was an appropriate venue for the GA because of the size of its main assembly hall, the size and number of its meeting rooms and the large expanses of its hallways and corridors.

The hallways were important staging areas. Scores of Israeli organizations set up tables, virtually small kiosks, from which they "pitched" their causes and/or their products to the more than 5,000 delegates and others who spent a great deal of time milling about between and during program sessions.

Indeed, the hallways and corridors of the ICC were as vital to the success of the GA as were the meeting rooms and the assembly hall. They were where people met, exchanged business cards, shmoozed, drank coffee together and argued. The hallways were constantly full of people.

On the second full day of the conference, on my way to a session on The Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin: Implications for Israeli Democracy and Israel-Diaspora Relations, I happened to see Yuval Rabin, the late prime minister's son, standing by himself, off to a corner. I approached him, introduced myself and asked if I might briefly interview him. He agreed, but reminded me more than once of my promise to be brief.

Yuval Rabin stands well above six feet, though the full measure of his height is somewhat abated by a slight slouch. He is 43 years old, an engineer.

I was determined not to compare him to his father, not to diminish the son's individuality by measuring it against his parent's stature, but could not avoid doing so.

As a result, I understood that along with the sorrow, the weight of countless unfair comparisons to his father by strangers such as I, are part of Yuval Rabin's burden.

One is immediately struck by the deep traces of his father's face that appear in his own. Yuval has a much softer voice than his father's famous basso profundo. He seemed bashful, at times even uncomfortable answering questions, hardly like his self-assured, confident father.

He was at the GA promoting the cause of Dor Shalom, a grassroots movement founded in the wake of his father's assassination. Rabin is the movement's lay chair.

He described the group as "a social movement based on action, not on words." He sees its main purpose as improving Israeli society through both social action and education.

The group's six-page statement of purpose, which Rabin gave to me so as to avoid having to provide answers that appeared in the written material, is an eloquent call to arms.

"The assassination [of Yitzhak Rabin] cast a heavy shadow on the image of Israeli society. It exposed racism, violence, indifference and alienation, thus leading us to the conclusion that we must act immediately to effect a positive change in Israeli society. We believe that it is incumbent upon each and every one of us to take part in this change.

"Consequently, we have committed ourselves to taking an active part in shaping Israeli society as a community of citizens with equal rights who, together, are building their future and taking responsibility for the situation around them.

"We call upon everyone who deems themselves part of Israeli society, irrespective of gender, religion or nationality, to take part in this change and to act together with us to further the goals of democracy, social justice and peace."

The group campaigned in eight contests in the recently concluded municipal elections. Rabin said they were successful in securing what he referred to as the "education portfolio" in seven of the eight contests for Dor Shalom members.

Their offices are in Tel Aviv, but according to Rabin, they have a "wide presence throughout the country."

In what must have sounded to him like a trite and obviously expected question, I asked Rabin whether he felt the country had changed in the three years since his father's murder.

He answered slowly, thoughtfully, free of any discernible anger or of Pollyanna-like optimism.

"It's too soon to tell," he finally offered. "I'm sure there have been changes, but any evaluations based on my sporadic observations could be distorted by one or another of my experiences. I cannot quantify the changes."

He seemed not to be quite satisfied with this answer. He looked at me; he looked away; then looked at me again. He added to his previous answer: "A lot has changed. Overall, there is more awareness and more caring." But he did not elaborate.

I then asked him if there was any message he would like to impart to the younger generation of Canadian Jews. He had no hesitation.

"Get involved with Israel."

Our interview was over.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

A NOBEL CEREMONY

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat share the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, December 1994.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Wye's impact on Israeli domestic politics examined

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — "Is there a new Benjamin Netanyahu... or is there a new post Wye agreement Likud Party?"

That was the provocative question posed at the outset of a speech by guest speaker Dr. David Goldberg, director of research for the Canada-Israel Committee, at the recent Herut-Likud Betar-Tagar general meeting.

Goldberg, who spoke about the impact of the Wye Memorandum on Israeli domestic politics, did not attempt to answer his question directly, but gave varying political interpretations of the agreement. He left audience members to make their own individual judgements on Netanyahu.

Goldberg said the agreement shifted the balance of power among Israeli political parties, and he predicted the change in the political landscape may be more permanent than the Wye agreement.

He said the accord has made for "strange political bed fellows." Many prominent Likud Party MKs have accused Netanyahu of abandoning Likud ideology and have refused to endorse the agreement, so Netanyahu had to rely on Labor Party support to get the accord ratified in the Knesset.

The opposition "had no choice but to support Netanyahu" and pass the bill to avoid a general election, Goldberg said.

"New general elections would have delayed implementation of the Wye agreement. Netanyahu could have blamed Labor for the delay.

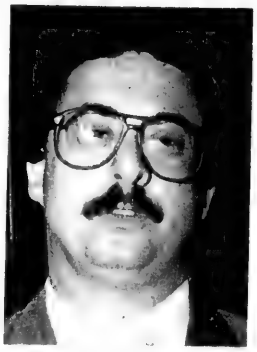
"Netanyahu implemented what Labor would have done in office but at a different pace," he said.

Netanyahu is the first nationalist party leader to give back "although grudgingly" part of "Eretz Yisrael," Goldberg said.

Comparing the Wye agreement to the Camp David accord, he noted that Menachem Begin returned territory to Egypt – the Sinai – which was not historically part of biblical Israel.

Careful not to claim any view as his own, Goldberg presented several opposing political perspectives on why Netanyahu accepted the Wye Memorandum.

He said Netanyahu's supporters claim the prime minister has been a "savior" of the Oslo accords by plugging holes in the original agreement.



Dr. David Goldberg

According to Goldberg, defenders of the government say Netanyahu is holding firm to security measures to ensure that the Palestinian Authority (PA) is in full compliance with Oslo, including the U.S.-verified removal of anti-Israel clauses from the Palestinian national charter.

Netanyahu's supporters argue that he is addressing a widespread desire for the peace process to proceed, "but on better terms" than Oslo, he said.

A second explanation, Goldberg said, attributes Netanyahu's acceptance of Wye to his pragmatism: he needed to address the popular desire for peace as well as abide by Israel's previous international commitments.

He said that, as a pragmatist, Netanyahu had "to strike the best deal possible," since a halt to the peace process might have alienated Israel from its allies in North America and Europe.

Indeed, Goldberg said, the signing of Wye brought $1 billion (US) in American aid into Israeli government coffers, and it enhanced military cooperation between the two countries in the form of a signed memorandum of strategic cooperation.

"Israel has always wanted to be a formal ally of the U.S. This is the closest thing possible... The mutual defence agreement is the best they could have hoped for. Now Israel is assured military support in the long term."

He said the left views Netanyahu's actions as Machiavellian, accusing him of "using the appearance of diplomacy to improve his election prospects in order to get support from the centre of the electorate," which comprises between 30 and 40 percent of the vote.

The left, according to Goldberg, predicts that once re-elected, Netanyahu "will show his true ideological colors and make it impossible for the Palestinians to complete" the peace process.

Other participants in the general meeting included Harry Wolle, president of Herut-Likud Ontario, Baruch Liverant, the new Betar-Tagar shaliach, Sam Shainhouse, national president of Herut-Likud and Nir Katzour from Tagar.

CORRECTION

TORONTO — An article in last week's *CJN* on the appointment of Norm Cohen as honorary lieutenant-colonel of a Canadian military unit incorrectly stated he had been a Machalnik, or a foreign volunteer in Israel's 1948 war of Independence. In fact, Cohen was, in 1986, a volunteer in Israel's army.

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Popular cartoonist honored as JWI Woman of the Year

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Lynn Johnston, creator of the comic strip *For Better or For Worse*, received Jewish Women International of Toronto's (JWI) Woman of the Year Award at the organization's 42nd annual Covenant Breakfast.

The comic strip, which appears in over 1,700 newspapers around the world and has a following of over 100 million readers, highlights the daily life of the Pattersons.

"The daily problems, triumphs, tears and smiles of the Pattersons are situations with which readers readily identify," said Rhonda Groberman, Woman of the Year chair.

"*For Better or For Worse* touches comic strip readers as few cartoons ever do. Lynn's sterling eye for detail, and her uncanny sense of what real parents and children struggle with daily are a big part of her success. Lynn is a cartoonist who doesn't shrink from controversy, but approaches issues with great thoughtfulness and empathy," she said.

Johnston was the first woman recipient of the Reuben Award for Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year in 1985, and received the award for best syndicated comic strip in 1992. She was also named to the Order of Canada in 1992. In 1994, she was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, and in 1997, she was inducted into the International Museum of Cartoon Art's Hall of Fame.

Johnston's work exemplifies what JWI works for, said Anna Lee Gould, president JWI Canada. "You continue to strengthen the lives of women, children and families. Through your cartoon strip you have identified issues that families must deal with, and have used your sense of humor to show that everything is relative.

"You remind us that a sense of humor can go a long way in seeing the positive side of most situations. You share our concerns for the well-being of children," she said.

Johnston contributes to many charities near her home in Corbeil, Ont., said Groberman. Her current project is a community centre for high-risk teenagers, called Connections. She and her husband, Rod, are the major supporters of an orphanage in Honduras.

"That is part of the gift, the joy of being given the gift," said Johnston. "The prosperity it has brought can be used in many ways, besides, once in a while, making someone laugh."

Past recipients of the Woman of the Year Award include June Callwood, Dr. Bette Stephenson, Margaret Laurence, Abby Hoffman, Karen Kain, Doreen Wicks, Gerda Frieberg and Vicki Keith.

Lynn Johnston (inset) with her popular Patterson cartoon family.

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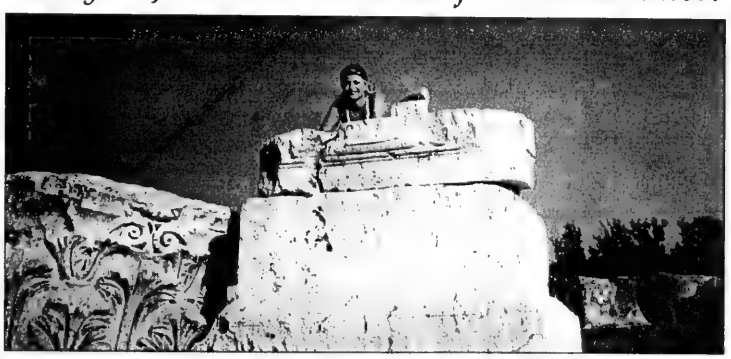

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Greater Toronto Area

Thornhill man finds support for new Conservative shul

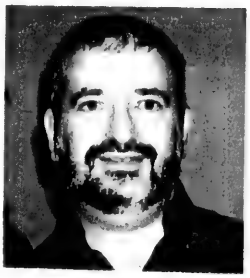
By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — Cliff Hendler, a Thornhill resident since the late 1980s, has been unhappy for several years over the lack of a neighborhood Conservative synagogue where he, his wife Ellen and their three sons can pray together.

Recently, he decided to take some action. Two weeks ago he ran an ad in *The CJN* announcing a meeting for those interested in establishing a Conservative synagogue in the area bounded by Dufferin Street, Steeles Avenue, Yonge Street and Highway 7.

It seems he struck a chord. Forty people showed up at his house for an evening meeting last week, filling the combined living room/dining room and spilling out into the hall. Over two dozen more had expressed interest, but couldn't make the meeting, said Hendler.

Currently, the area – where Jews represent about 28 percent of the population – is served by one Reform congregation, about half a dozen Orthodox congregations (including the year-old Sephardic Kehila Centre) and one independent



Cliff Hendler

– B'nai Shalom North Congregation – which defines itself as traditional Conservative, although it currently offers mixed seating only on the High Holy Days.

The Jewish population of greater York Region is well over 45,000, and is expected to grow to over 75,000 by the year 2011, according to a recent UJA Federation study Hendler cited at the meeting. Over 25,000 are between the ages of 30 and 49. Hendler, 45, and the vast majority of those at the meeting also fall into that range.

The consensus – to the extent a consensus is reachable at such a meeting – was that people want a community shul geared to families, and offering equal participation for women in the context of a fairly traditional service.

Hendler, a mediator, made it clear as he chaired the meeting, that he was not there in his professional capacity. The purpose of the initial gathering was to address issues, not resolve them, he said.

For the past year, Hendler has been in contact with representatives of various Conservative synagogues, and with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (the Conservative umbrella) here and in New York, and with UJA Federation.

He has identified two main issues for the nascent congregation:

- How does the shul get started?
- What type of service do people want?

There are a number of ways a congregation can begin, he said, whether independently, as a satellite of a southern synagogue or by joining forces with an existing synagogue if it moves into the area.

Another variation would be to start independently, but form a "strategic alliance" with an existing synagogue.

Barry Lerner, a vice-president of Beth Sholom Synagogue (which represents a traditional Conservative approach but is not officially affiliated), spoke of the type of assistance his Eglinton Avenue congregation has offered to Beit Rayim Synagogue, an egalitarian Conservative synagogue in Richmond Hill, in areas like joint programming and life cycle events.

A number of members of Beit Rayim were also at the meeting. The congregation will be re-assessing their needs in light of their growing membership, said Rick Goldberger, foundation committee chair.

Meeting attendees discussed whether it would be viable to have two philosophically similar congregations within a short drive from each other.

Other issues included whether there were enough people who would attend weekly services (of those at the meeting, only half are currently affiliated with a synagogue); and the question of who would lead the services.

There were a handful of qualified lay leaders at the meeting, including Hendler.

A core committee that arose from the meeting will meet again next week. For more information, call Hendler at 250-5050 (days) or 905-764-8128 (evenings) or e-mail him at [chendler@shaw.wave.ca].

Pictured [from left] are Michael Soberman, director of Community Services and Youth Activities; Grant Waddell, Niagara Regional Police Service and Mark Cross.

St. Catharines man honored for info on cemetery vandal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Good Samaritan has reaped a financial reward for his help in bringing an anti-Semitic cemetery vandal to justice.

Canadian Jewish Congress recently presented St. Catharines resident Mark Cross with a cheque for $5,000 for providing police with information leading to the arrest and conviction of Michael Soles, who had knocked over 43 headstones in the city's Jewish cemetery.

Soles was sentenced to 10 months in jail and fined $4,000.

On April 25, Cross woke up and saw a man smashing grave markers in the cemetery across the street from his apartment. He immediately called police and gave them a description of the vandal. He later testified against Soles in court.

During the trial, some spectators gave the Nazi salute, and police escorted Jewish community members to their cars, the St. Catharines *Standard* reported.

Cross, 20, was presented with the cheque by Michael Soberman, director of community services and youth activities for Congress. "You are an example to all young people," Soberman told Cross. "Your actions demonstrate this type of hate crime will not be tolerated in our community."

Sam Walters, president of Congregation B'Nai Israel, commended the Niagara Regional Police for acting quickly to apprehend Soles.

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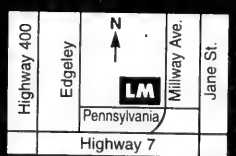

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Awaiting the results

These words are being written merely hours before the people of Quebec elect a new provincial government. Pundits and pollsters have conceded the election to the Parti Québécois (PQ) and its incumbent premier, Lucien Bouchard. Liberal leader Jean Charest has been declared the loser.

If the pre-election polls prove accurate, they will have pointed to the fundamental paradox of the election campaign.

The same polls that confidently predict a PQ victory, assert with equal confidence that less than 44 percent of the voters are in favor of separatism. Thus, a majority of the "soft nationalist" francophone voters, the group to whom both leaders directed their appeals throughout the campaign, were unable, or more precisely, were unwilling to match their political ideology to their political leader.

Bouchard is a committed separatist. And yet, it appears a majority of the "soft" francophone voters willingly ignore his commitment to separation. He openly suggested to voters that he would be willing to renew federalism. Yet how can renewed federalism be compatible with separation? How is renewed federalism compatible with "the winning conditions for the next referendum?" How could Bouchard present a policy of renewed federalism to the rank and file of his party and claim at the same time to be fulfilling their separatist aspirations?

When writers point out these key contradictions in the premier's core policy, he tends to deride them, or as he did last weekend accuse them of deriding him, of demonizing him. "I am not the great Satan," the premier said, knowing that no one had actually said that of him.

Whatever the outcome of the election, federalists will have a great deal of work to do and a great number of difficult decisions to make actually and truly trying to renew federalism.

But, as logic and experience suggest, that can only be done with people and leaders who believe in federalism, who, in short, believe in Canada.

We await the results of the election.

The Lords' law

Some weeks ago in this space, we condemned the decision by Great Britain's High Court of Justice that quashed the arrest warrants issued against former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet. He had been arrested in Britain at the request of the Spanish government. "How can conscience acquiesce to the notion that committing atrocities or ordering genocide are protected activities of a head of state?" we asked.

Apparently, the collective conscience of the highest appeal court in Britain, the House of Lords, could not acquiesce to the notion either. In a 3-2 decision last week, the Lords overturned the High Court ruling and decided that Pinochet should be compelled to submit to the due process of the extradition hearings being requested by the Spanish government.

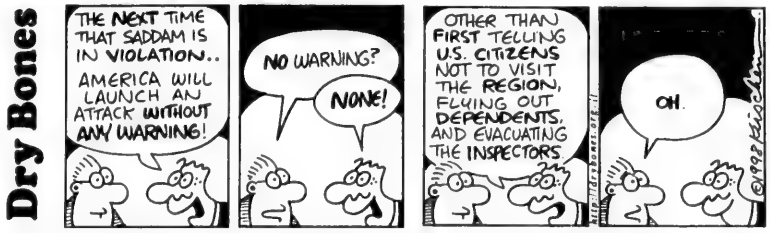
Speaking for the majority, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead said: "International law recognizes, of course, that the function of a head of state may include activities which are wrongful, even illegal, by the law of his own state or by the laws of other states. But international law has made plain that certain types of conduct, including torture and hostage-taking, are not acceptable conduct on the part of anyone. This applies as much to heads of state, or even more so, as it does to everyone else.

"The contrary conclusion would make a mockery of international law."

The question of Pinochet's actual extradition to Spain now reverts to the Home Secretary, Jack Straw. But at least there is an unequivocally authoritative statement of law dispelling the proposition that torture and genocide are protected activities of a head of state.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"And Yaacov was left alone; and a man struggled with him until the breaking hours of the morn." *Parshat Vayishlach*


Dry Bones
THE NEXT TIME THAT SADDAM IS IN VIOLATION..
AMERICA WILL LAUNCH AN ATTACK WITHOUT ANY WARNING!
NO WARNING?
NONE!
OTHER THAN FIRST TELLING U.S. CITIZENS NOT TO VISIT THE REGION, FLYING OUT DEPENDENTS, AND EVACUATING THE INSPECTORS
OH.

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JF&CS help to homeless is open policy

Re: Ron Csillag's (*CJN*, Nov. 12) article regarding Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS). The article describes an initiative by freelance social worker Lillian Freedman, with the support of JF&CS, to locate and assist homeless Jews in Toronto.

In fact JF&CS does serve the homeless. The agency provides a wide range of services to assist and support the most vulnerable and disenfranchised of Toronto's Jewish community. In the past six months, with reference to homelessness, JF&CS has helped 45 persons, providing counseling, money and assistance in locating and securing accommodations. Of these individuals, 10 were new clients, 10 were re-opened as clients due to a housing crisis, and 25 were clients with whom the agency maintained ongoing contact. Our case-workers indicate that 21 of these individuals were homeless and living in shelters, transitional houses, or in the case of one person, a car. Two individuals were homeless after lengthy hospitalizations, and two left their homes due to violent domestic situations. Eight individuals were about to be evicted.

Freedman's concerns regarding JF&CS' guidelines constricting support to the homeless are not accurate or consistent with the agency's commitment to and record of social responsibility. As a community agency, JF&CS has a board of directors representing a cross section of Jewish Toronto. Our programs are developed in response to community need and with the community's participation and collaboration. Ours is an inclusive process, not one characterized by closed doors, as Freedman suggests.

Dr. Richard L. Cummings
President JF&CS

Supplementary schools have role to play

I noted your article (*CJN*, Nov. 19), headed "Rabbi questions the value of supplementary Hebrew school."

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl stipulates greater emphasis should be put on Hebrew day schools instead of supplementary schools. While his point of view is both commendable and understandable, until such time as all Jewish parents, with or without community support, can afford to send their children to day schools, there is a role for supplementary schools – albeit a limited one.

Further, the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, out of its 1997-98 provision of $7,536,207 for Jewish education, allocated less than $100,000 to supplementary schools — an amount substantially less and disproportionate than that allocated to day schools when one compares the number of supplementary and day school students.

Charles Abshez
Toronto

Men are also subject to spousal abuse

Re: Article by Carolyn Blackman on spouse abuse (*CJN*, Nov. 5).

I contend that men abused are more ashamed to seek professional help from local agencies, and their plight, though severe, is often less noticed.

It is true that male muscle can become life threatening. It is equally true that a woman's sharp tongue-lashing can be as castrating as a surgeon's knife.

A Yiddish proverb says: "*A patch forgeyt, ober a vort shteyt.*" A blow may sometimes be less wounding than a verbal diatribe. Both are demeaning slaps in the face.

Physical and emotional abuse, therefore, is not exclusive to one gender.

Nathan Garnick
Toronto

Israel not given to Jews on a silver platter

Re the article by Frances Kraft on Rabbi Benito Garzon's visit to Toronto (*CJN*, Nov. 12).

The rabbi stated in his lecture that Israel does not enjoy real Jewish identity.

To my question about this, the rabbi gave this explanation: God gave Israel to the Jewish people in a hurry on a silver platter. It was only three years after the Holocaust. It took the Israelites, who came out of bondage from Egypt, 40 years to forget that we were slaves.

Permit me to respond. We fought hard against all odds for our country. No one gave it to us on a silver platter. We lost thousands of young and old men and women prior to and following the establishment of Israel. Since then, we withstood a number of wars to secure and safeguard this little piece of land.

Every Jew worldwide must be aware by now, I hope, of the concrete and crucial fact that Israel was not given to us on any kind of platter. And no one should forget that we fought with our flesh and blood, and paid dearly to achieve Israel's independence. Unfortunately, we are still at it with the hope of securing real peace with the Arabs.

Henry Charles Cowen
1948 veteran
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Netanyahu's first withdrawal

By ZVI BAR'EL
Ha'aretz Daily Newspapers Ltd.

A new term has been added to the semantic creations that have accompanied the peace process. The "security suit" refers to the winding fences, cement trenches, watchtowers and masses of soldiers whose job it is to insulate the settlements from the Palestinian enemy.

This new security zone, its modern wall and tower, and "Jewish enclaves" is a brand-new geopolitical reality in the territories. It turns out that it's impossible to create Palestinian enclaves in order to smash the possibility of Palestinian territorial contiguity, without creating Jewish enclaves cut off from the rest of the country.

And there will be more of these enclaves, like Kadim and Ganim, as the withdrawal continues into the second redeployment and then the third, so that in the next three months the IDF will have to tailor several dozen of these new "security suits."

The settlers know very well what life is going to be like inside these pressure suits: the waiting for a military convoy to shuttle them back and forth, in and out of the enclave; the increased presence of soldiers in small civilian settlements; the frequent Palestinian roadblocks; and the deliberation before every trip outside the settlement.

What appears reasonable on colorful maps, becomes unreasonable in reality. Some have already announced plans to return to Israel. What bothers them is not the nearby Arabs, but life inside a fortress. Others, who gave up the safe haven of Israel – or didn't save enough to buy one – will have to wait for their chance.

Until then, they can join the hard core ideological centre of the settlement movement that will continue to fight the security agreement and peace that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu brought back from Washington.

That's the real meaning of Netanyahu's first withdrawal, even if its official title is the second withdrawal. From now on, this is the Oslo of Netanyahu, the prime minister of Israel, not Netanyahu the representative of the settlers.

He can take pride in his achievements: the anti-incitement decree that he squeezed out of Arafat; the arrest of the terror suspects that have already been captured; the renewed fight of the Palestinian Authority (PA) against the Hamas; and if indeed the PLO charter is annulled, he can claim that, too, as an impressive achievement.

In practice, Netanyahu improved certain aspects of the Oslo accords. Make fun of how the right-wing ideology was stunned, if you want. But it wasn't the first time.

Netanyahu may or may not keep his word on this agreement. His representatives will try to steal another bit of road or prevent the handing over of another little dunam. And that also won't be for the first time. But Netanyahu's Oslo has already succeeded where others have failed.

He has driven a wedge between the settlers and themselves.

He's returned the settlement movement to its first days, when there was a clear distinction between those settlers who were God's very own messengers on earth, and those who simply wanted a better standard of living. The security suits that he's promising the settlers won't fit both kinds of settlers.

The settlement leadership already understands that it will have to decide what's more important – more settlers on less land, or a desperate race for ideology.

Should they wear the security suits as a guarantee of remaining on the land, or reject the suit because it will force the departure of the ideological soldiers of the movement?

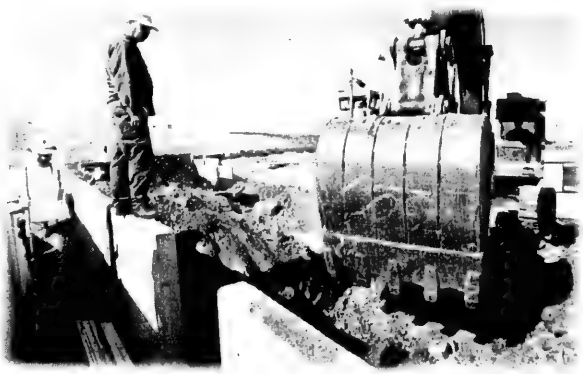
Netanyahu's agreements have created the real paradox: If the settlers give up their homes because the Palestinian border is so close, it will mean they've given up their argument of coexistence that they've clung to for so long, in order to prove their settlements are not obstacles to peace.

But if they stay, it will be proof that the dreaded peace process is, in fact, much more vital than they want to admit, swiping the rug out from under their ideological feet.

And the dilemma at the end of the road contains a far more fundamental question: won't the security argument turn into the pin that punctures the ideological balloon? Because you can't demand that the IDF stay in order to protect the land, and at the same time reject the IDF because it makes life uncomfortable for the settlers. And when the security argument is no longer in force, all that's left is a stark naked ideology.

An Israeli wrapped in his prayer shawl shows his pistol as an armed Israeli soldier stands nearby during a morning prayer vigil in which some 50 settlers blocked a main road at sunrise. Settlers say this move was the beginning of an intensive protest campaign against any new peace deal with the Palestinians.

Jewish settler leaders and Israeli army officers study maps showing the Israeli redeployment from 13 percent of the West Bank. [photos RNS/Reuters]



Israeli soldiers build concrete fortifications on the outskirts of this West Bank Jewish enclave.

The Wye time line

Ha'aretz Staff

Nov. 20: 9.1 percent of the West Bank handed over to full or partial PA control, and 250 Palestinian prisoners were freed from Israeli prisons.

Nov. 23: The joint committee against incitement convened.

Nov. 24: Dahaniya Airport in Gaza was inaugurated by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, for whom the airport is officially named.

Nov. 30: Donor countries aiding the PA meet in Washington, at the invitation of President Bill Clinton.

Dec. 6: Palestinian police begin searches for illegal weapons.

Dec. 14: Israel to withdraw from five percent of the West Bank, which will be redesignated from Area C (full Israeli control) to Area B (joint Israeli-Palestinian control)

Mid-December: Clinton is to visit Gaza for the first time and attend a meeting of the Palestinian National Council called by Arafat, to approve changes in the PLO charter. Clinton will also visit Israel.

End of January 1999: The third and final stage of the Israeli withdrawal is due to begin. Israel is to hand over six percent of the West Bank in Area C, with five percent becoming part of Area B and one percent part reverting to Area A under total Palestinian control. Another 7.1 percent of West Bank land, now considered part of Area B, will become part of Area A.

Opinions

Making connection with history

Show, don't tell. Various members of the journalism faculty drilled this into my head a hundred times last year. A good story shows the reader what is happening instead of a mere repetition of what has happened. That is what ran through my mind as I sat for three hours watching three student-produced plays about the Holocaust.

Jennifer Fox in Halifax

Traces is a set of three plays by Ida Fink, a Holocaust survivor now living in Israel. The plays, produced by the King's Theatrical Society (KTS) and the Contemporary Studies Program, were performed at King's as a commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

The plays were also part of the Terezin Studio Project. The project, which was in Halifax from early September to mid-November, is a collection of films, art, lectures and theatre about Theresienstadt, a concentration camp in Czechoslovakia.

Theresienstadt, or Terezin, was set up to be the model Jewish ghetto as a method of propaganda. Jews in this camp were "encouraged" to show off their artistic abilities, in order to make the Nazis look good.

Much of the art in the Terezin Studio Project comes from Jews who were in the concentration camp.

The plays produced by the KTS, and the other events of the Terezin Studio Project, are an embodiment of the journalism school's "show don't tell" mantra. History can be taught in many different ways. Through lectures or trips to museums, students can learn about what happened to who, and why. But teaching history through art adds another dimension – an emotional connection between the event and the audience.

The three plays in Traces – *The Table*, *Traces* and *A Description of a Morning*, each tell the story of a different aspect of the Holocaust.

In *A Description of a Morning*, a husband and wife are hiding in an attic during the war. Both are attempting to come to terms with the death of their daughter. The wife is overwhelmed by the tragedy and can hardly function, while the husband attempts to erase it from his mind, concentrating on Latin verbs and finding new ways to describe a beautiful day.

Traces, takes place two years after the liberation of the camps. A young woman searches for her sister, who was sent to a small Polish community to hide. No one seems to know what happened to the 12 year-old girl and everyone just wants to forget the last few years.

The Table is the furthest removed, timewise, from the horrors in Europe. A lawyer interviews four survivors from the same town, in hopes that one of them can help him with a trial against war criminals.

However, after more than 20 years, no one can say for certain that they saw any murders, though they all know that 800 people died in one day.

As I sat in the Pit, the old King's Chapel basement that now houses all KTS productions, watching mostly Christian students reenact one of the most painful topics of the 20th century, I was proud of my school. Though the Jewish population is growing, I think of King's as an Anglican influenced institution. It's hard to forget that King's used to be a divinity school when the bell in the chapel rings three times a day to announce services.

Watching the plays was a draining experience. At some points I didn't want to watch what they were showing me, I just wanted to go home.

I believe in "Never Forget" so I continued to watch, as did the students and Haligonians who attended the performances.

Learning the historic dates and statistics is necessary. So is making a connection with history. When someone is brave enough to show you, through a painting or a poem or a play, the impact of a world-altering event, you watch.

Countdown to the winter break

The student body is bundling up. For the past month meteorologists, professors and politicians have each been hanging black clouds over our heads.

Erica Horn in Montreal

The meteorologists have been urging us never to leave home without our boots, mitts, neck-warmers, scarves, hats and winter coats. Five centimetres of snow they threaten. Brace yourselves!

The professors have unloaded the last of our assignments, before we hibernate for exam period into the high stacks of notes, stencils and textbooks. Those of us who are not afraid of large, dark and unfriendly libraries have been encouraged to pack lunches (and in some cases breakfasts and dinners too) and head to the library starting *now*. What's the rush?

All the promises and cutthroat threats thrown from one party to the other during the provincial election campaign has made me sick of reading the newspapers and watching the news. No one can get his or her story straight.

It's a confusion of he said, she said, hearsay.

Students can't trust anyone these days. Where's our snow? Ever since I started wearing my big bright purple puffy jacket to school, no one can sit directly next to me because I take up too much space. (I have never had that problem before!) In a nutshell, the meteorologist has not only made me seem anti-social, but has led students to be weary of every step they take outside of their home or the library. (Do we really need extra stress?)

Tomorrow morning we could wake up and hear them announcing another ice storm and a lot of us would have trouble believing the announcer. I am sure most of us have read the story, *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, haven't they?

Students expecting a short repose before finals were expecting too much. I am finding myself going to bed later and later, and rubbing my eyes more and more from sitting in front of my computer screen. One more 20-page paper may impair my vision forever! Now, maybe this is all due to the extra time it takes me to get dressed to venture into the great cold outdoors, but that is unlikely.

I am not a big fan of the library. It houses dust, darkness and people who appear far more serious than I do – and that makes me nervous. I prefer studying in the comfort of my own home, where the distractions of e-mail, the phone and food are readily at hand. I am not a big eater, but I like to know that if I want a distraction, it is right near by and not six floors away.

Will or won't there be another referendum? It seemed that if we were to sound a bell every time the word "referendum" was mentioned during the election campaign that we would need an air raid siren to sound indefinitely.

I must have been fooled by the name "election campaign" – I thought we were supposed to elect a new premier of Quebec. I am not a politics person. I have my views and I knew who I wanted to vote for (and, okay, I tried to persuade others to vote the same), but I don't care much for the politics of politics. It is too much for me. No one sticks to what they say, no one remembers what they said and still, no one stops saying.

Look outside your windows. Watch students heading to school. They should look warm, tired and confused. What we have needed in the past month is a direct line to the weather centre, eye drops and earplugs. All we have received is a meteorologist who must be watching weather maps from last January, professors who are determined to have us work for their money and politicians... actually, I don't really know what they were doing.

It's no wonder the students have started bundling up. I'm scared to roll out of bed in the morning. The television, radio, newspaper, computer and even the walk to the bus are newly found hazards to my health. Countdown to winter break has begun!

Dry Bones
THE DANGER IS NOT THAT NETANYAHU
WILL SOON HEAD UP A UNITY GOVERNMENT!
THE DANGER IS THAT HE'LL SOON BE HEADING...
...A LABOR GOVERNMENT!

How old is John Glenn?

I admit freely that the space flight of Sen. John Glenn has been for me – as for many others in my age group – an uplifting and encouraging experience. After all, the senator is chronologically 77 years old, and became a member of Discovery crew despite some vigorous objections.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Those who opposed his participation were of the opinion that anyone of that age was unfit to withstand the rigors of space flight, while Glenn himself and those who took *his* side, asserted that it was important to find out just what – if anything – this kind of experience would do to his body. In other words, he would be the first in a series of experiments that would determine whether bone loss, for instance, which seems to affect all astronauts, is somehow related to the natural bone loss of aging people. In time we will, of course, hear how scientists evaluate the findings that will come out of the flight of Discovery – but meanwhile, for me at least, Glenn has defied a good many of the stereotypical presuppositions that are coursing through the public mind.

For the public considers chronological age to be a good measurement of what a person is like. After reaching 65, one is generally pronounced unfit for work; society adopts a rejectionist attitude, and considers chronological age to yield definitive measurements.

But there is also biological age, which is another way of saying that each person ages differently: some more quickly, some more slowly. Having been in the United States during the flight, I was a happy witness to the excitement that attended Glenn's venture. Suddenly, older people came out of the closet and admitted that they had long felt discriminated against, rejected and otherwise demeaned because of their chronological years. In Winnipeg too, I understand, older people gathered and watched the launching of Discovery, cheering every moment of it. They, like many others of their age group, identified with the senator.

It happens that I am in the midst of writing a book about being old and have become all too aware of the discrimination that my age group suffers – in language, in economic fact and a dozen other ways. Above all, older people want to be recognized as individuals. In Winnipeg, one participant shouted: "He shows that he is still a person," and that is the sense that others shared in spades.

Getting old has its problems, even as it has its advantages, and I hope to talk about it in greater detail in my book. But meanwhile, hurray for Glenn who has fulfilled an ambition at a time in life when people are said to have no ambition at all because they are believed to be incapable of experiencing the ordinary sentiments that others have.

We oldsters are a large part of the population and our percentage will grow with every decade. Glenn has given all of us a boost, and I hope has instructed those still young, that old age is not to be feared, despised or otherwise looked to as a time of grief, agony and final decline. It can also be, and for many of us is, a time of fulfillment of many hopes, and Glenn has earned our gratitude for showing that it can indeed be so.

The Kirshner File

A life blemished by anti-Semitism

Ernest Sirluck, a Jewish boy from Winkler, Manitoba, has left his mark in the sand, but at some cost to himself.

He was the first Jew to be appointed to a department of English literature in a Canadian university. Later, he was graduate dean and vice-president of the University of Toronto, then president of the University of Manitoba.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

It sounds as if he had a charmed life. But that is not exactly the truth. A child of his times, Sirluck was dogged by anti-Semitism from his youth in the Prairies to his adulthood in Toronto.

Reading through the lines of *First Generation* (University of Toronto Press), his candid autobiography, one can only conclude that his bouts with blatant and subtle bigotry had an ambivalent effect on him.

On the one hand, the sting of being singled out for opprobrium made him tougher and stronger. On the other hand, this endemic anti-Semitism induced a kind of self-hatred, a not uncommon phenomenon.

Born in 1918, Sirluck grew up in a predominantly German Mennonite village, the son of Isaac and Ruchel. Isaac, who immigrated to Canada by way of Britain and Argentina, was an itinerant pedlar, a partner in a general store and a foreman on a farm owned by Yosel Nitikman, his father-in-law.

From 1923 to 1930, Winkler's Jewish population was big enough to support a synagogue and a cantor who doubled as a teacher and a butcher. During this period, Sirluck got his first whiff of anti-Semitism when he was jeered and physically attacked. He fought back, but to little avail. And, as he admits, he had to struggle with self-abnegation.

Winkler was affected by the rise of National Socialism in Germany, being "a fertile ground for Nazi propaganda."

Sirluck presumes that its churches and Sunday schools probably did not pass on Nazi racial dogma, but he accuses them of having condoned it and of having left the indelible impression that Jews crucified Jesus.

He recalls that a number of families in Winkler subscribed to Nazi publications, and that one of them, the operators of the telephone exchange, pasted sheets of *Der Sturmer* and *Volkischer Beobachter* – two of the most loathsome newspapers of the genre – in the windows fronting Main Street. With good reason, Sirluck is still outraged by the fact that the provincial government voiced no objection to these obscene displays.

Winkler, too, had a flourishing branch of the fascist Canadian Nationalist party, which was affiliated with Adrien Arcand's Blue Shirts in Quebec. Sirluck was badly shaken when he discovered that someone whom he liked and trusted was president of the local chapter.

As if to soothe his feelings, Sirluck's friend said, "There's nothing personal in it, and I hope we can stay friends." But he would have none of that. "I never spoke to him again," he writes. "I never fully got over the pain of the betrayal." And in a menacing aside, he adds: "It was one of the sharpest and most hurtful lessons I ever received about how precarious the friendship of a gentile for a Jew can be."

Having graduated from high school, Sirluck went to Winnipeg to attend the University of Manitoba. "At the university," he observes disconcertingly, "I soon found that although anti-Semitism was not as crude and overt as in Winkler it was nevertheless widespread and institutionalized."

There was a Jewish quota at the medical school. The faculty of engineering discouraged Jewish students. There was a glaring absence of Jewish teachers. Fraternities and sororities were segregated.

Not being able to accept the status quo, Sirluck joined a Jewish fraternity and the Menorah Society (a discussion group). But in the classroom, library, common room, and off campus, he cultivated friendships with Jews and non-Jews alike.

Finishing his BA degree, Sirluck realized that his desire to become a professor of English had hardened into an intention. But there was a problem, as his advisor pointed out. Would he be able to find a university job? It was not an idle question, since there were no Jewish professors of English in Canada at the time. Sirluck was willing to take the risk. "I was determined to try."

In 1940, he enrolled for postgraduate studies at the University of Toronto. When he registered, he wrote "none" in the space for religion because he thought that the question was "improper and potentially discriminatory," and because he felt free "to pick and choose what I would observe."

Having declared himself irreligious, Sirluck applied for the Leonard Fellowship and scholarships, which were restricted to "white, Protestant, Christian, British Canadian students." His application was rejected. "Someone must have informed the school that I was Jewish," he notes.

Years later, as a senior administrator at the University of Toronto, Sirluck called for the removal of all restrictive clauses in awards. The motion passed, but the Leonard Foundation refused to comply. In 1982, after 20 years of fruitless negotiations, the university finally dropped the foundation's awards.

When Sirluck enrolled in a Canadian army course for non-commissioned officers, he again wrote "none" for religion. The officer in charge said, "You have to have a religion." Sirluck explained that if he fell into German hands during combat, the word "Jew" on his name-tag would be a distinct disadvantage. The officer suggested a compromise of sorts: "C of E," or Church of England.

Personally speaking, I cringed when I read this passage.

As it happened, Sirluck needn't have worried about being captured by the Wehrmacht. As a Jewish officer in the Canadian forces, he was the butt of prejudice, coming in for "gratuitous criticism" and being subjected to "extra duties (especially latrine assignments) and punishment drills."

Despite these indignities, he served his country well in Europe.

Before leaving Canada, he married Lesley McNaught, a Protestant whose Baptist father was an agnostic and whose mother had been raised as a Presbyterian. Isaac Sirluck, however, insisted on a Jewish wedding. A compromise was struck when it was decided that there would be two ceremonies: a Jewish service conducted by a Conservative rabbi, David Monson, in his home, and a Christian service presided over by an Anglican minister at the university's Hart House Chapel. His best man was Claude Bissell, a future president of the University of Toronto.

Returning to Toronto from battle in 1945, Sirluck began teaching at University College. Subsequently, he received job offers from Queen's University and the University of Western Ontario. In the end, he opted for his alma mater, the University of Toronto. The barriers had fallen.

Yet, much to his disgust, he could not rent a flat in Toronto. "We don't take Jews," the superintendent said. "I thought of making an issue of it but couldn't see how to do it," he writes.

Even in the 1960s, with anti-discrimination laws in place throughout Canada, Sirluck ran headlong into anti-Semitism. The York Club, a snobbish Anglo-Saxon bastion, rejected his membership application. By then, he was a high-ranking official at the University of Toronto.

During the 1970s, when he was president of the University of Manitoba, associates wanted him to join the Manitoba Club, which had a policy of excluding Jews. Knowing this, Sirluck declined.

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Maccabees' message

By RACHEL TURKIENICZ

I once heard a rabbi tell a priest that Jews have a problem marketing Chanukah. The rabbi continued by saying that since Chanukah and Christmas were in such close proximity to each other, Chanukah would always be dimmed by Christmas.

According to this rabbi, "how can one compare singing *Silent Night* with singing *Dreidel Dreidel Dreidel*?"

It is unfortunate, that in some spheres of the Jewish community, holidays are seen as marketing opportunities, and are then compared with the "competition."

Other people believe Chanukah to be a children's holiday. The lighting of the candles commemorates the miracle of oil that lasted eight days. These people believe this to be a lovely fairy tale that will excite the imaginations of children, but will not have meaning to rational adults.

Still others will extol the military aspect of the holiday and how the Jewish people were able to overcome the odds. A tiny army, ill-equipped and out-numbered, was able to defeat the enemy. Through war, we were able to secure both religious and political autonomy. According to this view, this is the miracle of Chanukah.

Yet, why would we light candles for eight days to commemorate a war that lasted far longer? And what connection can there be between lighting candles and winning a war?

The one thing that becomes evident about Chanukah through all these views, is that it is a multi-faceted holiday. It stresses unity of peoplehood and balance of gender. All the people are fighting toward a common cause.

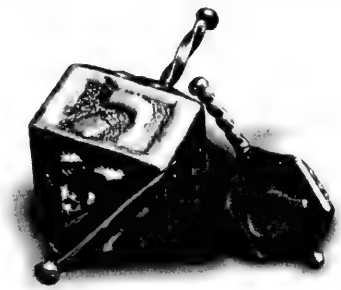
Judah the Maccabee led the army while Judith waged a smaller battle with a general. While the men are fighting at the front lines, the women and children are fighting in the cities through non-compliance with the enemy's decrees. It is truly a victory that celebrates the joint efforts of all factions of the Jewish people.

Yet, beyond this lies the subtleties of Chanukah. The Talmud describes the miracle surrounding the oil, and the eight days it burned. However, a midrash introduces a more subtle connection to the number eight. According to this midrash, we light eight candles to commemorate what the Hasmoneans did when they first entered the Temple.

Upon entering, the Hasmoneans found eight iron spears. They stuck the heads of the spears into the ground to anchor them, and made grooves into the bottoms which were now facing up. The Hasmoneans proceeded to pour oil into the grooves, lay wicks in the oil and light these spears.

The message is a beautiful one that speaks to both the child and the adult. Once the battles were over, the Hasmoneans turned the weapons they found into peaceful objects. Instruments that were once used to kill, were now used to bring light into a holy place.

As we light the candles this year, among the other concepts surrounding Chanukah, it would be appropriate to remember this midrash. While the holiday does celebrate a military victory, it also commemorates our objectives for peace. The Jewish goal is not to win the battle, so much as it is to never have to fight.



A Chanukah

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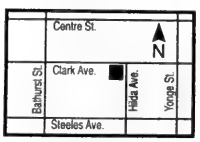

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Chanukah gelt traditions

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

It's one of the most popular traditions of one of the most well-known holidays of the year. But the authentic reasons behind the giving of Chanukah gelt can leave most people scratching their heads. Today some Chanukah gelt traditions from the Jewish Highway.

Ohr Somayach explains that Chanukah gelt is a Jewish custom rooted in the Talmud. "The Talmud states that even a very poor person must light Chanukah lights, even if he can't afford it. A person with no money is required to go 'knocking on doors' until he collects enough to buy at least one candle for each night of Chanukah. The Torah concept of charity – tzedakah – requires us to help the recipient in the most dignified manner possible. Therefore, the custom arose to give gifts of money during Chanukah so that someone who needs extra money for Chanukah candles can receive it in the form of 'Chanukah Gelt.'" **[http://www.ohr.org.il/ask/ask173.htm#Q5].**

Eliezer Siegel traces the evolution of the tradition in Gelt to Gifts: A Chanukah Journey **[http://acs6.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/961121_Geltl.html]**. Because of the similarities of the words "Chanukah" (dedication) and "Chinuch" (education), some Jewish communities used the Chanukah season as the time to honor their religious teachers and students.

In 18th century Eastern Europe, rabbis toured outlying villages during Chanukah to strengthen the townsfolk's Jewish education. Initially, these rabbis would decline payment. But eventually they would accept tokens of appreciation for lost time. In time, these gifts, or gelt, became almost obligatory to the rabbis, to other pillars of the community, and in the 19th century, to children. Other traditions of giving coins or small gifts to kids have also been found in Persia, Yemen and pre-State of Israel Palestine.

Siegel concludes his essay with this comment: "Needless to say, an immense gulf separates the customs described here from the shopping frenzy that is associated with the North American Chanukah." If you do opt to give gifts, JewishFamily.com has some suggestions to keep your spending and nerves under control **[http://www.jewishfamily.com/scripts/newjfl/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=587]**.

Instead of trying compete with the seasonal frenzy, Lisa Traiger says you should look for low-key Jewish-oriented gifts to bring Chanukah – and your kids – back to their roots. Some suggestions: Jewish books, music, dreidels, puzzles, crafts, and of course, gelt.

Nowadays, most gelt exchanged at Chanukah isn't made of genuine gold or silver but of chocolate. Many of our fond memories for those bags of coins can be traced to Israel's Elite chocolate company which has an impressive Hebrew-only Web site **[http://www.elite.co.il/]**. But if you want to establish a new gelt tradition, how about creating A Chanukah Gelt Chocolate Fudge Cake? **[http://dco.webpoint.com/holiday/_vti_bin/shtml.exe/h_geltca.htm/map]**

This is a luscious chocolate cake topped off with glittering gold foil-covered chocolate coins. Sounds good but just not decadent enough?

Then try out the Chanukah Gelt Double Fudge Chocolate Layer Cake **[http://www.better-baking.com/baker2/seasonal2chglt.html]**. Of course, you do have eight days to finish them off but that shouldn't be a problem.

Next week, we'll continue our look at coins, the real kind, as we survey sites for ancient Jewish and modern Israeli numismatics.

* * *

If you are interested in other aspects of Chanukah, then take a look at the dozens of links at **[http://www.bluep.com/~harryc/hanukkah.htm].**

You'll find everything from holiday traditions to dreidel games to pictures of menorah lightings around the world.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Syria's Jewish community

By JACQUES SAYEGH

The Jewish presence in Syria dates back to biblical times and it is intertwined with the history of Jews in neighboring Eretz Yisrael.

With the advent of Christianity, restrictions were imposed on the community. The Arab conquest in 636 CE, however, greatly improved the lot of the Jews. Unrest in neighboring Iraq, in the 10th century, resulted in Jewish migration to Syria, and brought about a boom in commerce, banking and crafts.

During the reign of the Fatimids, the Jew Menashe Ibrahim El-Kazzaz ran the Syrian administration and he granted Jews positions in the government.

During the 11th century, Jews were concentrated in Damascus and Aleppo. They produced many scholars, among them Baruch Ben Isaac, and poets who wrote in Hebrew.

The Mameluke period (1260-1516) was a difficult time for the Jews, and many were forced to convert to Islam. When the country was taken over by the Ottomans, the lot of the Jews improved markedly. A large influx of Spanish Jews arrived, mainly from Italy and Turkey.

The infamous Damascus Blood Libel of 1840 was the first of its kind in the Muslim Arab world. The Jews were accused of killing a Catholic priest who had disappeared, and of using his blood for the Passover matzot. Only foreign political intervention together with international Jewish advocacy liberated the falsely accused Jews.

In 1954, some Jews were permitted to leave on condition that they relinquish their property. In 1964, the situation worsened and Jews were forbidden to move beyond a three-kilometre distance from their city.

Following the exposure of the Israeli spy, Eli Cohen, and the Six Day War, the situation deteriorated. Waves of violence erupted and Jews were attacked, arrested and murdered.

In 1968, there were an estimated 4,500 Jews living in Syria, 3,700 in Damascus, 700 in Aleppo and 100 in Kamishli.

For the next decades, Syrian Jews were, in effect, hostages of a hostile regime. They could leave Syria only on condition that they leave members of their family behind. The community lived under siege, constantly under surveillance by the secret police. This much was allowed due to an international effort to secure the human rights of the Jews, the changing world order, and the Syrian need for Western support, so the conditions of the Jews improved somewhat.

The year 1992 was the turning point for the Jewish community. North American and Israeli pressure succeeded in convincing the Syrian government to declare that Jews could leave freely. Many Syrian Jews were rescued by Judy Feld Carr. Since 1992, nearly all of the Jews have left; 3,565 immigrated to the United States and the rest went to Israel.

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Guest Voices

And baby makes three

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER
Special to the CJN

Milestones can do funny things to people. Take children, for instance. My wife and I welcomed Nathan – our first – into the world last February 26. Naturally, we consider it a monumental event.

It's also big news for Nathan's extended family.

Being the first grandchild, and among the first of his generation, in both our families, this kid fulfils a great deal of pent up demand for grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

During the pregnancy, normally staid grandparents-in-waiting became irrational recession-busters scouring South Florida – South Florida before the age of 60?– for clothing bargains.

Never mind the Jewish tradition of not buying for an unborn child – bad luck and all. Superstition falls by the wayside when irrational excitement rules the day.

On a cold January afternoon – about one month before B-day – I got the call.

It was my father on his cellphone from a Target department store in West Palm Beach. What could he possibly need to know that necessitated a $40 long distance call in the middle of the day on his Canadian-registered wireless, I asked myself?

"Mummy – you know how good a bargain hunter she is – she's found some sleepers and undershirts for the baby for $2.99. Is that a good price? Should we get a bunch?" he asked.

Leaving aside for the moment the embarrassing question of why my father and I still refer to my mother in the third person as "mummy," my dad missed the irony that they would need to buy 20 clothing items for the savings to compensate for the call.

The episode was a harbinger of things to come.

After the baby's birth, my wife and I continued our erev Shabbat tradition of dinner at my parents. What was once a restful end-of-week event – a mechayeh to use my dad's expression – became a veritable mob scene as my parents, brother and sister (a second sister missed Nathan's birth, as a student at Hebrew University) took weekly leave of their usually reliable senses to take turns arguing over who was going to hold the baby.

God forbid a guest were to come over, adding an extra person to duel for a two-month-old's attention. A guest's best strategy – if they could handle the jealous stares once they managed to tear the baby from someone's arms – would be to snatch him between courses as the family was momentarily distracted with clearing the table.

Though a very easygoing guy, only now, in his tenth month, can Nathan handle the weekly barrage.

Of course, getting out once and a while is often the only thing standing between the rookie parent and the abyss of a nervous breakdown – never mind marital friction.

So, on a summertime trip to Ottawa as part of Nathan's Great Eastern Canadian Tour (to Ottawa and Montreal – call *The CJN* for the official t-shirt), we took the plunge and went to – get ready for it – a movie.

Entrusting my in-laws with the baby (not that we actually trusted them, having only raised three children between them), we left for three hours of sheer celluloid bliss. The movie, Warren Beatty's *Bulworth*, was mediocre, but, emboldened, the next day we went out again, this time shopping. Thank God for small pleasures.

Just don't tell my parents (and leave it to me to rip this page from their issue of *The CJN*): we've let them think they were the first ones to babysit.

Actually, their first adventure in babysitting – after three months of none-too-subtle hints regarding their virtual 24 hour, seven day availability – was the first time we dared venture to an evening movie.

I called my parents at 5:50 p.m. on a Sunday, awakening my father from a nap.

"We think we'd like to go to an early show, but we need you here before 6:30," I said.

"We'll be there," said my dad, dispensing with his usual custom of clearing all decisions, large and small, with my mother.

Breaking personal land speed records, at 6:15, my parents, who live on Toronto's northern border, were on our doorstep at the edge of downtown. It's a trip that normally takes them 45 minutes, in light traffic no less.

After we returned, my mom commented on Nathan's good behavior and how much fun my parents had playing with him.

"He gets so much attention," she added. "What a shock for him it will be when he gets a sibling."

We rolled our eyes, and, with my parents safely on their way home, we gave our *first* kid a bath.

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Answer: _____
4. How many days did the Jews in Ethiopia celebrate Chanukah?
Answer: _____
5. Why is it customary to eat cheese on Chanukah?
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Roots & Remembrance

The Lithuanian horror

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Two Jewish genealogists, one from England and one from Israel, have joined forces to compile a comprehensive list of the roughly 200,000 to 240,000 Jews from Lithuania who perished in the Holocaust.

Saul Issroff, a semi-retired dermatologist from London, travelled to Lithuania last year and visited about 80 shtetls that once held Jewish populations.

"The names of the people are unknown – they haven't been collected," he said. "There are about 250 sites of mass murder recorded in Lithuania, but no one has attempted to make a comprehensive list of the people who were killed."

Both Issroff and his partner in the project, Rose Lerer Cohen, a resident of Jerusalem, were born in South Africa to families that had emigrated there from Lithuania. Several years ago, Issroff discovered that he had many relatives who perished in the Holocaust. "This was never discussed in my family. Part of the reason I'm doing this is because I want to find the names of my relatives."

To date, they have collected more than 80,000 names with the help of Jewish institutions such as Yad Vashem, YIVO and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Other names have come from the Israeli-based Association of Lithuanian Jews and the Kibbutz of the Ghetto Fighters Museum, also in Israel.

The pair have also extracted names from a collection of about 20 yizkor or memorial books that have been published on Lithuania locales, as well as from the Litvak SIG, a special interest group of genealogical researchers focusing on Lithuania.

The state-run Jewish museum in Vilna informed them of a census done in the Vilna ghetto in 1943, which contained about 15,300 names. Another list for the Kovno ghetto added 14,000 more names, while a third list for the Siauliai ghetto produced another 5,000 names.

According to Issroff, another potential source of names is the Soviet Extraordinary Commission into German War Crimes, a postwar attempt by the Soviets to document Nazi atrocities. "We've also found KGB lists, some of them from Lithuania," he said. "We believe there are a lot more that we don't have access to."

So far, Issroff and Cohen have acquired information relating to the mass murder of Jews in almost 100 Lithuanian towns. "We're going to create a database and hopefully publish a memorial book in a few years," he said.

They are appealing to the public to supply names and other information on Lithuanian Jews who perished in the Holocaust. To fill in a form, contact Dr. Saul Issroff, 29c Elsworthy Rd., London, NW3 3BT; or email [saul@swico.demon.co.uk]. In Israel, contact Rose Lerer Cohen, P.O. Box 11456, Jerusalem 91114; email [roseron@shani.net].

* * *

Seek and thou shalt find, advises the Biblical homily, and some genealogists discover the truth of this only months after they begin to search for their ancestry.

These are the lucky few who find that someone has already done a significant amount of research for them. The material inevitably sits in some far-off institution, awaiting only their requests by inter-library loan.

Many thousands of Jewish family trees are already in print in libraries and archives around the world. Many more have received significant attention in journals and private papers.

How to locate materials that might pertain to your family? One way is to consult *The Sourcebook for Jewish Genealogies and Family Histories*, by David S. Zubatsky and Irwin M. Brent.

At 456 pages, this useful reference work offers more than 22,000 entries pertaining to some 12,000 family names, culled from a variety of primary sources: books, newspapers and journals, Jewish encyclopedias, family papers and other materials in public institutions.

The *Sourcebook* is valuable because it can direct researchers to hard-to-find items in obscure journals or archival collections. The American Jewish Archives, the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People in Jerusalem, and the YIVO and Leo Baeck institutes in New York are among the many collections included.

Published by Avotaynu Inc., the *Sourcebook* includes an appendix that lists surnames by the numeric-phonetic Daitch-Mokotoff soundex system so that, for instance, anyone researching an Elfassi line is also directed to materials pertaining to the Alves, Elbaz and Elves families.

The book is worth consulting next time you're in a major reference library.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF DECEMBER 4- 10/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	4:25 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	Mon.-Thurs. 6:15, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri 6:30, 7:30	Mon.-Wed. Maariv 8:45-9:00PM
Anshei Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	4:35 PM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	4:30 PM
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	4:35 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	4:35 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:25 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre [Abir Yaacob] (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:10 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 AM	4:20 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

But for others, the holiday's glow will be clouded.
By loneliness and poverty. By anti-Semitism and abuse.
eep divide separating Jews from Jewish life. It doesn't have to be
And with your help, it won't.
The community Campaign for Fifty to raise $50 million a year by 20
will set aside new funds to assist the vulnerable, rescue Jews from
distressed regions like the former Soviet Union and strengthen
Jewish identity especially among the young.
Next week, as this year's campaign countdown approaches,
a community volunteer may be calling for your support.
Please carry the candle on behalf of Jews in need.
Help us ensure that a brighter day for hundreds of
thousands is not light years away.

Father's Divorce From Hell raises painful questions

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After years of court room combat with his ex-wife, Ben Gordon eventually won the battle. But Gordon's hard-won fight for joint custody of his two daughters proved to be a victory on paper only.

Ultimately, he lost the divorce war. The years of hostility, which began in 1990, took their toll on his relationship with his daughters, now 13 and 15. Gordon hasn't seem them for five years.

His experience, a cautionary tale about divorce lawyers and the justice system, is painstakingly documented in a new book, *The Divorce From Hell*, by Gordon's current mate, Toronto journalist Wendy Dennis.

Dennis spoke recently about Gordon's devastating custody battle and the need to enshrine fathers' custody rights in divorce legislation at the Jewish Book Fair, part of her national book tour.

Sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, her presentation sparked a heated debate among audience members, a group predominantly made up of single parents.

Dennis, who also went through a difficult divorce, said she felt "morally" compelled to tell Gordon's story after witnessing his painful divorce.

Describing him as a "loving Jewish dad who car-pooled and ran birthday parties," she said he was forced to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars "to retain the right to continue parenting his children after the divorce."

She said in the end, Gordon's ex-wife succeeded in "evicting him and his family from the children's lives. She was not held accountable and was encouraged by the judicial system every step of the way."

The parent who wants to protect the children and has their best interest at heart tends to be penalized by the judicial process which "promotes hostility and discord," Dennis said. A spouse can wage "the battle indefinitely as long as there's enough money and rage to fuel the battle.

"The girls were forced to collaborate in the mother's hatred of him," Dennis charged.

She noted that this type of hatred, known as parental alienation syndrome (PAS), is fostered by the domineering parent who has the psychological power to brainwash the vulnerable children in a divorce and turn them against the other parent.

When asked why she wrote the book, Dennis explained that Gordon wanted a record of the truth for his daughters.

The embryo of the book was a magazine article by the same title, written by Dennis in the February 1996 issue of *Toronto Life*. The article drew enormous reader response – both positive and negative – she said.

Among the responses were poignant letters from other men with stories similar to Gordon's. Concluding that his problem was part of widespread judicial bias against fathers, Dennis set out to write a book to promote the rights of fathers and children.

Children should have the right to both parents, she said. "Joint parenting should be the standard."

Dennis accused feminist groups who hate men of wanting to maintain the judicial status quo which gives mothers "dictatorial power." And they tend to use access to the children as a bargaining chip with the non custodial fathers, she added.

Commenting on the joint commons and senate parliamentary committee on child custody and access, which has recently received a lot of media attention, Dennis told *The CJN* there is a large groundswell of support in Canada for fathers' rights.

She said the findings of a recent Southam News poll indicate that 80 percent of Canadians believe the needs of the non-custodial parent and children are not being met by the courts.

As for the timing of her book, Dennis said she knew when she began writing *The Divorce from Hell* that the parliamentary committee would be tabling its report at the end of November and timed the book's launch to coincide with the release of the report.

However, she said she could not have foreseen the extent of media interest in the committee's work, which, in turn, has generated interest in her book. "That's pure serendipity."

Nursing home planned

TORONTO — A new 120-bed nursing home in York Region will be built by Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care at a location to be announced soon.

It is scheduled to open in November 2000, and will be designed to care for the needs of frail Jewish seniors.

The announcement was made in Unionville by Cam Jackson, Ontario minister for long-term care, with responsibility for seniors.

At the same time, the minister said a total of 420 new long-term care beds will be built in York Region, including the Baycrest building.

The Baycrest York operation is in addition to a 120-bed unit for long-term care, operated by Baycrest, to open in June 2000, which was announced earlier this month.

Other initiatives include 98 interim long-term care beds at North York General Hospital's (NYGH) Branson division; a new 120-bed unit at Branson when it closes as a general hospital; 32 additional beds at the Seniors' Centre, NYGH; and a new 120-bed unit at a location to be announced by NYGH.

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From coast to coast

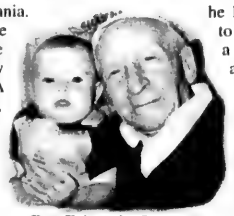
Ottawa man celebrates 100th birthday

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Over 300 family members, friends and well-wishers recently celebrated Benjamin Feinstein's 100th birthday.

Basking in the warmth of family, Feinstein reached a milestone he says he never dreamed possible during his youth in the small Russian village of Taplik.

He enjoys recounting stories of his boyhood adventures. At the age of 21, he and a group of friends attempted to escape from Russia to Romania. Captured by the Bolsheviks, he was temporarily imprisoned; A second attempt, however, was successful.



Ben Feinstein & great-grandson Eli Aaron

The goal of the group was to reach Palestine, but Feinstein became ill and was left behind when the group left. After four years in Romania, he had an opportunity to come to Canada as a refugee, and arrived in Winkler, Man. in 1924.

There, he met his future wife Frieda Dickstein, who died in 1986. Their family now includes four children, 12 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

In 1930, the family moved to Ottawa. He is a longtime member of B'nai Jacob Synagogue, where he served as vice-president for 14 years.

Until last year when Feinstein fell and fractured a hip, he was well known in his neighbourhood for taking long daily walks, and stopping to talk to his many friends. His daughter Ruth says that "he always knows what's going on in the world, and loves to discuss it."

Feinstein lives in his own apartment. His children and grandchildren are frequent visitors, but he likes to do things his own way, says his daughter Pearl. "I never make his porridge in the morning when I arrive because I couldn't do it just the way he likes it. He likes to do it himself. He also cooks his own chicken for Shabbat."

Feinstein begins every day by putting on his tfillin.

What advice does he have? "Take care of yourself and live a good, honest life."

When asked how it feels to be over 100, he replies with a twinkle in his eye, "I have no complaints."

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

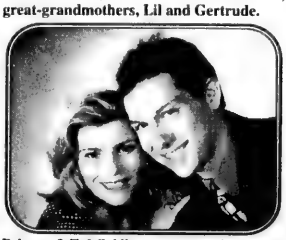
Mazel tov on your 80th birthday, dear Mickey Bisgould. May you keep your warm smile to 120. Your loving and devoted family.

Zachary, son of Annie Seaton & David Lewis was born April 21. Grandparents, Marty & Sheila Seaton, Marvin & Rhoda Lewis; great-grandmothers, Lil and Gertrude.

You are a star in our eyes!! Happy seventh birthday Adam. Love Mom, Dad (Kim & Gadi) and Alli Goldman.

Esther Tennen, age 90, and great-granddaughter Jacquelyn Kendal, age 6, celebrated their birthdays together. Mazel tov.

Mazel tov to Ben & Clara Lungen on their 50th wedding anniversary. All our love, Paul & Sharron, Adeena & Alex.



Rebecca & Ted Goldberg announce the engagement of their son Rick to Mandy, daughter of Marilyn & Mark Schwartz. Grandmother is Anita Goldberg of Montreal.

Mazel tov to newlyweds Sue & Steve Forberg. Love from parents Gail & Joe Forberg, Rina & Mat Ivanski and proud grandparents Sima & Dave Forberg.

Mazel tov to Donna (Née Goldfarb) and Brian Nemerovsky, married May 24, 1998. Sadly missed are parents Diana & Max Goldfarb, and Blanche & Nat Nemerovsky.

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Community Matters

Face to Face and Heart to Heart at GA '98

Over 100 Toronto delegates joined this year's General Assembly, sponsored by UJA Federations of North America. Dov Altman, a Director of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, was among them.

By Dov Altman

Many People, Many Roads, One Heart - The theme of the 1998 General Assembly in Israel. The perfect theme for both the first GA ever outside North America and the Toronto GA Mission.

Attending a GA is always an opportunity to discuss the social and cultural issues that affect us, as Jews, in North America. This year, for those of us from Toronto who visited Kiev on the way to Israel, the theme, the discussions and the debates became real.

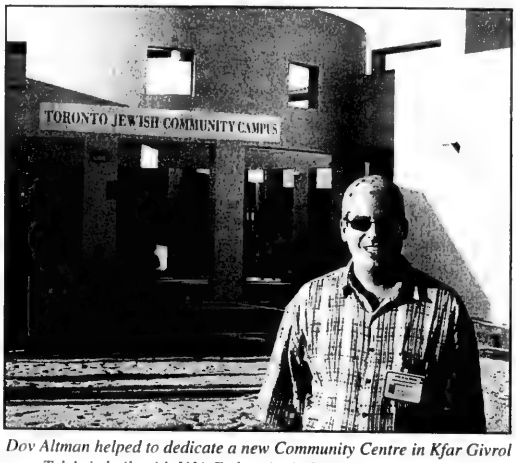
How did this happen? What made this year's GA more significant? It started with the visit to Ukraine and ended at a school in a small village in Israel. Many People, Many Roads, One Heart.

In Kiev, we saw first-hand how our UJA Federation dollars are working for those want to make aliyah.We met teenagers who were preparing to leave without their parents and parents beginning the long process of packing up their lives to move to a foreign land where they can live freely as Jews. Most importantly, we met those who are too old and sick to leave. These are the Jewish elderly who can survive with dignity because of UJA dollars.

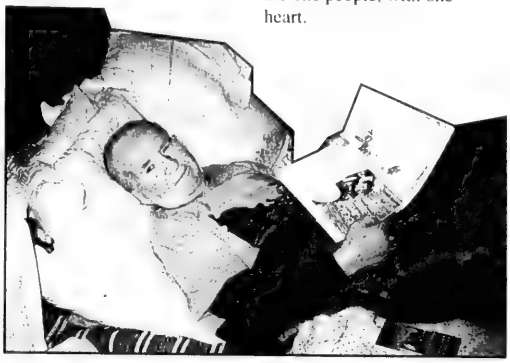
The Joint Distribution Committee has created a Chesed Seniors Centre in Kiev which provides for their basic needs as well as home visits, meals on wheels and medical services for those who cannot get out.

In Israel, the GA program allowed us to see how the country is dealing with the same social and cultural issues that we face in Toronto every day. Through a visit to a community centre in an economically depressed neighborhood, we saw programs that are keeping children off the street, strengthening the family unit and providing skills training, leading to jobs.We visited schools, daycare centres and libraries that could not have been built without UJA Federation's assistance. Many People, Many Roads, One Heart.

GA themes are usually forgotten from year to year, but not this year. Our UJA gifts are changing lives at home and abroad. After all, we may be many people from many backgrounds with many different beliefs and aspirations, however, our commitment to help fellow Jews, no matter when, no matter where, proves that we are one people, with one heart.



Dov Altman helped to dedicate a new Community Centre in Kfar Givrol near Tel Aviv built with UJA Federation's financial participation.



In Kiev, a Toronto delegation visited this 80 year old man whose paralysis has confined him to his tiny one bedroom apartment. The Chesed Program supplements his meagre $18 a month pension with additional food, clothing, and home care services.

JEWISH toronto

*Canada's Young Leadership delegation to London included **Nancy Klein** (back row second from left), **Adam Minsky, Joseph Benbassat, Avi Benlolo**, (front row - l-r) **Michael Hershorn** and **Carraine Bookholter**.*

Euroconference

Thirteen young Canadian Jewish leaders took part in an international exchange of ideas with 850 of their worldwide counterparts at the 1998 **Keren Hayesod Young Leadership Conference** recently held in London, England. "It was a chance for our individual communities to go global on a wide range of Jewish issues," explains former Montrealer **Richard Diamond**, Chair of Canadian National Young Leadership for United Israel Appeal. "Many view Toronto's Jewish community as an ideal model," adds Diamond, who as the Canadian representative to Keren Hayesod's International Young Leadership Executive conducts regular transatlantic telephone conference calls with his European friends to keep in touch.

"It was rewarding to spend two days getting to know other young leaders from England, Italy, Germany Switzerland, Finland, France, Spain New York and as far away as Australia and Buenos Aires," says Torontonian **Leah Shilling**. "I felt proud to represent our community abroad and to share our successes." The next Canadian Young Leadership conference is planned for April, 1999.

Student Success

Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto student **Miriam Anbar** was simply elated when she received a $2,000 pledge from a **Campaign for Fifty** contributor at one of UJA Federation's recent **Phoning for Fifty** telethons. Anbar is among more than 200 volunteer campaigners, including dozens of Toronto area high school students, who helped to raise over $1.3 million during UJA Federation's October and November telethons bringing the campaign total to $33 million. To sign up for UJA Federation's **Dare to Dream telethons, Dec. 6 - 10, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 174.**

It's on the Web!

For complete information on the latest news about ***Jewish Toronto***, its organizations, activities and special events take a tour of our Website.

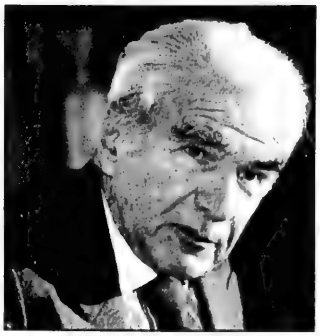
www.feduja.org

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Community Matters

UJA Federation hosts respected reporter at doner dinner

Journalist Joins Mid-East Peace Monitoring Committee



Bernard Kalb

One of North America's most accomplished journalists will be playing an important role in the Mid-East peace process.

Bernard Kalb, speaking last week at a UJA Federation dinner for leading donors, revealed his appointment to a commission monitoring incitement by Palestinians and Israelis against each other. The anti-incitement provisions are part of the Wye Accords recently negotiated between the two sides, under which Israel has already turned over territory to the Palestinian Authority.

Although Kalb initially thought his participation on the committee could be an "exercise in futility," he later considered how much could be accomplished "if you can come up with a millimetre of an idea that will move the boulder a little bit."

(l - r): Larry and Judy Tanenbaum, Gerry Schwartz, Heather Reisman, Lynn and Brent Belzberg. (photos by Stephen Epstein)

As an example of how tough his task will be, Kalb cited a Palestinian TV show promoting *jihad* (holy war) for children, which, he said, "harnessed four or five year olds in a scenario of horror."

A Diplomatic Piece of Cake

Kalb called the Wye Agreement "child's play" compared to permanent status negotiations which are scheduled for completion by May 4, 1999. "We'll look back on Wye as a piece of cake," he noted. "We have to solve the future of Jerusalem, water rights and the return of refugees. No one in their right mind expects this to happen. Six months to do this is a scrap of time."

The moderator of *Reliable Sources*, a CNN show which turns a critical lens on the media, Kalb has travelled the globe for more than three decades as a correspondent covering world affairs for CBS, NBC and *The New York Times*. He's also experienced the other side of the podium as Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs and as spokesperson for the State Department for two years until October 1986.

Campaign Approaches Record Results

Dinner participants also learned that UJA Federation's current community Campaign for Fifty has hit the $33 million mark - about $5 million dollars ahead of last year at this time. "We did, in fact, aim higher, reach farther and tried to accomplish more than ever before," said campaign co-chair Larry Tanenbaum. "We set lofty goals and we think we are well on our way to achieving them."

The Campaign for Fifty's objective is to raise $50 million a year by 2001, with new funds designated for programs to strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews in danger around the world.

Campaign co-chair Brent Belzberg expressed anxiety about budget cuts threatening essential services provided by UJA Federation's beneficiary agencies. "There can be no question about UJA Federation's responsibility to ensure their survival. As the community's central and primary organization, only we can step in to save services under a cloud of financial uncertainty, combining funding and values to preserve Jewish dignity. After all, how do you measure, in dollars and cents alone, the need to counsel a child who witnessed his mother being beaten, or advise nervous parents in Kiev to let their teenager make aliyah without them."

The dinner, chaired by Gerry Schwartz and Heather Reisman, was sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada, a member of UJA Federation's corporate Partners program.

Bonnie Goldstein (l) and Jaclyn Shulman displayed their historic anthology, Voices From The Heart, *a collection of stories and photos about the Canadian connection to Israel.*

George Gaffney, Executive Vice President and General Manager, Royal Bank of Canada. "The Royal Bank," he said, "is proud to join UJA Federation in a commitment to a kinder, more caring world."

The World Chair of Keren Hayesod, Daniel Liwerant, brought greetings from Israel.

From coast to coast

Onus for peace unfairly on Israel: former envoy

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The recent Wye treaty shows "the burden of proof for peace is always placed on Jewish shoulders," says an Israeli scholar and diplomat.

"Arafat and company...who have yet to keep one deal with anyone, let alone Israel, have not given up the nefarious dream of our disappearance," said Dr. Gerald M. Meister, director of the Israel Institute for Interreligious Studies, an interdisciplinary consortium of scholars.

"What Israel does diplomatically, is a very finely orchestrated and choreographed danse macabre in which we pay the piper," Meister told a large State of Israel Bonds – B'nai Brith Hamilton breakfast honoring Aaron Shiffman recently.

Meister, a veteran of numerous diplomatic assignments for Israel's Israeli foreign affairs ministry, warned there is no way Israel will achieve peace with its neighbor, "despite every kind of pullback or temporary agreement, [because] they are not going to be observed."

The fundamental rule of international law, he said, "is that treaties are meant to be observed."

Meister also highlighted other important issues facing Israel.

He noted that unemployment in development towns, which are usually not located near industry, has reached 17 percent. He also charged that Ashkenazi Jews are oblivious to the problems of Sephardi Jews: unemployment and lack of opportunity.

What Israel needs is "investment in Israel for the development of an infrastructure that has played second fiddle to defence needs.

"Investment is not charity. Investment requires good business horse sense. Invest, lend and give life to the Jewish state," Meister said.

Attendance at the annual Bonds-B'nai Brith breakfast at Adas Israel Synagogue was the largest ever and Bond sales were highly successful, said Hamilton Bonds office director Babara Balonjan.

Shiffman, executive director of Adas Israel Synagogue, administrator of the United Hebrew Memorial Chapel and a volunteer with numerous organizations, including the United Chevrah Kadishah, was praised by Adas Israel's Rabbi Morton Green as "an example and role model...[who] worked tirelessly and often thanklessly" on behalf of the community."

Hamilton artist Tobi Snajdman presented Shiffman with one of the artist's own paintings. The breakfast was chaired by former B'nai

BAR MITZVAH 'BOYS'

Bar mitzvah boy Jason Kendal had a special partner to celebrate his recent simcha: his grandfather, Saul Kendal, who marked his own bar mitzvah at the same time, at age 63. The dual ceremony took place at Beit Rayim Synagogue in Richmond Hill. [Larry Dizenhouse photo]

Monty Hall receives Humanitarian Award by B'nai Brith

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — B'nai Brith Canada recently gave its 1998 Humanitarian Award to one of Winnipeg's favorite sons.

Monty Hall is best known for his long running television game show *Let's Make A Deal.*

Abe Simkin, a longtime friend, described him as a "philanthropist extraordinaire," who has helped raise close to $500 million for a variety of Israeli, Jewish, medical and children's causes.

One of Winnipeg's favorite sons

"Monty Hall deserves to join the good company of other distinguished individuals who have received this award," Simkin said.

The award is given in recognition of outstanding achievement in a chosen field of endeavor and leadership in community activities that result in the betterment of life for all people.

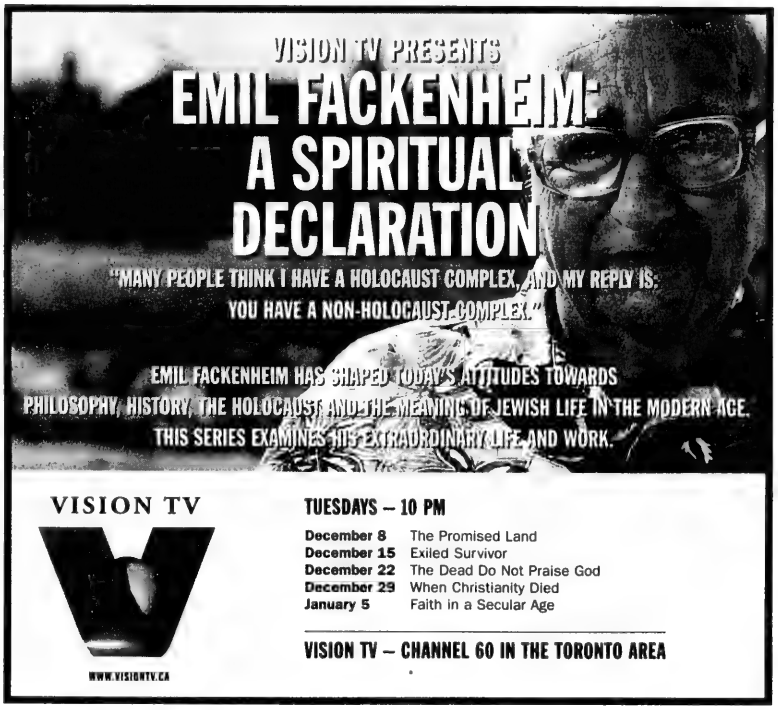
Previous winners have included Lloyd Axworthy, Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon and Israel Asper.

"Working for charitable causes was part of my upbringing," Hall said in accepting the award. "My zayde, David Rusen, brought over to Canada countless landsmen. My mother, Rose, [who was president of Hadassah Canada] was a teacher, singer, actress and leading fundraiser for Israel and Jewish causes. Whenever a relative was in need, mother would be on the phone telling other family members how much she expected them to contribute."

Hall also had praise for the community he grew up in. Winnipeg always looked after its own, he recalled.

"I am dismayed in Hollywood by the number of actors, directors, producers, writers who distance themselves from their roots. Not former Winnipeggers. Wherever we are, we are involved in charitable work. We have heart.

"In life, there are givers and takers. The takers eat well. The givers sleep well."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From coast to coast

Hamilton day school seeking teacher/principal

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Kehila Jewish Community Day School, set to open in September 1999 with senior kindergarten, grades 1 and 2, is searching for a head teacher/principal.

Kehila will be the second day school in this community of 5,000. The Orthodox Hamilton Hebrew Academy (HHA) was founded in 1963.

As well, the city has three after-school schools: Beth Jacob Religious School, which is Conservative; Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School, Reform; and Midrasha, a community high school.

The need for an alternate Jewish day school became apparent several years ago, says Julia Kollek, a mother of two children, when a number of parents expressed an interest in finding a school with a broader approach to religious studies.

It began, says Kollek, who spearheaded the project, with a group of mothers talking about what they wanted in Jewish education, and the options available here.

Discussions began in earnest in 1996, after an independent survey by a McMaster University researcher indicated that of the 118 families who responded, 37 percent were interested in an alternate school.

"The school is not a reaction to the HHA," says Dr. Nick Kates, whose two children attended the academy.

"There are many good things about the academy, but it is our feeling that there are parents who are looking for an alternative."

The secular curriculum conforms to Ministry of Education guidelines and will integrate music, art, physical activity and social skills with language, math and technology.

Also, parents will be encouraged to play an active role in all aspects of the school.

Tuition fees are expected to be within the $5,000 range. Some donations have already been received, says Kollek, adding that the board has applied for a grant to the Boston-based Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education in North America, Jewish Day School Challenge Grant Program, which matches locally raised funds.

Winnipeg undertakes survey

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) has undertaken an ambitious community-wide survey. The survey was mailed in early November to more than 5,000 Jewish households.

"We hope that the responses will really help us tune into what our community's needs are," says Evelyn Katz, a former WJCC president who is co-chairing the millennium committee needs and opportunities subcommittee that commissioned the Prairie Research Associates survey.

The 12-page booklet is divided into two sections and allows everyone in the household to fill in the survey. The Household Heads section asks questions about Jewish community involvement, the pros and cons of being Jewish in Winnipeg, questions about children and grandchildren, charitable giving and what changes they would like to see.

The children's section (for ages 12 and older) asks similar questions as well as where they expect to be in five or 10 years and what reasons would persuade them to stay in Winnipeg.

The deadline for returning the questionnaire was Nov. 27. Katz reported that the responses were coming in quite well. They will all be opened and reviewed after the deadline, she says, and the information will be collated by computer.

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From coast to coast

Founder of Saint John Jewish Museum retires

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Marcia Koven is going to find it hard to slow down, but the recently-retired founder and long-time major domo of the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum will manage – for a little while.

"There are lots of projects that need volunteers," she said last week during a rare idle hour.

Koven, 72, spent the last 15 years developing the museum into one that is respected in the Atlantic region and across Canada. Located in a building adjacent to Congregation Shaarei Zedek, the museum has attracted thousands of visitors from as far away as Australia and Israel.

"I never expected it would blossom into this when I started a private collection and oral interviews of the history of our community," she said.

Marcia Koven

"I had just graduated [at age 55] from University of New Brunswick at Saint John as a mature student and wondered what I wanted to do. With a major in sociology and a keen interest in history, I rented an office so I'd have somewhere to go.

"Within a year or so, I found space for a museum in the Saint John Jewish Community Centre next to the shul. We had two rooms in the basement, a $1,000 grant, some display cases from the New Brunswick government, and a government display person who gave us a very professional look. It just took off."

Now the entire three floors of the centre are used for the museum. The basement has displays, an office and the shul's mikvah. The first floor contains classrooms, a chapel and a summer art gallery. The top floor is a library for reading and research and an archive, one of only seven professional Jewish archives in Canada and the only one in the Atlantic Provinces.

Curator Catherine Biggs-Craft is the only full-time staff person. She joined the museum in 1986 and she admits that Koven "has been quite an influence on me. I had never met a Jewish person until I came here, but I've learned about the culture, way of life, and similarities to other religions and cultures. Marcia stressed education to everyone to eliminate discrimination."

Biggs-Craft said class groups are constantly touring the museum, with many teachers bringing their classes back year after year. The museum has prepared educational kits on Jewish holidays, the Holocaust and Jewish life cycle events that are in constant distribution to schools in New Brunswick.

"Catherine came to work for me from a class we were taking together at UNB-SJ," said Koven. "Otherwise, we hire summer students on government grants, and, ironically, only two or three over the years have been Jewish. Some, like Catherine, had never met a Jewish person, but within a week of training, can answer any question people throw at them."

Saint John's rich Jewish history traces from the mid-1750s through a period of high population in the 1920s to the 1960s when it started to dwindle.

Koven is thrilled everything at the museum is on microfilm at the provincial archives in Fredericton so nothing will ever be lost.

"We've shared our expertise with museums across the country. One display prepared by one of our students is in Moncton now, has been at the York-Sunbury Museum in Fredericton and will be shown in the Beth Tzedek museum in Toronto."

Koven was honored at a recent kiddush following Shabbat services.

Presentations were made by former Saint John mayor Elsie Wayne, now the deputy leader of the federal Progressive Conservative party, by the provincial government, and the Shaarei Zedek sisterhood and congregation.

"I was given a caricature by cartoonist Josh Beutel that was absolutely magnificent," she said.

Koven graduated as a registered nurse, but remained at home to bring up her four children. "I took hobby courses, art, sewing, public speaking, belly dancing, motor mechanics, yoga, and eventually thought 'enough of this. It's better to go to university.'

"The museum was my whole life – morning noon and night. I even kept paper and pencil by the bed because I would always awaken, thinking of ideas."

Principal sets goals

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Keeping kids connected, integrating them into the community, and bridging the gap between young and old, are some of the aims of Laura Wolfson, Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School's new principal.

"The direction I want to go in, is to increase family participation, and introduce a parallel education program for parents. I have all kinds of ideas," she said.

The first program to be introduced in the 140-student school, is Solelim, a once-a-month, 90-minute class plus social program for post-confirmation students in grades 11 to 13, designed to keep them within the community.

She has also revived the temple youth groups, and introduced a reading program which has seniors reading stories to children. That, she explained, is a good way of introducing children to older adults outside of their own families.

Wolfson also plans to expand the children's library, and intends to include a video collection.

Wolfson, born in Toronto, is the daughter of Herb and Joy Wolfson. The family belonged to Holy Blossom Temple.

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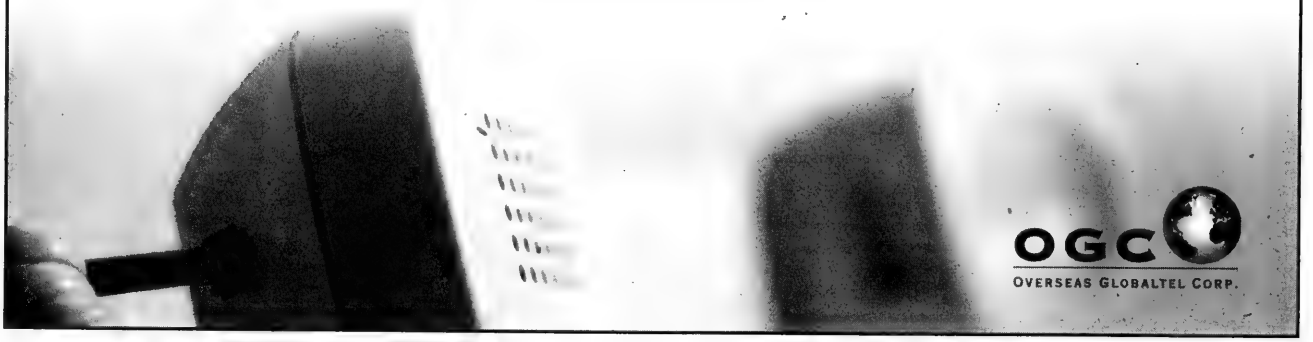

From coast to coast

Book reflects Canadian experience

MONTREAL — Sociologist Morton Weinfeld, who holds the Chair in Canadian Ethnic Studies at McGill University, and historian Desmond Morton, director of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada, have collaborated on a book entitled *Who Speaks for Canada? Words That Shape a Country* (McClelland and Stewart, 332 pp), a collection of memorable words by mostly noteworthy Canadians.

As co-editors, Weinfeld and Morton combed through almost limitless sources of possible entries to select 130 brief texts, including essays, speeches, letters, short stories, poems and the like that together, in Weinfeld's words, offer a vision of Canada without a surfeit of breast-beating patriotism or sentimental paeans to the land's natural beauty.

Weinfeld said they were influenced by a book published in the United States by Dian Ravitch, called *The American Reader*, but were looking to produce something "more substantive."

Together, they believe they bring different strengths and perspectives to this project. Morton has expertise in the full spectrum of Canadian history, with special interests in military and labor history, while Weinfeld concentrates on ethnic communities and immigration.

They spent more than three years going over potential material, making their selections on the basis of both the text's merits and on who the author was. "We didn't simply want great English and French political leaders. We wanted women, immigrants, members of First Nations as well," Weinfeld said.

About a quarter of the entries are by francophones, including some sovereigntists, whose work may not be familiar to English Canadians.

Jewish representation includes poets Irving Layton and Leonard Cohen, NDP leader David Lewis, and an excerpt from *None is Too Many* by Irving Abella and Harold Troper. There is also a reprint of the act the Quebec assembly passed in 1832 that permitted Ezekiel Hart to take his seat.

The theme is not what makes Canada great or what the country means to each author, Weinfeld said. Rather, the co-editors are seeking to present a book that when taken as a whole will reflect the variety and specialness of the Canadian experience. Weinfeld believes Canada is, indeed, a model of tolerance and harmony for the world, "despite its internal squabbles."

Besides inter-group relations, Canada has also excelled at finding a balance between such issues as free speech and protection against hate, the roles of the public and private sectors, and the divide between the judiciary and government.

He characterizes the contributors as "Canada's founders, leaders, crusaders, reformers, artists, and so-called ordinary people, who together have tried to make Canada a better place and to define the essence of this unique country." The written word is enhanced by photos and works of art.

In the introduction, Weinfeld writes about what it was like to grow up in Canada – or, more precisely, Quebec – in the 1960s as the son of Polish immigrants, Holocaust survivors.

"From my family and their experiences I learned the dangers of intolerance and the importance of fair treatment for all minorities. I also learned to value the enrichment that can come from ethnocultural and spiritual heritage. And I came to appreciate, and love, Canada, in all its diversity," despite misgivings about historical anti-Semitism, racism and discrimination.

He says he always had a "visceral admiration" for French Quebecers' struggle to maintain their identity in North America because of a "similar" Jewish experience.

Much of his appreciation of Canada stems from how his parents viewed the country. His father had been a lawyer in Poland, but here had to work as a low-paid bookkeeper. Yet, his parents loved the country because of its freedom, plenty and opportunity, at least, for their son.

"The strength of Canada is apparent to the world community. It should be apparent to Canadians, whatever their background, language, region, class, or gender...

"There is no reason for excessive triumphalism, for we still have work to do. But, as we move into the next century, let us pause for a moment of quiet satisfaction."

Ottawa marks Israel's 50th with variety of events

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Events grand and small marked the recent Israel at 50 celebration at the National Arts Centre.

The wide variety of exhibits and events showcased the many facets of life in Israel.

An art and photography exhibit, representing Israeli art over five decades, and an exhibit of science and technology were both on display throughout the week at no charge. The L'Chaim Stage in the foyer featured frequent performances of Israeli song and dance.

Zuckerman in concert

Local students were invited to a free screening of the film *Exodus*, and an open rehearsal of the National Arts Centre Orchestra conducted by Pinchas Zukerman.

Thanks to corporate sponsorship, the community was also able to attend a free screening of *Exodus*, introduced by Col. Yoash Tsiddon-Chatto, commander of one of the immigrant ships that inspired the novel on which the film is based.

In spite of months of careful planning, there were some last minute glitches. A scheduled lecture by former Israeli prime minister Shimon Peres was cancelled when he called off his trip to Canada on the eve of Israel's signing of the Wye accord.

As well, a concert conducted by Pinchas Zukerman and featuring the young Israeli violinist Ariel Shamai was nearly cancelled when the National Arts Centre Orchestra threatened to go on strike. The concert was saved at the eleventh hour when the musicians announced that the strike would begin immediately after the concert.

The strike cancelled a second concert the next night.

The Israel at 50 celebrations were presented under the honorary co-chairmanship of David Sultan, Israeli ambassador to Canada, and Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray, and under the honorary patronage of senators Leo Kolber and Jerry S. Grafstein and David Berger, Canada's ambassador to Israel.

The organizing committee was chaired by Sara Vered and Norman Barwin, president of the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation.

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On Campus

Montreal Hillel's PBJam helps feed the hungry

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Last week, for the third straight year, the Hillel Jewish Student Centre found itself in a very sticky situation.

It wasn't that it was just before finals or that Chanukah was less than three weeks away.

But, at seven Hillel CEGEP and university sites across Montreal, for two days, tables were being set up near campus libraries and students were being asked to take a minute from studying for exams to make a simple peanut butter and jelly sandwich for the hungry in Montreal.

The program was called PBJam, and organizer Pam Silbiger said in an interview that the main idea has been to instil in students the notion that even before exam time, when they are cramming like crazy, they can still spare a minute, literally, to do a good deed.

The idea came to 20-year-old Silbiger, a third-year McGill University social work student, friend Marion Miller and other Hillel students three years ago.

The first year the PBJam was run only at McGill. Last year it went on to include Dawson and Marianopolis CEGEPS, and this year the the PBJam, which is run as part of Hillel's Ani Ve'Ata social action group agenda, has spread, so to speak, to Vanier College, Concordia University, John Abbott College and the Centre Hillel.

Silbiger related, this year's PBJam required Hillel volunteers to go out and solicit for free or to purchase at a discount 20 cases each of peanut butter and assorted jams and jellies in giant-sized jars, and 575 loaves of bread – enough to put together close to 8,000 sandwiches. All kosher. And that doesn't include the sandwich bags, plastic knives and table cloths, and, for sanitary reasons, rubber gloves.

Some of the local businesses approached this year to donate food and paper products included Costco, IGA, Montreal Harvest, Loblaws and bakeries.

Silbiger said that many of the students approached to make sandwiches – about 7,000 in all – chuckled a bit at the PBJam idea, but also thought it innovative and appreciated the point organizers were trying to make.

Certainly, Silbiger knows something about community service. She performed her first volunteer work at age five, lighting Chanukah candles for B'nai Brith at the Jewish General Hospital. She hasn't stopped since then, doing everything from singing for seniors at Maimonides Hospital Geriatric Centre to taking part in B'nei Akiva and NCSY programs. She is also on the McGill Hillel board.

"I love helping people. It's something that's been instilled in me for as long as I can remember."

The sandwiches, she said, will be distributed to Le Mercaz, the Old Brewery Mission, Dans la Rue, the NDG Food Bank, the Welcome Home Mission, Multi-Caf, and other food banks.

SFU offering Judaism 101

VANCOUVER — The Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation recently announced the formation of a Judaism 101 class slated to begin in January 1999.

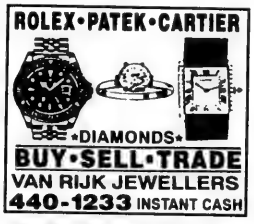
Belinda Hassall, a Vancouver Hillel member from Simon Fraser University, will be spearheading the program. "I want students to have the opportunity to explore and discuss Judaism comfortably regardless of their level of knowledge," she says. "With students teaching students, this Judaism 101 class has the potential to achieve this."

Inspired by a recent visit from Edgar M. Bronfman to Vancouver Hillel, Hassall wanted to find a way of incorporating a beit midrash style of learning, an approach to Judaism that would be both creative and fun.

During his visit to Vancouver, Bronfman spoke of making "the synagogue more of a beit midrash. ... I don't want rabbis to be slaves to the siddur," he said "and I don't want congregations to be slaves to the rabbi."

Bronfman's goal to revitalize Jewish learning is already happening on college and university campuses throughout the world. As chairman of the International Board of Governors of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, he has initiated his vision for a Jewish Renaissance.

For more information about the Judaism 101 class or the Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation, call 604-224-4748.



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(פאַרענדיקונג פון פֿריערדיקן נומער)

ביידע האָבן זיך שנעל אָנגעטאָן אָן געפּנט די טיר. לייבקע אָן בילע פֿאַלן אַריין מיט אַ געוויין אָן שרייען אַז איבער אייניק איז צוויי: — „מענטשן, ראַטעוועט!". . . בימ אָנטאָן זיך, זאָגט חיים-בער צו פּיגעלען: — „כּדאי?. שבת, יום־טוב". . . פּיגעלע לאָזט אים וויטער נישט רעדן. זי זאָגט מיט אַ הויך קול: — „וואָס זאָגט ער, שבת, יום־טוב?. . . אָן שטיסט וואָ גולם, חיימקע. . . לאָמיר גיין זאָטלען די פערד!" — נעמט זי איבער די קאַמאַנדע. — „ניגרעסטערן זאָטל אויפן בורגן אַנער! יאָ, ראַט מיט ענק. כּקען זאָך ניט פֿאַלן אָרוּך צווי ליימענע גולמס. צווי פערד עס זאָ געניג. ס'קלענערע זאָל זיך זיצן אויף דער געלער קאַבילע פֿאַר לייבקען. בילע, גיי אהיים אָן באַראיק די קינדער. נו! היידע — אין שטאָל אַרַאַ!". . .

עטלעכע מינוט שפּעטער האָבן צווי אויסגעזוכט פערד זיך געטראָגן אין גאַלאָפּ מיט זיערע רייטער, וי אַ ווינט אין פעלד. וי סׂזאָט זיך שפּעטער אַרויסגעווינט, האָט לייבקע איבערגעלאָזט דעם שוץ מיטן „שפּיצער", אַכטונג צו געבן אויפן וואָגן, מען זאָל אים נישט באַרוּבן. ער אין געגאַנגען צופוס אין שטאָט אַרײַן נאָך הילף. אַ היפּש שטיקל וועג, דערוויבער איז ער אָנגעקומען אַזוי שפּעט.

רייסנדיק אויפן בורגן אָנגער, אַהאַלטנדיק זיך אין חיימקן, האָט פּיגעלע געטראַכט: דאָכט זיך, אַז לייבקע אָן בילע האָבן מיט זיער „סאַראַאַם" נישט באַוויזן צו שטערן. . . איז חיימקע זאָל זיך, חלילה, נישט האָבן „דערשראָקן". . .

אַזוי רייטנדיק, זיינען זיי אָנגעקומען צום וואָגן. זיי האָבן שנעל אויפגעשפּאַנט די אויסגעזוכטע פערד אָן זיך געלאָזט צו דער באָן. צום גליק האָט דער קיל־וואָגאָן נאָך נעווארט. מען האָט איבערגעלאָזט דאָס פּליש אויפּעם קיל־וואָגאָן אָן לייבקע האָט עקראָגן אַ קווישטונג צו דער באָנק. אַזוי אַרום איז געווארטעוועט נעווארן אַ משפּחה פון אַ גרויס אומגליק.

צומאָרגנס, דעם ערשטן טאָג שבועות, האָט די פּריילעכע נייעס זיך פֿאַרשפּרייט צווישן יידן אין נישט־יידן. מען האָט נערעדט וועגן העלדישן טאַט פון חיים־בערן אין פּיגעלען. ביי אַלע איינוואוינער פון שטאָט איז ווי „אַראָפּ אַ שטיין פון הארצן", אַז לייבקע מיט זיין העלפער, מיינטעק, זיינען שוין אין דער היים גאָנץ אין גזונט.

דער רב פון שטעטל, ר' משהלע לובלינער, וועמען יידן אין נישט־יידן האָבן זייער געאַכטעט, האָט אויך גהאערט וועגן דעם „נס". אַ פּאָר טעג נאָך שבועות האָט ער אריינגערופן חיים־בערן מיט זין וויב צו זיך אין ביתּ־דין שטיבל אין זיך צוואַנדן צו זיי: — „ר' חיים, איר מיט אייער וויב האָבן אין דער ערשטער שבועות־נאַכט געטאָן אייניע פון די גרעסטע מצוות, וואָס אַ ייד קען טאָן: גראַטעוועט אַ גאַנצע משפּחה אָן אַ פערד דערצו. . . גייטט אהיים אָן טוט וויטער גוטס! אין דעם זכות וועט איר זיכער מצליח זיין אין אַלע אייערע וועגן. . . אָמן!"

— „אָמן, רעבעניו, אַ־מן!" — האָבן ביידע געענטפערט מיט איין קול. זיי זיינען אוועק אַהיים אויפגעהייטערטע. פּיגעלע האָט געטראַכט: אפשר האָבן מיינע תפילות דאָס מאָל דערגרייכט וואו מען דאַרף!. . .

אַרום צווי חדשים שפּעטער האָט זיך פּיגעלע איבערצייגט, אַז פון „זבנקן" איז די לאַדנס פונקט דעמאָלט, שבועות ביינאַכט, האָט זיך איר חיימל נישט איבערגעשראָקן. זי האָט אַזוי שטאַרק מורא גהאַט פֿאַר דעם. . . אַ נייע, קיימאָל נאָך נישט געפּילטע פּריידּ האָט אַרומגענומען איר האַרץ אין נשמה, אינאיינעם מיטן אויפגייענדיקן לעבן, אָט דאָ אונטערן האַרץ, מיט וועלכן פּיגעלע האָט זיך געטילט מיט איר חיימקן. . .

פֿאַר אַ לענגערער צייט איז דאָס באַלעגאָלע פֿאַרל, חיים־בער אין פּיגעלע, געווען די הויפּט־טעמע ביי אַלע טאָג־טעגלעכע שמועסן אין כענטשן. יידן אין נישט־יידן האָבן איבערגעחזרט וועגן די „נסים ונפלאות", וואָס האָבן פאַסירט שבועות ביינאַכט.

דער „גאַרדאַוואי", דער הויפּט פון דער שטאָט, אין אַן אונטער־אָפיציר פון דער ראַיאָנער זשאַנדאַרמעריע, איז אויך געקומען אויסדריקן אַנערקענונג אין זיין נאָמען אין אין נאָמען פון דער צאַרישער מאַכט. ער האָט גערעדט דעם פֿאַרפּאַלק פֿאַר זייער גרויסמוטיקן און העלדישן טאָט, מיט וועלכן זיי האָבן געווען אַ בישפּיל פֿאַר אַנדערע. זיי וועלן אויך באַקומען דעם יאָרלעכן „גובערנאַטאָרסקי" פּרייז, וואָס באַשטייט אין אַ „גראַמאָטע", אַן ערך־בריוו, פֿאַרפּאַלק חיים־בער אין פּיגאַ משאַרני, וי אויך אַן איינמאָליקן 50 רובל באַנקנאָט.

פֿאַר חיים־בערן מיט זין וויב פּיגעלע זיינען די געשענישן פון דעם „ליל תיקון שבועות" אין יענעם יאָר איינגעקריצט געווארן אין זכרון אויף זייער גאַנץ לעבן. . .

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Osteoporosis a health concern for all ages

Louise Lipman's story is not typical. A mother of two, wife, and successful business owner, she is facing a challenge few women do at her age. Lipman, 45, has osteoporosis, a disease that affects between 1.4 and 1.8 million Canadians.

Osteoporosis is often called the silent thief, because it robs the body of bone mass with few warning signs. It develops over a long period of time, weakening bones and making them easier to break. At times, the disease is painful and debilitating.

Lipman was diagnosed with osteoporosis last year. But for more than eleven years, she had experienced intermittent pain in her hips and knees. Finally, she requested a bone density test.

"I always knew the pain was not normal and that it might have something to do with my bones, but it never crossed my mind that it was osteoporosis," Lipman says. "It was a disease that I always associated with the little old lady down the street, not with someone my age."

Lipman is an exception. Most people are diagnosed with osteoporosis when they experience a broken bone. By then, the disease is usually fairly well advanced. "Osteoporosis has few warning signs, making it hard to diagnosis, and, therefore, it usually goes undetected and untreated until there is a fracture," explains Mount Sinai Hospital rheumatologist Dr. Jerry Tenenbaum.

"Unless you have had a fracture, it's rare for osteoporosis to be a cause of spontaneous bone pain. It's usually a 'silent thief' at such a young age."

Osteoporosis affects about one in four women over the age of 50, due to accelerated bone loss after menopause. But it's not just a female disease. It also affects about one in eight men over the age of 50 years.

To Your Health

In Lipman's case, she was not over 50, there was no family history of osteoporosis and she grew up drinking milk because her father was a dentist. She attributes her osteoporosis to her lifestyle. She did not exercise much in comparison to her sister, smoked for a time and drank coffee to excess.

Bone loss is inevitable with age. However there are ways to slow down the process.

"Osteoporosis is not a health concern for just the elderly, it's a concern for all ages," Dr. Tenenbaum says. "It is important that people begin building strong healthy bones right from birth so that they have the best defense when the aging process begins."

Building strong bones before the age of 30 is the best weapon. For some, it is a question of combining nutrition with exercise. However, for others who have a higher risk of developing osteoporosis, medications may be required.

When Lipman was diagnosed with osteoporosis, she had lost 35 percent of the bone mass in her hip. Today, she's building that bone back up by changing her lifestyle. Rather than taking her diagnosis lying down, Lipman is taking it in stride. She walks a minimum of one mile every day and runs three miles, three times a week on her treadmill.

She's begun a weight-lifting program and laughs about becoming a body builder. She has also made changes to her diet to include more calcium-rich foods, calcium supplements and a bisphosphonate to treat her disease.

"Bisphosphonates are a fairly new family of non-hormonal agents used in the treatment of osteoporosis," explains Dr. Tenenbaum. "Bisphosphonates act on the bone and increase the bone mass, helping to reduce the risk of vertebral fractures."

The two main bisphosphonates used in the treatment of osteoporosis are etidronate (Didronel or Didrocal) and alendronate (Fosomax). While also used in treating men with osteoporosis, both of these treatments are important alternatives to post-menopausal women who are unable or unwilling to use hormone replacement therapy.

The side effects of bisphosphonates are gastrointestinal problems such as diarrhea or heartburn. Other side effects include nausea, skin rashes, and in rare instances, esophageal problems.

Lipman's life is forever altered by her osteoporosis. "I have become very cautious about everything that I do. Even hiking, I'm afraid of falling or breaking a bone. Before, if I broke a bone, it would repair itself. Now, I wonder if it will ever repair itself. I have even had to change my dress style – now, I wear only flat shoes. No more high heels.

"But I think the most profound way this disease has affected my life is that I can no longer pick up my children."

This story was reprinted from the Mount Sinai publication Health Report, *fall 1998 edition.*

LET THE WORDS FLOW

Latvian immigrant, Aryeh Friedman, displays his computerized stuttering treatment program, which is helping thousands of people who stutter maintain their speaking fluency.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. My family loves mashed potatoes, but I find that the only way to make them taste creamy and delicious is by adding a lot of butter or cream. Do you have any lower fat suggestions?

A. I also love regular mashed potatoes and have found a few low-fat ways to make them. Using buttermilk is a good choice, since it's low in fat and very creamy and flavorful. Another great alternative is to add roasted garlic. Roasted garlic gives a lot of flavor and a creamy texture.

Q. Is a veggie burger always the better choice at a hamburger restaurant?

A. It depends on how you define better. Veggie burgers are not always the lowest calorie or lowest total fat choice, particularly if a grilled chicken breast on a bun is an option. While many veggie burgers are low in total fat, saturated fats and calories, many have a lot of fat in the form of egg, oil or seeds and nuts, added to give flavor and texture. Depending on your reasons for choosing the veggie burger, ask the necessary questions so you can make an educated decision.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Dec. 7, is deadline for Dec. 17 issue, and Monday, Dec. 14, is deadline for Dec. 24 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Dec. 6

FAMILY CHANUKAH PARTY

Jewish Women International Soleil Chapter family Chanukah party, 2-5 p.m., Earl Bales Park, Room 4, door prizes, drinks, latkes, donuts, games, music, children's entertainment. $5. **Helen Bokser** 222-1722.

CHASSIDIC & ROCK MUSIC

A musical evening of Chassidic and Rock Music starring **Rabbi Gedalia Zweig**, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Sponsored by Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood. Proceeds to Soldiers of Israel. Coordinators **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove**

BREAKFAST CLUB

Congregation Habonim invites you to hear archeologist **Aaron Nussbaum** discuss Ancient Jewish Coins – What Do They Tell Us?, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. (Bathurst/Glencairn). Breakfast and lecture $6.

BEIT RAYIM PARTY

Chanukah party at Beit Rayim Synagogue and Hebrew School, noon to 2 p.m., 9711 Bayview Ave. Dancing with disc jockey, magician Magical Ron, activities, prizes, latkes, donuts. Members $3, guests $5. Full lunch available for an extra $3. 905-770-7639.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Larry's Party by **Carol Shields** discussed by Feminist Book Discussion Group, North York Chapter, Older Women's Network, 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

At Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen or tell. $4 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts, 440-1330.

HOLIDAY CONCERT

Residents of seniors' facilities are especially invited to a concert of pop, Broadway and folk songs plus holiday music presented by The Choralairs of North York, 2 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre.

CHARITY BAZAAR

All new items, giveaway prices, toys, gifts, electronics, clothing, food, housewares, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 3543 Bathurst St. All proceeds to Yeshiva Bnei Zion of Bobov.

Monday, Dec. 7

OSHER OPEN HOUSE

Project Osher Open House information session for students (18-22) interested in 8 weeks in Israel from February 1999. 7:30 p.m., 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300, Israel Aliyah Centre. 633-4766.

BB SINGLES LODGE

B'nai Brith Friendship Singles Lodge (40-60) general meeting, 7:30 p.m., 15 Hove St. **Rabbi Ronnie Cahana** speaks on Trusting Joy in Your Life – You Deserve It! Members $3, non-members $5. RSVP 633-6224, ext 351.

Tuesday, Dec. 8

FAITH AND VICTORY

Holiday celebration of song with Lachan Jewish Chamber Choir and Palestrina Chamber Chorus, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Sponsored by Koffler Centre and Columbus Centre. $15, seniors/students $10. 636-1880, ext. 0

TORAH JEWS

Rabbi Aaron Twerski discusses The Challenges of a Torah Jew in a Secular Society, 7:45 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Synagogue, 613 Clark Ave.,Thornhill.

PERSONAL INSULTS

Rabbi Moshe Stern lectures on How to Deal With Personal Insults Part II, 8-9 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue.

Continued on page 29

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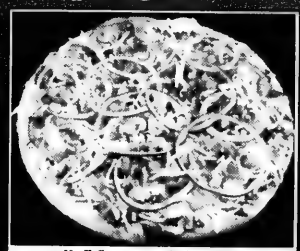
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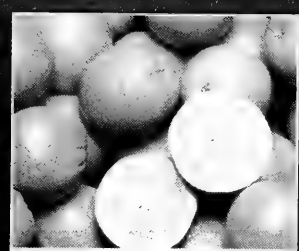
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WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 UNTIL FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1998.

What's New

Continued from page 28

Wednesday, Dec. 9

HOLIDAY CRAFT SALE

Baycrest's Holiday Craft sale offering knitting needles, crochet hooks, wool, fabric and hand crafts made by residents, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 785-2500, ext. 3574 or 2549.

BOOK REVIEW

Teacher/book critic **Heather Kassel** reviews **Ursula Hegi's** novel *Stones from the River* , 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

CELEBRATE WITH MUSIC

Baycrest Centre Wellness Education Group session, Celebrate the Holidays with Music, with **Wilena Brown**, Baycrest coordinator of Music Therapy Services. 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $2 at door. **Judy Chu** 785-2500, ext. 2340.

CHANUKAH PARTY

Dr. Filderman Lodge, B'nai Brith, Chanukah party, traditional food, music, tombola, 7 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. $12. 631-0634.

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting, Jewish Lettering Design with **Ruth Warzech,** 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St. **Serita** 789-1145.

MARKHAM-UNIONVILLE

Jewish Women International, Markham-Unionville Chapter meeting, guest speaker **Dr. Diana**, specialist in Naturopathic Medicine. **Sheryl** 905-305-7026 or **Susan** 905-940-0286.

Thursday, Dec. 10

LENKINSKI LECTURE

Former Toronto mayor **Barbara Hall**, chair, National Strategy on Community Safety and Crime Prevention, delivers the annual Louis Lenkinski Memorial Lecture on Human Rights marking International Human Rights Day, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Topic: Human Rights and Healthy Communities. Sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress,Ontario Region. **Daniel Fine** 635-2883, ext. 147.

MUSICAL EVENING

Temple Sinai Sisterhood presents An Evening of George Gershwin, Cole Porter and All the Jazz! with vocalist **Julie Michels** and bassist **Dick Felix**, 7:30 p.m. at the temple. $18 in advance, $20 at door. 227-0012.

And What Else Is New

CHANUKAH CONCERT

Beth Tikvah Synagogue evening of music and song featuring **Beth Anne Cole** and the Chutzpah Klezmer Ensemble, Sunday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. $18 in advance, $20 at door. 221-3433.

SEPHARDI EVENING

A Journey Into Sepharad, presentation and Sephardi dinner, songs and music, Saturday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m., Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation, 20 Danby Ave. $30 per person, prepaid reservations only. 636-4719.

KHANUKE HULIANKE

Friends of Yiddish evening of Yiddish folksongs, theatre songs and songs of the season with **Jerry Gray** of The Travellers accompanied by **James Gray** of Blue Rodeo, Saturday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Members $5, non-members $10.Tickets available at Lasting Impressions, 243 Wilmington Ave., Bathurst Manor Plaza.

ABOUT INVESTMENTS

Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood breakfast program, Investments for Tomorrow, with investment advisor **Douglas McGregor,** Sunday, Dec. 13, service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10.

CHANUKAH PARTY

Chanukah and end of the year party, latkes, music, fun, sponsored by Stroke Recovery Group, Monday. Dec. 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Bathurst Jewish Centre. **Janice Roth** 636-1880, ext. 229.

ASHKENAZ & BLOOR JCC

Ashkenaz and the Bloor Jewish Community Centre celebrate Chanukah with AshkeTANTS, Yiddish dance party, Saturday, Dec. 12, 8:30 p.m. (doors open 8 p.m.) at Bloor JCC. $10 in advance, $12 at door. 924-6211.

Also, Eight Nights, Eight Lights, masked performance accompanied by live music and song, Sunday, Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Bloor JCC. Children $2, adults, $7, families $8. Reserve. 924-6211.

AT BETH TZEDEC

John and Molly Pollock Lectures, Saturday, Dec. 5 and Sunday Dec. 6, guest speaker **Rabbi Jack Riemer** of Boca Raton, Fl.

Saturday: Shabbat service, 8:45 a.m., What is the Most Difficult Mitzvah in the Torah to Keep?; Study luncheon following service on David, Bathsheba and Woody Allen.

Sunday: Men's Club breakfast, What I Have Learned from Women. Service 9 a.m., lecture 9:45, followed by breakfast.

SINGLES PARTY

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles (35-55) joins Temple Sinai Singles for a Chanukah party, latkes, noshes, cash bar, Saturday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m. at Temple Sinai. $25 pre-paid reservations only by Dec. 10. **Margie** at temple office 487-4161.

ST. JOHNS COURSES

Infant and Child CPR (newborn to 8 years); Heartsaver CPR (adult); First Aid Course. Reserve. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

NCSY TORAH EXPERIENCE

NCSY New York Torah Experience, Dec. 28-Jan. 3. Exciting sights, Broadway show, New York Holocaust Museum. 905-761-6279, ext. 27.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work begins Jan. 18; Separation and Divorce Group begins Dec. 3; Women: Making It Happen, to learn more effective interpersonal skills, begins Dec. 3; Adolescent Social Skills Group begins Jan. 11.

SINGLES SCENE

Singles events under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

Monthly meetings: 35-55 group, Monday Dec. 7, 8 p.m.; 25-35 group Tuesday, Dec. 8, 8 p.m.

Exclusive Chanukah party with Latin flair, 35-55 group, Saturday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m., music, latkes, hors d'oeuvres. $10 by reservation only, 633-3838.

Beth Emeth and Beth Tzedec's community-wide Skate Nite, Irv Chapley Arena, time TBA.

GIFTS & DONATIONS

Needed for Huronia Regional Centre for developmentally and Physically challenged. Drop off at National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, 4700 Bathurst St, Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 633-5100.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 8, Safe Medication lecture, noon to 1 p.m.; Dec. 9 and 21, Casino Rama; Dec. 15, lecture and video, Dental Care for Seniors, 10 a.m.; Dec. 17, Chanukah and holiday show, Richmond Hill Country Club, leaving 1 p.m.; Dec. 20, dance; Dec. 31, New Year's Eve dinner and dance. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club: Registration for Miami trip 1999, **Libby** 783-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 3, video with **Jackie Mason**; Dec. 10, lecture by **Yonaton Kassel**, envoy to Habonim Dror; Dec. 17, bingo; Dec. 19, Chanukah dance, reserve by calling **Malka Colla** 630-5771; Dec. 31, party for members. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia** 661-4689.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Israel trip postponed to Purim. Chanukah entertainment, **Lenke Lichtenberg**, Monday, Dec. 21, 12:30 p.m., light lunch. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Hearing Aid Checkup, **Barry Katz**, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 12:15 p.m.

Parkinson's Support Group, pharmacist **Chee Ying Chiu** discusses Medications in the Management of Parkinson's Disease, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 1:15 p.m.

Wellness lecture, Step Forward With Care, physiotherapists **Edda Laxer** and **Terry Lipkus**, Thursday, Dec. 10, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-a-longs, lectures, bingo, dances. Dec. 8 is a lecture. **Anna.**

Movie, *Forrest Gump* , Sunday, Dec. 6, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social Dec. 9, **Victor K.** and **Papaduk V.** 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Books and Bagels Sunday, Dec. 6, welcomes playwright **Jason Sherman** who reads from his new play, *It's All True*, 11 a.m.

Tom's Place Annual Fall Warehouse Sale, Dec. 3-6. A percentage of sale proceeds go to Bloor JCC.

Toronto Jewish Film Society screens *East and West*, 1923 silent film featuring **Molly Picon** with live music by the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, Sunday, Dec. 6, 5 and 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario. Call 924-6211.

Wednesday Wellness Night health talk Dec. 9, High Performance in Sports, 7 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Registration open for September 1999 for Tic Tac Twos, Nursery School, Junior and Senior Kindergarten, and full day care (18 months to 5 years). Judaic curriculum, Hebrew, music, Children's Discovery Museum, swim. ext. 248.

Now available, Mess-and-Stress-free birthday parties in the Children's Discovery Museum. Call ext. 248.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 16

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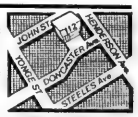

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Chanukah Delights

Luscious latkes can be a dessert

By LINDA MOREL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Potato latkes are Chanukah's signature dish, not because of the potato, but because of the oil. Potatoes did not exist in the Holy Land when the Jewish people triumphed over the Syrians.

While there is evidence that the custom of making latkes from potatoes originated in Russia, innovative Jewish cooks have extended the repertoire for centuries. Adding sugar to late-harvest produce, they created sensational desserts.

Like carrot cakes, carrot latkes have hit the dessert circuit, too. Infused with vanilla and almonds, they are dusted with confectioners' sugar. Don't worry if they cool; they're irresistible at room temperature too.

Inspired by seasonal fruit, cranberry latkes are an American contribution to Chanukah cuisine. With orange juice and raisins playing counterpoint to tart berries, they burst with piquant flavor.

VIENNESE LAYER LATKES

2 16-ounce jars applesauce
½ tsp. cinnamon
¼ tsp. nutmeg
¼ tsp. ground cloves
¼ cup brown sugar
6 eggs
2 cups small-curd cottage cheese
¼ cup sweet butter, melted; plus 4 pats
6 tbsp. flour
¼ tsp. salt
1 tsp. sugar
½ tsp. vanilla
Stick-free cooking spray
1 cup walnuts, finely ground
confectioners' sugar

Combine applesauce, spices and brown sugar in saucepan. Boil over medium heat, stirring often. Let cool.

In large bowl, place eggs, beating until foamy. Add cheese, ¼ cup butter, flour, salt, sugar and vanilla, beating well. Divide batter into 8 bowls.

Coat an 8-inch, non-stick frying pan and an 8-inch springform pan with cooking spray.

Place frying pan on medium flame, melting half pat of butter.

Pour batter from first bowl into frying pan, spreading evenly.

Brown lightly. Turn crepe, browning on other side.

Move crepe to springform pan. Coat with applesauce and sprinkle with walnuts. Pour batter from rest of the bowls, one at a time, to brown crepes individually. Coat each with applesauce and walnuts and layer in springform pan.

Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees, until heated through. Take pan from oven, place on plate, and remove sides. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar. Cut into 10 wedges.

Continued on page 32

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Chanukah Delights

No fudge — unmasking a candy conspiracy

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

One of my 11-year-old's chief memories of our family vacation to the Black Hills is that he couldn't have fudge.

Why fudge? Well, every single park, tourist trap, rest stop or gas station that we visited seemed to have at least 200 to 300 tiny little fudge shops purposely sending their aroma in our direction. It is guaranteed that whatever looks and smells good on vacation usually isn't kosher.

Anyone who keeps kosher knows that travelling to remote spots (there would appear to be fewer than 20 Jews and *no* kosher meat in South Dakota) can be an exercise in creativity.

You can get fruit and tuna and peanut butter anywhere – and after a 10-day diet of that stuff, you'd happily eat dirt just for something different (like fudge) – but, trust me, there is no kosher fudge shop in the Black Hills. We looked.

We made do with M&Ms and Oreos for our chocolate fixes, but it wasn't quite the same.

Sure we survived, but I promised my kids that one of the first things I'd make when we got home would be – you guessed it – fudge.

Here are several of the recipes that we made (and ate) during our first three days back.

CHOCOLATE FUDGE BALLS

2¼ oz. water
4½ oz. sugar
4½ oz. ground walnuts
4½ oz. ground almonds
4½ oz. ground coconut
4½ oz. unsweetened chocolate
4½ oz. honey
2 or 3 tbsps. kirsch
Cocoa powder to roll balls in

In a saucepan, over a low heat, dissolve the sugar in the water. Add the chocolate and heat to melt. Add all other ingredients except kirsch and cocoa.

Stir continuously over low heat until the mixture becomes a paste. Remove from heat, add the kirsch and mix well. Let the mixture cool completely. Form into small balls (size of a walnut) and roll the ball in the cocoa. Serve in small paper candy cups. Makes 25 to 30.

MICROWAVE FUDGE

3 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 cup sweetened condensed milk
1 tsp. vanilla extract
½ cup chopped walnuts
Dash Salt

Place the chocolate chips in a large microwaveable bowl. Microwave on high for 5 minutes or until chips are glossy. Remove from microwave and stir until smooth. Stir in the milk, salt, vanilla and walnuts.

Place waxed paper on the bottom of an 8-inch pan. Spread mixture in the pan and chill for 2 hours or until firm. Cut into squares. Makes 16 pieces. Options: Rocky Road – omit walnuts and add 1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts and 2 cups kosher miniature marshmallows.

FAST CHOCOLATE-PECAN FUDGE

½ cup butter or margarine
¼ cup cocoa
4 cups confectioner's sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
½ cup evaporated milk
1 cup pecan pieces

Line 9X13-inch pan with foil; set aside. In medium microwaveable bowl, microwave butter on high (full power) 1 to 1½ minutes or until melted. Add cocoa; stir until smooth. Stir in confectioner's sugar and vanilla; blend well (mixture will be dry and crumbly). Stir in evaporated milk.

Microwave on high 1 minute; stir. Microwave an additional minute or until mixture is hot. Beat with wooden spoon until smooth; add pecan pieces. Pour into prepared pan. Cover; chill until firm. Cut into small squares. Store covered in refrigerator. Makes about 3 dozen squares.

CREAM CHEESE FUDGE

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
4 cups sifted powdered sugar
4 oz. baking chocolate (unsweetened, melted)
dash salt
½ cup chopped nuts
1 tbsp. vanilla

Using a mixer beat the cream cheese until it's soft. Gradually add the powdered sugar mixing well. Add the chocolate, salt, nuts and vanilla. Mix well. Pour the mixture into a buttered 8-inch pan. Chill several hours and cut into small squares.

DARK CHOCOLATE MINT FUDGE

6 oz. bittersweet or semisweet chocolate (not unsweetened), chopped
¼ cup marshmallow creme
1½ oz. unsweetened chocolate, chopped
½ tsp. peppermint extract
1½ cups sugar
¾ cup sweetened condensed milk
⅓ cup water
⅓ cup whipping cream
¼ cup (½ stick) unsalted butter, cut into pieces

Line 9x5-inch loaf pan with foil, overlapping sides. Place first 4 ingredients in metal bowl and set aside. Mix sugar, milk, water, cream and butter in heavy 3-quart saucepan. Stir over medium-low heat until the sugar dissolves. Brush down sugar crystals from sides of pan using pastry brush dipped into water. Increase heat to high; bring to rolling boil. Reduce heat to medium-high; stir slowly with wooden spoon until clip-on candy thermometer registers 232 F. (about 9 minutes).

Pour the boiling mixture over ingredients in bowl; do not scrape the pan. Stir the mixture in the bowl vigorously with wooden spoon until chocolate melts and fudge thickens slightly, about 2 minutes (mixture should still be very soft and glossy). Immediately pour fudge into prepared pan; smooth top with rubber spatula. Refrigerate fudge until firm enough to cut, about 2 hours.

Lift fudge from pan, using foil

Continued on page 32

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1/2 cup	granulated sugar	125 mL
1/3 cup	Fleischmann's Margarine, melted	75 mL
2	eggs	2
1 tbsp.	Baking powder	15 mL
1/2 tsp.	salt	2 mL
2 1/2 cups	all purpose flour	625 mL
1/2 cup	peeled, chopped apples	125 mL
1/4 cup	each: raisins, chopped pecans	50 mL
	oil for frying	

Topping- Stir together:

1/4 cup	granulated sugar	50 mL
1/2 tsp.	ground cinnamon	2 mL

1. *In a large bowl, using an electric mixer on low speed, combine milk, sugar, Fleischmann's margarine, eggs, baking powder, salt and 1 cup (250 mL) of the flour. Scrape side of bowl and mix just until combined. On medium speed, beat an additional 2 minutes until batter is smooth.*
2. *Stir in remaining flour, apples, raisins and pecans until combined. Batter will be thick.*
3. *In a deep fat fryer or saucepan heat oil 2-3 inches deep. Oil should be at 350°C (180°F). Carefully drop batter by teaspoonful into hot oil. As the donuts rise, turn them. Fry for about 2 minutes on each side or until golden brown. Remove and drain on paper towels. Roll donuts in sugar and cinnamon mixture.*

Makes about 42 donuts

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Fudge can come in all sorts of exotic flavors

Continued from page 31

as aid. Fold down foil sides. Trim ends of fudge. Cut into 24 pieces. (Can be made 1 week ahead. Chill in airtight container. Serve at room temperature.)

CREAMY KAHLUA FUDGE

1 1/3 cup granulated sugar
1 7 oz. jar marshmallow creme
2/3 cup evaporated milk
1/4 cup butter
1/4 cup Kahlua
1/4 tsp. salt
2 cups semi-sweet chocolate pieces
1 cup milk chocolate pieces
2/3 cup chopped nuts
1 tsp. vanilla

Line 8-inch square baking pan with foil. In 2 quart saucepan, combine sugar, marshmallow creme, milk, butter, Kahlua and salt. Bring to a rapid boil, stirring constantly for 5 min. Remove from heat; add all the chocolate. Stir until melted. Add the nuts and vanilla and mix well. Turn into the pan. Refrigerate until firm. Cut in small squares. Makes approx. 2 to 3 lbs.

AMAZING VANILLA FUDGE

2 sticks (1/2 cup each) butter
1/4 tsp. salt
2 lb. package confectioner's sugar, sifted
1 tbsp. vanilla
Scant 1/4 cup sweetened condensed milk or real cream

In a large saucepan melt the butter over lowest heat. Stir in salt and slightly less than half the package of sugar. Stir until very smooth (some butter will still be on top.) Still over lowest heat, stir in milk and vanilla until smooth. Stir in remaining sugar and stir for 5 minutes, still over lowest heat. Turn into a greased 9X13 pan. When firm cut into small squares. Makes 3 lbs. of fudge.

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Cranberry latkes a U.S. concept

Continued from page 30

CARROT LATKES

4 large carrots, grated
1/3 cup blanched almonds, finely grated
2 eggs
1/2 cup flour
1/2 tsp. vanilla
3 tbsp. sugar
Corn oil
Confectioners' sugar

In large bowl, mix carrots, almonds, eggs, flour, vanilla and sugar.

On medium flame, heat oil in 2 large skillets, adding as needed.

By scant tablespoons, drop batter in skillet, flattening with spoon.

Turn when golden, repeating until both sides brown, about 12 minutes. Don't undercook.

Drain on paper towels.

Dust with confectioners' sugar. Yield 24.

CRANBERRY LATKES

12-ounce bag cranberries
1/2 box golden raisins
1/2 cup orange juice
2 cups sugar
1 cup flour
2 eggs
Corn oil
Whipped cream or non-dairy whipped topping

In large pot, simmer cranberries in 3/4 cup water, until they pop.

Add raisins, juice and sugar, mixing well. Boil until mixture thickens, about 15 minutes. Let cool.

Add flour and eggs, mixing with large spoon.

In 2 skillets, heat oil on low flame.

Drop batter by tablespoons into skillets, flattening with spoon.

Turn when golden. As latkes can burn, turn often until both sides are light brown yet soft (about 20 minutes).

Drain on paper towels.

Serve with whipped topping. Yield 36.

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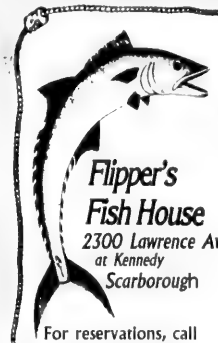

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Israel to stop demolishing houses built without permits

By AMIRA HASS
Ha'aretz Daily Newspapers Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has promised that Israel will not demolish some 700 homes built on the West Bank without civil administration permits.

The homes, constructed over the last three years, are all located within the zoning boundaries of various villages.

Recently, however, hundreds of police officers presided over the demolition of an East Jerusalem house built without a permit.

The house in Beit Hanina belonged to Sherif Ahmad Abdallah, a Palestinian who returned to Israel last year after a prolonged stay in the United States. Abdallah said that he knew he needed a permit, but that his lawyer had told him he was taking care of matters with the municipality.

Michael Stoltz, deputy director of the PMO's policy planning division, made the commitment on the West Bank houses in an October letter he e-mailed to correspondents abroad who had protested the prospect of the houses being bulldozed.

A senior source in the office of the coordinator of government activities in the territories told *Ha'aretz* that Israel has stopped razing homes built without permits.

Stoltz's letter said that approximately 700 homes built within village boundaries would not be razed – but that several hundred others built outside those boundaries were slated for demolition, as they occupy state-owned land or lie in areas where their presence constitutes a security risk.

Stoltz wrote, "While special efforts are made to be lenient with those who built without the proper permits, sometimes – particularly when the violation has security implications – demolition is unavoidable."

A source in the office of the coordinator said he believed a significant portion of the 700 homes are located in areas slated to be ceded to the Palestinian Authority (PA) in the context of the implementation of the Wye agreement. The source said several of the homes were located in territory transferred to civilian PA control 10 days ago.

Israel is not interested in generating the added tension that would come from demolishing homes, the source said – but will resume a more rigid enforcement of building laws once Wye is implemented.

Axworthy at meeting on Mideast

WASHINGTON — Canada's foreign minister, Lloyd Axworthy, was in Washington this week to participate in the Conference to Support the Middle East Peace Process and Development.

The foreign ministers of 50 countries were invited to take part.

While in Washington, Axworthy held talks with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

"With the signing of the Wye River Memorandum, Israel and the Palestinians have taken another step toward achieving a just and lasting peace," Axworthy said in a statement. "This conference demonstrates the commitment of the international community to supporting the peace process and Palestinian development."

Wiesenthal Centre to expand programs on tolerance

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — In a major expansion, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre has purchased a three-storey building to house its extensive tolerance education programs for law enforcement officers, teachers, students and corporations.

The $6.6-million facility lies directly across the street from the centre's Museum of Tolerance.

Participants in the Tools for Tolerance and Steps to Tolerance program are exposed to the hands-on multimedia learning centre, exhibits on the Holocaust and worldwide genocides, and workshops on racism and bigotry.

A total of 20,000 police officers and sheriff's deputies, and 7,000 educators, have graduated from the programs so far. During the last school year, 6,000 students from 117 public and private schools also participated.

At a brief ceremony, the California Arts Council, a state agency, recently presented a cheque for $2.5 million to Rabbi Meyer May, the centre's executive director, as the state's contribution toward the building purchase.

As the most diverse state in the country, where public school students hail from 140 nations and speak 105 languages, California is the leader in lifelong tolerance education, said the council's director, Barbara Pieper.

The Wiesenthal Centre will match this amount, and the remaining cost will be covered through rents from the building's street-level tenants.

"There is no better place to teach these programs than through the Museum of Tolerance, and what we do here has a national and global impact," she added.

Previous to the current grant, the centre had received $11 million in state support.

Part of the new building may also be used for the centre's proposed children's museum, said Rabbi Marvin Hier, the centre's dean and founder.

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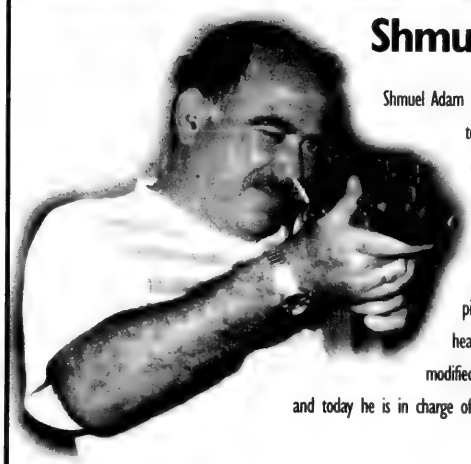

Shmuel Adam was a leader in the Anti Terrorist Unit of the IDF. On March 11, 1978 he was summoned to fight 11 terrorists who had taken hostage of a bus carrying families on a day trip from Haifa to Jerusalem. The unit moved in, killing most of the terrorists, but in the fight, his arm was severed from his shoulder, his other hand totally crushed. After surgery, he began his rehabilitation at Beit Halochem.

Says Shmuel, "Whatever I can do with my hand is thanks to the wonderful physiotherapists at Beit Halochem. But they showed me more ... the best rehabilitation was in my head, not in my hand". To overcome his disability, he began inventing and building specially modified weapons. His injuries did not stop him ... he continued to work for the IDF until 1988, and today he is in charge of security at Israeli Hydro.

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Argentine commission criticized

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A commission investigating Argentina's role as a refuge for Nazi war criminals has issued a preliminary report and "the results are mixed," according to a Canadian observer helping monitor the commission's work.

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre (SWC), said the report "makes no sense" in finding that only about 150 Nazis escaped to Argentina.

"Given that Canada's special unit on war crimes has investigated more than 1,000 files it seems highly unlikely that Argentina, a country with close social and political ties to Nazi Germany, would have only 150," Littman said.

Littman is the only Canadian representative on an international panel established to scrutinize the work of the Commission for the Clarification of Nazi Activities in Argentina (CEANA). The advisory group includes representatives of the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League, B'nai Brith, DAIA (the Argentine Jewish federation) and the Latin American Jewish Congress. CEANA's personnel includes a number of social scientists and academics headed by Argentine historian Ignacio Klitch, who is Jewish.

The commission was appointed by Argentine Foreign Minister Diego Di Tella after the extradition of war criminals Josef Schwammberger and Erich Priebke brought attention to Argentina's role as a refuge for Nazis. Other notorious war criminals who made Argentina their postwar home included Adolf Eichmann and Josef Mengele.

Members of the commission have investigated various national archives, but their findings are incomplete, Littman asserted. "The German, Spanish and French members of the academic committee were eager but inexperienced...I had the feeling we were dealing with a bunch of raw, graduate students.

"They were virtually looking in the wrong places at times, in the wrong archives. They were also short of manpower and financial support.

"For example, the Spanish researcher assigned to unravel the Nazi escape route through Spain felt she needed to travel to Barcelona to view an important archive, but there was no money to buy a train ticket," Littman said.

Littman, who travelled to Buenos Aires for the release of CEANA's preliminary findings, also criticized the original one-year time limit placed on the commission's work.

"That was extremely unrealistic," he said. "Anyone who has done archival historical research knows progress is usually extremely slow. Fortunately, CEANA has extended its mandate for another year. But even that may not be enough time to bring out the truth."

Littman also suggested researchers are devoting too much of their efforts investigating German and Austrian war criminals when "only about 25 percent of war criminals are Germans or Austrians. Most were collaborators in the police and slaughter groups. In Canada, more than 75 percent are East European or Central European collaborators."

"Can a Peronista regime, led by a Peronista president and a Peronista foreign minister be trusted to unearth the truth regardless of how painful it may prove to be?" he asked.

SWC vice-president Shimon Samuels, who is also a member of the advisory group, was skeptical about CEANA's report as well. "If this is going to be the official version then it's unacceptable," he told the *Guardian* newspaper. Littman and Samuels were also critical of the commission's lack of progress in determining whether looted Nazi assets were deposited in Argentina.

Despite his doubts, Littman said he believed Argentine President Carlos Menem has been sincere in reaching out to the Jewish community. He pointed out that a statue of former Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg was recently unveiled in Buenos Aires. In January 1944, Sweden took over representation of Argentine diplomatic interests in Budapest, making Wallenberg a representative of Argentine interests at the time he was saving thousands of Hungarian Jews.

Members of CEANA and the advisory committee also visited the bombed site of the Jewish community building in downtown Buenos Aires. The blast killed 115 people four years ago. No arrests have been made in the case.

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Insurance, artwork to be discussed

Continued from page 1

• and David Walden of the Heritage department's Moveable Cultural Property Program. Walden is the team's expert on artworks.

The conference, hosted by the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, will also attempt to tie up issues left over on Nazi gold.

At last year's London conference on looted gold, Ottawa presented the report by Carleton University history professor Duncan McDowall, which found no evidence that Nazi gold made its way into Canada. Other nations viewed the report as a model of research.

Much has happened since the London conference. Private Swiss banks reached a $1.25 billion (US) out-of-court settlement with Holocaust survivors over the issue of seized bank accounts. Swiss banks also set up a $185 million humanitarian fund for needy survivors, of which roughly $2.5 million was allotted to Canada.

Just last week, Switzerland's two largest banks said they would make an initial payment of $250 million this week as part of the settlement.

The money, the first of three installments, will go into an escrow account and will not be available to survivors until a final settlement agreement and distribution plan are finalized sometime next year.

Swiss banks say they have paid about $4 million to some 84 Holocaust survivors so far from accounts left over from the Holocaust era.

But experts agree that the issue of insurance policies and artworks will be more difficult than bank accounts or gold.

CJC recently met with officials from the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association to examine possible dormant Holocaust insurance policies in this country.

The association agreed to set up toll-free numbers, in English and French, to assist anyone seeking information on possible unclaimed insurance proceeds owing to victims and survivors of the Holocaust and their heirs.

The numbers are 1-800-860-3413 in English and 1-888-361-8070 in French. Toronto callers can dial 359-2008.

Israel considering Lebanon withdrawal

Continued from page 1

The proposal was based on UN Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon alongside security guarantees that attacks would not be launched on Israel from Lebanon.

Netanyahu said Sunday that the Israeli army will remain in Lebanon until the safety of Israel's northern communities can be assured. But at the same time, he said that every effort would be made to minimize troop casualties.

Meanwhile, President Ezer Weizman called on Syrian President Hafez Assad to resume negotiations with Israel. Prime Minister Shimon Peres suspended the talks in March 1996 after Syria failed to condemn a series of suicide bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

Speaking after a condolence visit to the family of one of four soldiers killed last week, Weizman said only a political solution involving Syria would bring an end to the fighting in southern Lebanon.

As politicians suggested ways out of the morass in Lebanon, the Israel Defence Force sought ways to lower the number of combat deaths sustained there.

All of the seven Israeli soldiers killed during the past two weeks were victims of roadside bombs planted by Hezbollah near Israeli outposts in the security zone.

Senior army and defence officials were reported to be considering ways to reduce the number of IDF positions in the nine-mile-wide zone.

RAY OF LIGHT

Eli, a disabled blind student at the Keren Or Jerusalem Centre for Multi-Handicapped Blind Children is helped to light the first Chanukah candle by Nitza Weizman, a teacher at the centre. Keren Or in Hebrew means ray of light. [Israel file photo]

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Struggle against terrorism key to Wye Accord's success

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The peace-for-security Wye memorandum, struck on Oct. 23 to round off the jagged edges of the 1994 and 1995 Olso accords, could be a turning point in the struggle against terrorism.

Mideast Analysis

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would not have signed the American-sponsored agreement without Yasser Arafat's verifiable pledge to systematically fight terrorism and without the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's direct involvement in the process. On the basis of these understandings, and compelling evidence of the Palestinian Authority's resolve to crack down on Islamic groups that oppose peace, the Israeli government last month authorized the first of three withdrawals from the West Bank. The next redeployment is due to take place in mid-December, and the third one in January 1999.

If the Palestinians hew to a policy of "zero tolerance" for terrorism, and if Israel refrains from undertaking provocative unilateral actions on the ground, there is a chance, however slim, that the two sides may actually wind up final status talks on schedule next May.

The spectre of terrorism, perpetrated in the main by Hamas and Islamic Jihad, which oppose Israel's existence, has haunted the Oslo process from the very outset.

Within weeks of the signing of the Declaration of Principles in September 1993, Israel was hit by a sickening series of random attacks – knifings and shootings – which claimed the lives of civilians and soldiers.

But the heaviest burden Israelis had to bear was the spate of suicide bombings that erupted in the spring of 1994, following Dr. Baruch Goldstein's single-handed massacre of 29 Palestinian worshippers in a Hebron mosque. The Shin Bet's subsequent assassination of Hamas bomb maker Yaya Ayyash led to further bombings.

Terrorism has exacted a terrible toll, killing 73 persons in 1994, 52 in 1995, 77 in 1996 and 29 in 1997. With each major attack, the Palestinian Authority was pushed by Israel and the United States into imposing controls on the Islamic militants. But Arafat, fearing a civil war and susceptible to the accusation of being an Israeli agent, never really tried to crush the radicals and their infrastructure. Indeed, in releasing detainees shortly after they had been arrested in much-publicized sweeps, he left the disconcerting impression that he was merely going through the motions and practising a cynical "revolving door" policy.

As a result, Arafat came under sharp criticism. "The Palestinian Authority is taking certain localized actions," said Netanyahu last April, referring to arrests of terrorists and busts of bomb factories. "But it is not doing everything it needs to do against terrorism." Netanyahu's advisor, David Bar-Ilan, put it more pithily: "Our complaint is not that terror exists, but rather that the Palestinian Authority does not do enough to fight it."

With the Wye accord, which is widely regarded as another step toward Palestinian statehood, the Palestinian Authority may finally be ready to deal with terrorism seriously.

Since Oct. 23, the Palestinian Authority has arrested hundreds of Islamic activists, and in an unprecedented measure, placed Hamas' spiritual leader, Sheik Ahmad Yassin, under house arrest and severed his phone lines. Bitterly complaining about the Palestinian Authority's cooperation with Israel and the Central Intelligence Agency, and cognizant of Arafat's promise of a "100 percent effort" to combat terrorism, Yassin admitted that Hamas' military wing was encountering "many difficulties" in mounting operations.

Ever since the Palestinian Authority resumed security cooperation with Israel in October 1997, following the withdrawal of such services in the wake of Israel's decision to build the Har Choma housing project in eastern Jerusalem, the incidence of terrorism has declined significantly. So far this year, eight Israelis have fallen victim to terrorism, and there have been no successful suicide bombings. But Israeli counter measures have also drastically reduced Hamas' ability to wreak havoc.

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The Week in Israel

Nov. 23

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu invited his old political rival, David Levy, to return to the government as finance minister. Levy resigned as foreign minister in January, citing differences over the peace process and domestic issues.

• Netanyahu attempted to reassure Jewish settlers that Israel stands firmly behind them despite the latest redeployment. "I believe in the future of this place and am ready to make every investment – material, security, even morale," he said during a tour of West Bank settlements. "Those considering leaving should think twice."

Nov. 24

• Israel transferred additional civilian responsibilities to the Palestinian Authority in an area near the West Bank town of Ramallah. The move comes as part of the further redeployment called for in the Wye accord. Palestinians will assume full control in some additional West Bank areas, and shared control with Israel in others.

• Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman asked the United States for more than $1 billion in aid to help pay for Israel's latest redeployment in the West Bank. Ne'eman met with Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk and Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat to ask for aid to relocate West Bank military bases, build bypass roads for Jewish settlers and beef up security for some settlements.

Nov. 25

• Some 60 members of a Christian cult who disappeared last month from Denver after their leader prophesied the destruction of the city, have turned up in Israel. Israeli police downplayed concerns that the group might attempt mass suicide.

Nov. 26

• Israel and Britain signed a security memorandum to cooperate in defence research.

Nov. 27

• Orthodox legislators in Israel threatened to leave the governing coalition if non-Orthodox representatives are appointed to local religious councils.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz

Rabbis explain halachah's view of abortion

By ERIC FINGERHUT
Washington Jewish Week

WASHINGTON — Rabbis from the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements spoke out last week about the importance of reducing abortions in the Jewish community.

Citing Jewish law prohibiting abortion except when the mother's life is in danger, they voiced objections to the more liberal interpretation of the Halachah used by many Jewish groups.

The rabbis spoke last week at an all-day conference sponsored by the Institute for Religious Values, a group dedicated to bringing Christians and Jews together to focus attention on public policies that affirm the sanctity of human life.

The rabbis who spoke at the conference, said they were unhappy that so many Jewish groups were so strongly opposed to most restrictions on abortion. "It is unfortunate that Jewish positions on this question are often inaccurately presented by Jews themselves, thus leading to much public confusion among both Jews and non-Jews," said Toronto Rabbi David Novak.

But they also emphasized that Jews do not view abortion through the same prism as traditional anti-abortion groups, which focus on the unborn fetus. "The status of the fetus is not where Judaism enters the debate [on abortion]," said Rabbi Barry Freundel of Kesher Israel, the Georgetown Synagogue. Instead, he said, the debate starts with the status of the mother.

If the mother's life is in serious physical danger, said Rabbi Freundel, then abortion is "not a choice, but a requirement. While the fetus will become a unique human being, it does not intuitively rise to the status of the mother," he said.

Rabbi Novak agreed. "The life of the mother is most proximate to our reach when the baby is still within her body; hence it is preferable to save the most proximate life, rather than the less proximate life or neither life. Then and only then, is abortion not only warranted, but mandated," he said.

But Rabbi Freundel did acknowledge that there were certain rare cases in which the psychological health of the mother would be a valid reason for a woman to have an abortion.

Rabbi Novak also indicated that in some classical rabbinic writings on the subject, "one can note a tendency to extend the principle of maternal threat beyond the original context of direct mortal threat."

Reform Rabbi Clifford Librach of Sharon, Mass., quoted from a Central Conference of American Rabbis document which stated that the Reform movement does "not encourage abortion, nor favor it for trivial reasons, nor sanction it on demand... Indeed, all the Reform [writings] concerning the subject are careful to couch their lenient rulings within the general traditional understanding of the importance of alleviating 'great pain' to the mother. None of them suggest that Judaism should countenance any other reason as a valid basis for abortion."

But can this position on abortion be made into sound public policy? Nathan Diament, who attended the conference, and is director of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America's Institute for Public Affairs, said it is not easy. "The responsible halachic approach to abortion is complex, and does not fit neatly into the categories utilized in the American political debate," he said, noting, for example, that the exemption for psychological health that Rabbi Freundel mentioned is something that anti-abortion groups will not allow, believing it opens too wide a loophole in the law.

Sammie Moshenberg, director of the National Council of Jewish Women's Washington office, said that "there is no need to legislate [on this issue]. Restrictions interfere with a woman's right to make a decision."

She said that women should be able to take their own religious beliefs into account when making a choice to have an abortion, and making anyone's religious law the law of the land would interfere with one's freedom of religion.

Mark Pelavin, associate director of the Religious Action Centre of Reform Judaism, said that the difficulty in defining the "broad concept" of the "life of the mother" makes a "one size fits all" approach unwise.

"Women should be able to make these decisions," Pelavin said. "You can't legislate these situations."

People on both sides of the issue agreed that in an ideal world, abortions would be rare. One segment of the conference was titled Legislative Approaches to Reducing Abortion, and included discussions on informed consent, which would mandate waiting periods and counseling on alternatives to abortion, as well as parental notification when a minor seeks an abortion.

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Surviving loss a testament to the human spirit

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Naomi Levy's relative youth and ready smile belie her personal and professional authority on grief and the healing process.

The 35-year-old author of *To Begin Again: The Journey Toward Comfort, Strength and Faith in Difficult Times* was in Toronto recently as part of a book tour. Remarkably, she landed the book contract, her first, on the basis of a few sermons, without having to submit an outline.

To Begin Again is a deft blend of humor, rabbinic wisdom, and instructive tales of healing, told with compassion and an eye for detail.

The book – parts of which are likely to make readers feel they know the author as a friend – has captured interest outside the Jewish community, as evidenced by Rabbi Levy's appearances on the *Today Show* and *Oprah*.

Rabbi Naomi Levy

The rabbi agreed not to use her honorific on the cover, hoping to broaden the book's appeal – particularly among disaffected Jews.

"So often I've seen young Jews seek out other faiths for answers, assuming somehow that their own religion didn't possess them," she told *The CJN* in an interview at Random House offices here.

"The quesion I have tried to answer again and again," she writes, "is not: Why did this happen? But: How will I go on?"

Rabbi Levy writes of congregants who faced addictions, stillbirth, the loss of a young child to cancer, and numerous other challenges.

She is equally open about the premature loss of her father, an early marriage that ended in divorce, and her lesser – but still stressful – day-to-day challenges.

Rabbi Levy's happy childhood in Brooklyn came to an abrupt end at age 15 when her father was shot and killed in a street robbery. Devastated, she began to question her religious beliefs, although she continued to practise "Conservadox" Judaism as she always had.

"My faith was shattered," she said . "It took me a long time to find my way back."

When the Jewish Theological Seminary opened its doors to women in the early 1980s, she was able to fulfil her childhood dream of becoming a rabbi, an outgrowth of the joy she found in Judaism as she was growing up.

Shortly after her ordination, Rabbi Levy accepted a position at Temple Mishkon Tephilo in Venice, Calif., a Los Angeles-area neighborhood, where she led the congregation for seven years before stepping down to devote more time to her two young children.

Inspired by her congregants' ability to emerge stronger, wiser and kinder after facing serious challenges, she felt compelled to write a book exploring the strength of the human spirit.

"For me, it was a fascinating thing that people would come to me seeking my help, but ended up helping me. Watching them grow, change, take risks, and recover from awful things...taught me about the process of healing."

Rabbi Levy herself took what some might consider professional risks. She broke ground as the first female Conservative rabbi to lead a West Coast congregation, and followed her instincts as a spiritual leader, developing new rituals and prayers (some of which are included in the book), and not being afraid to cry with a congregant or offer a hug when she felt it was appropriate.

In *To Begin Again*, she writes of attending a baby's birth, at the request of the mother, a congregant who Rabbi Levy had helped following a brutal assault and rape several years before on erev Yom Kippur.

"To be able to create out of the labor process, a religious process is a real blessing," she said. "You really appreciate it as a miracle."

She thinks people feel more comfortable sharing their dilemmas and tragedies with her because she is a woman, but being a woman rabbi is a double-edged sword, she noted. Sometimes she feels she is treated with less respect than her male colleagues.

She credits her husband, Robert Eshman (managing editor of the *Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles*) and the joy of family, with counter-balancing the second-hand pain she has had to deal with as a rabbi.

"I'm also lucky enough to be in a congregation a block from the ocean," she added. "Having the blessing of being so close to such a natural site of beauty helped me a lot." Sometimes she would walk with congregants to the ocean; she found it helped them also.

Despite her deeper insights now, Rabbi Levy doesn't think there's much she could say to "that 15-year-old girl who was me."

There's no such thing as perfect healing, she believes, but her book undoubtedly represents a great step in the right direction.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

HANUKAH "HULIANKE" FEATURES FESTIVE SONGS

The Friends of Yiddish invites the public to Hanukah Hulianke, a festive evening of Yiddish folk songs, theatre songs and songs of the season by **Jerry Gray** of **The Travellers**, accompanied by **James Gray** of the rock band **Blue Rodeo**. Jerry Gray is a popular feature singer and masterful banjo player from one of Canada's most beloved and enduring folk groups. The event also features the requisite dreidels and latkes.

Workmen's Circle Hall, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Sat. Dec. 12, 8 p.m. Members $5, non-members $10. Available at Lasting Impressions in Wilmington Plaza.

* * *

Columbus & Koffler: The Columbus Centre, the Centro Scuola and the Koffler Centre of the Arts present Faith and Victory, a holiday celebration of song.

Sponsored by the Italian and Jewish communities of Toronto, this joint evening of choral music features the **Lachan Jewish Chamber Choir** conducted by **Cantor Benjamin Maissner**, and the **Palestrina Chamber Chorus** conducted by **Anna Cooper-Gay**.

A scheduled highlight of the program is a selection by **Salamone Rossi**, the famed Jewish composer of the Italian Renaissance period. Other composers to be featured include **George Frederic Handel** and **Giuseppe Verdi.** Dec. 8, 8p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Tickets $15. Call 636-1880, ext. 0 or 789-4970.

* * *

At the Galleries:

• Original images by Toronto artist **Ina Gilbert**, printed directly from her computer hard-drive, grace the walls of the **Philip Smith Foyer**, Holy Blossom Temple, until Jan. 28.

• Art by **Myra Lowenthal** is on display at the Pleasant View branch of the Toronto Public Library, 575 Van Horne Ave., through the month of December.

• Recent drawings and paintings by **Harriet Brav-Baum** are on view at Café L'Eclaire, 390 Steeles Ave. W., Unit 10, until Dec. 14. 416-250-6103.

* * *

In the Spotlight: In the Toronto of the 1950s, **Larry Wiener** was a rebellious blond Jewish teenager, listening to rock 'n' roll and hanging out at the Bloor Street YMHA, mostly for the chance to meet girls at dances. But after a teacher told him he'd never amount to much, he decided to accept an offer from the Jewish Agency for an all-expenses-paid trip to Israel to work as a volunteer on Nachal Oz, a kibbutz by the Gaza strip.

Forty years after this misadventure, Wiener, styling himself as a freeloading "Lawrence of Canada," has written a bawdy, comic and picaresque memoir of his experiences as a forever-indifferent convert to Zion. Checkered by intermittent rough-house and romantic interludes, *No Flowers On The Desert* is Wiener's frank and colorful description of his travels and his time on the kibbutz – from which he eventually went AWOL.

Larry Wiener

Part Casanova and part Don Quixote, Wiener is not the world's greatest writer, and *No Flowers on the Desert* is padded with many distracting asides. But Hushion House Publishing correctly noticed that the manuscript, which Wiener had initially self-published at 200 copies, possesses enough raw talent and emotion to rate a commercial print run.

Wiener never warmed to Israel and the title reflects his belief that the Promised Land is no place for a happy picnic. At moments, his lack of awareness or empathy for the Jewish state is galling: he's the proverbial Son in the Haggadah Who Doesn't Have the Wherewithal to Ask.

Wiener has been a "Toronto character for over 30 years." You may have seen him as an organ grinder outside Sam the Record Man, or selling books and tee-shirts in the shops he's consecutively managed in Toronto, Niagara Falls and Augusta. He's also designed portfolios for fashion models. Now he's a published author.

An excerpt from *No Flowers on the Desert* appeared in *Outreach*, the weekly newspaper of Toronto's street people. The book is 398 pages long, sells for $19.95, and definitely shows talent.

NCSY honors Mirvish

Canada's largest Jewish youth organization is paying tribute to a larger-than-life Canadian personality at its 18th annual concert, Dec. 7.

The Tribute Concert to Ed Mirvish by National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY), based in Thornhill, features Mordechai Ben David & Son, and takes place at the Princess of Wales Theatre.

"In Hebrew, the number 18 signifies chai, life," says NCSY Canada director Rabbi Glenn Black. "Virtually no one has contributed to the life of our community like Ed Mirvish."

Mirvish, who will be honored at both a pre-concert reception and during the concert said, "I couldn't think of a better word than life to describe the wonderful work that NCSY does."

NCSY's outreach efforts include classes, counselling, special weekends, drop-in centres and subsidies for teenagers to study in Israel. NCSY also runs ongoing programs for developmentally challenged youngsters, helping them to integrate with the general Jewish community.

To mark this year's special concert, NCSY will be establishing the Ed and Anne Mirvish Israel Scholarship Fund to help young people experience Israel in a caring, educational environment.

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Alternative to litigation in resolving disputes

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) has become the growing choice for resolving disputes.

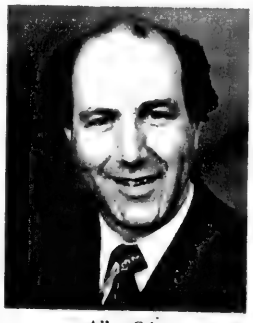
Allan Stitt, who practices mediation, facilitation and ADR systems design with Stitt, Feld, Handy, Houston, is the author of *Alternative Dispute Resolution for Organizations: How to design a system for effective conflict resolution* (John Wiley & Sons Canada, Ltd.).

"Organizations can design conflict management systems to deal with both internal and external disputes in a way that preserves rather than destroys relationships," says Stitt.

"Instead of resorting to litigation, strikes, work to rule, or withdrawing, disputants can use dispute resolution processes that will resolve their conflict efficiently and effectively."

He adds, conflict is not necessarily bad. "In fact, it is often a necessary catalyst that allows an organization to survive, evolve, and progress in changing times. Therefore, the goal in dealing with conflict is not to eliminate it but to respond to it constructively, rather than destructively."

Stitt says the book is for anyone in an organization who has to deal with or resolve disputes. It was written, he says, to help corporations, non-profit organizations, government and associations follow a proven process for setting up an effective dispute resolution system.



Allan Stitt

The book, written in an easy-to-read, non-legal language, is for human resource professionals, senior managers, boards of directors as well as ADR consultants and lawyers. It covers a variety of disputes – employer/employee conflict, tenant and landlord, family disputes, and disputes between organizations.

The book offers practical tips, case studies, checklists, a step-by-step training guide, and methods of evaluation.

He is an adjunct professor at the U of T Law School, where he teaches courses on conflict management and negotiation.

"When we avoid dealing with conflict, or ignore it, the root problem still exists. Conflict avoidance may provide temporary recess from a stressful situation, and allow people time to rethink their circumstances, but the underlying tension remains, and may resurface.

"Even if it does not resurface, the disputants may be dissatisfied with the outcome and may harbor resentment that will manifest itself later," he says.

Netanyahu vows to lower interest

BY SHARON SADEH, MOTI BASSOK AND BEN ZION CITRIN,
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

LONDON — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised last week to take practical measures to lower the interest rate.

Speaking in London, Netanyahu said that the government hopes to live up to its goal regarding inflation, but that more important, it would lower the interest rate to ensure continued growth.

He said the current interest rate "creates a problem" and that he would deal with the issue in discussions on economic policy to be held this week, with a view to reaching a decision enabling the interest rate to be lowered.

The prime minister noted that although Israel's economy depends on world events outside its control, it also depends on factors that are in the government's control. That is where the focus will be placed, Netanyahu added.

In response to the prime minister's remarks in London, treasury officials said that in Sunday's cabinet meeting, Finance Minister Yaakov Ne'eman and senior ministry officials will not propose a revision of the interest rate.

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Supplying water a key part of Jerusalem's history

By HEIKE ZAUN-GOSHEN
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — Deep below the ground, two groups of workers kept digging feverishly from opposite ends. The men started calling out across the remaining rock barrier as they approached each other.

It was a dramatic moment when they finally broke through. A 530-metre long, winding underground tunnel had been completed underneath ancient Jerusalem's foundations, providing something that will always be crucial to the city's survival: a steady supply of clean, fresh water.

That was almost 3,000 years ago.

For a long time, the Gihon spring down in the Kidron Valley, at the foot of the Temple Mount, remained Jerusalem's main source of fresh water. In the eighth-century BCE, King Hiskia had the tunnel dug through the mountain, thus hiding the water's course in case of a siege.

This tunnel improved a simpler canal built by the Jebusites, which led water underneath the walls into the city. Inside, they had carved a 13-metre shaft from which water was drawn with pails. It was through this shaft that David and his men entered the town around 1000 BCE and conquered it.

Hiskia's more sophisticated tunnel fed the waters to the Pool of Siloam, which served as the city's water reservoir.

During the Arab siege, the pipeline to Jerusalem was cut, forcing women to bring in well-water, supplied to the city from trucks.

It was only in 1881 that a curious school boy discovered the ancient inscription carved into the conduit's rock. With six laconic lines in Hebrew, the elated miners had commemorated their excitement of more than 2½ millennia ago.

"The tunnel...this is the history of its cutting. When yet (the hewers were lifting) the pick, each toward his fellow and when yet there were still three cubits to be bored, the voice of a man calling to his fellow was heard, for there was resonance coming from both north and south... And when the tunnel was driven throughout, the quarrymen struck, one against the other, pick against pick, and the water flowed from the spring." (*Jerusalem – City of Mirrors* by Amos Elon).

After an attempt by a local dealer of antiquities to steal the inscription, the Turkish authorities confiscated it, and today it can be admired in Istanbul's Museum of Archeology.

Until the beginning of the 20th century, Jerusalem's water supply virtually depended on natural sources such as the springs, and on the precipitation collected and stored in private and communal cisterns.

Consequently, wells, water pumps and fountains, cisterns and pools, held, until very recently, a predominant position in the city's urban fabric.

Remains of the city's historic water supply and storage systems, from large pools hewn into the rock during antiquity, to the aquaducts implemented by the Romans, to Turkish bathouses and large communal cisterns, can still be seen today.

From the early days of photography, meaningful pictures depict cisterns and pumps in neighborhood courtyards, and picturesque water carriers from the villages dotting the hills. It was these water carriers, who, in times of draught, brought water to the city, held in sheepskin jars or canisters, and sold to Jerusalem's thirsty inhabitants.

Even when Jerusalem's New City emerged outside the ancient city walls during the second half of the 19th century, sufficient water supply remained problematic. But a new awareness began developing. This is especially reflected in the books of regulations every newly founded community issued. There were strict rules on how to keep the water, as well as its cisterns and storage pools, clean and healthy.

But it was only after the British took over from the Turks after WWII that modern supply systems were introduced to the city. And it was towards the end of the British mandate that the importance of the precious liquid became cruelly apparent.

Only strict rationing, paired with an enormous staying power, ensured sufficient supply during the Arab siege of Jewish Jerusalem in 1948. Ever since, Jerusalemites are peculiar about the use of water, especially when used for recreational purposes. Public fountains and swimming pools, which elsewhere in Israel are an integral part of everyday life, are a rare thing in Jerusalem.

Yehuda Amichai, modern Hebrew poet and resident of the city, makes an according statement.

I am a Jerusalemite. Swimming pools with/
their voices and their noises are not part of my soul/
The dust is my conscious, the stone my subconscious/
And all my memories are closed courtyards/
at summer's high noon.

(From *Hazman*, by Amichai Yehuda.)

Corrections

In the article Only Limit Is Your Imagination on page B16 of the Party Planner (*CJN*, Nov. 26), the phone number of Special Events Architects should have read 966-9011.

***

In the article, "Henna painting in demand," which ran Nov. 26 on page B 28 of the party supplement, *The CJN* incorrectly indicated that black henna could be toxic, when in fact there is no medical evidence to support this claim.

The CJN regrets these errors.

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Chanukah Gifts

Plenty of books for winter reading by the fire

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

This holiday season, there's a wide selection of newly published books, both fiction and non-fiction, which reflect diverse aspects of Canada's multifaceted Jewish community from coast to coast. What follows are capsule reviews of seven recent titles to consider as Chanukah gifts.

* * *

Anyone who grew up Jewish in Montreal should appreciate Regine Robin's impressionistic novel *The Wanderer*, which won the Martin and Beatrice Fischer Prize for Fiction at last year's Jewish Book Awards.

Robin uses a vivid stream-of-consciousness technique to relate the experiences of a French-speaking Jewish woman who tries to fit into Montreal society but is haunted by memories of the Holocaust and various personal problems.

The book is filled with both the sights and sounds of modern Montreal as well of the shtetl. It is peopled with postwar Montrealers as well an array of personalities from Jewish history and letters, including the 17th-century false messiah Shabbetai Tzvi.

The prose has the postmodern poetic flavor of Allen Ginsberg or Carl Sandburg as it conveys, for example, the realizations that its Jewish, French-speaking protagonist must attend an English-speaking school to be spared a religious education in a French Roman Catholic school, and that in any case she will never be truly accepted as a Quebecois.

Originally published in French as *La Quebecoite*, the book retains its French flavor in the fine English translation by Phyllis Aronoff. (Alter Ego Editions, $17.95.)

* * *

Novelist Howard Norman of Vermont has produced *The Museum Guard*, capturing a tale that unfolds in Halifax on the eve of World War II. The protagonist, DeFoe Russet, works with his uncle as a guard in a small museum and by evening woos Imogen Linny, caretaker of the small local Jewish cemetery.

As war clouds darken Europe's horizons, Imogen becomes obsessed with a Dutch painting, *Jewess On A Street in Amsterdam*, which has recently arrived in the museum. She retreats into the painting even as Amsterdam itself becomes a place that is unsafe for Jews.

An American, Norman has used Canada as a setting for several novels. (Knopf Canada, $32.95.)

* * *

Arthur Schaller's absorbing memoir, *100 Cigarettes and a Bottle of Vodka*, recounts his experiences as an 11-year old with his mother and younger brother in the Warsaw Ghetto. Making a daring escape, Schaller posed as a Catholic orphan for three years, working as an itinerant farm-hand to avoid detection.

The author, who immigrated to Toronto in 1948, has waited 50 years to tell his story, which resounds with simple faith in humanity despite the horrors he witnessed. (Malcolm Lester Books; $26.95.)

* * *

If you open Mordecai Richler's latest collection of essays expecting leftovers and twice-warmed-over tales, you're in for a surprise. *Belling the Cat: Essays, Reports & Opinions* is Richler at his freshest. He's funny, irreverent, intelligent and – yes, even charming. Whether the subject is the Bronfmans, the Reichmanns, Woody Allen or Saul Bellow, his prose is compellingly readable.

Although I'm not always keen on Richler's fiction, I readily acknowledge that he's a fine raconteur with an ironic wit that is superbly adapted to magazine writing. (Many of these 27 pieces were originally published in the *New Yorker*, *GQ*, *Saturday Night* and other magazines.) Like his various well-trained editors, I'd gladly buy him a drink or two, just to keep the stories coming. (Knopf Canada, $32.)

* * *

With *Branching Out: The Transformation of the Canadian Jewish Community*, historian Gerald Tulchinsky completes the two-part study launched in his earlier work, *Taking Root*. Whereas the first book covers the period from about 1760 to 1920, *Branching Out's* nearly 355 textual pages deal with the period from the 1920s to the present.

Tulchinsky, a professor of history at Queen's University, examines Jewish immigration in the post-World-War-I era, the "great Jewish metier" of the shmatah trade, the dual attractions for socialism and Zionism, and the concurrent strains of anti-Semitism in Canadian society.

He also looks at Canada's Jews at war, how the influx of refugees affected the community after the Holocaust, and the countervailing pressures of assimilation and the need to maintain Jewish identity in contemporary society. *Branching Out* also celebrates the accomplishments of many famous individuals who are part of today's 360,000-strong Jewish community, which represents only about one percent of the Canadian population. (Stoddart, $45.)

* * *

In its 75 years of operation, Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital has touched many thousands of lives and become a leader in patient care and medical research.

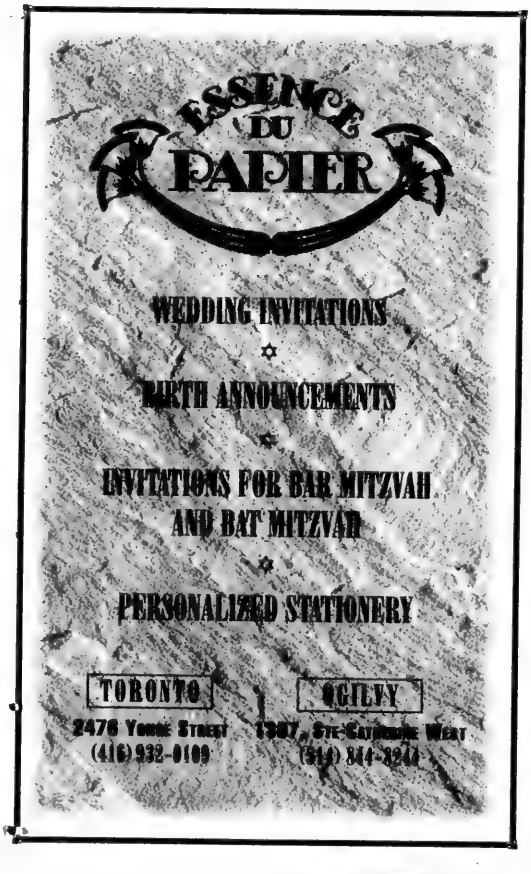
From Generation to Generation: A History of Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, by Lesley Marrus Barsky, is a full-fledged, affectionate account of an institution that began in order to serve the growing medical needs of Toronto's Jewish community, and has branched out to serve the entire city.

In telling Mount Sinai's story, Marrus Barsky has tapped into a rich vein of Toronto Jewish communal history. (McClelland & Stewart, $40.)

* * *

Voices from the Heart: A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel is an outpouring of love from Toronto's Jewish community to the Jewish state. Lavishly illustrated, this thick coffee-table book contains personal tributes, poignant reminiscences and lively anecdotes from hundreds of Toronto Jews, including many of the city's "movers and shakers."

Editors Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman have done a superb job at preserving the respective character of each literary voice—which collectively mingle together like a holy chorus to sing out the praises of Israel. (McClelland & Stewart, $50.)



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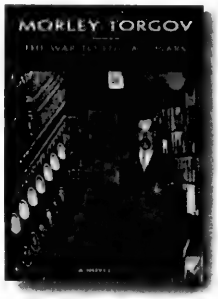
Chanukah Gifts

Torgov novel reflects subtle humor, lightness of style

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

In Morley Torgov's new novel, *The War to End All Wars*, two Jews who had faced each other as soldiers in the opposing Russian and German armies of World War I, confront each other again as clothing merchants in a no-holds-barred commercial battle in Oreville, Michigan, in the 1920s.

Sitting in his elegant apartment in midtown Toronto, Torgov says he began writing the novel immediately after seeing a documentary about Jewish life in prewar Europe and realizing that Jews had fought on opposite sides in World War I.



His father, born in the Kamenets-Podolsk region of Ukraine, had served in the Russian army for 2½ years before defecting – which is precisely the course of action of the novel's protagonist, Eliezer Pinsky, who becomes Elliot Pines in America.

A two-time Leacock medal winner, Torgov's latest novel reflects a subtle humor and lightness of style, qualities that also mark its predecessors. Although dark things happen in the book, the prose is never heavy or overburdened. Torgov agrees with this reader's assessment that his writing style is "accessible," and cites Isaac Bashevis Singer, Joseph Heller and Philip Roth as major influences.

"I have difficulty looking at any subject with what Woody Allen used to call 'total heavy-osity,' he says. "I can't stand prose that is dense and steeped in that 'total heavy-osity.'

"One of my literary idols is Elmore Leonard, who said one of the most clever things I've ever heard a writer say. In an interview he was asked, 'To what do you attribute the success of your prose?' He replied, 'I leave out the parts people don't read.'"

Even though Torgov's latest story unfolds in the small town that is also characteristic of his other novels such as *A Good Place to Come From* and *The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick*, he argues convincingly that the adjective "folksy" does not apply to either the writing or the characters.

"Writing about small-town people doesn't necessarily entail folksy writing," he says. "Small-town people have a way of nosing into each other's lives, and even lacerating each other, that is anything but folksy. I don't look on small-town life with a romantic eye."

Born 71 years ago into the small Jewish community of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Torgov is a partner in a Richmond St. law office, where he still maintains a full working schedule. Each workday except Friday, he normally takes a brief nap after work, then puts in another two or three hours on his writing.

"On holidays I'll write longer at the cottage," he says. "But at my age, I don't have the energy to do an all-night writing session like I used to."

While each of his five novels centre principally around Jewish characters, their appeal is universal, and many non-Jewish readers have told him that they identify with his characters and their problems with identity and assimilation.

"I was flabbergasted after my first book came out – *A Good Place to Come From* – and I got cards and letters from many people saying that my experience had been just like theirs as a Catholic or a Ukrainian in a small town," he says.

While Torgov is "always conscious" of his Jewish identity, "I wouldn't want to waste time on trying to determine whether I'm a Jewish-Canadian writer or a Canadian-Jewish writer... I'm very comfortable being Jewish. I wouldn't want to be anything else – except maybe Italian. I love the language and the food."

The War To End All Wars was a challenge to write, he says. He began it in 1981 and worked on it intermittently for the next 17 years, consigning it to a drawer for years at a time while he finished other books. He honed out its chapters in chronological order and rewrote each paragraph more than a dozen times before handing over the final manuscript to his literary agent Beverly Slopen and Toronto publisher Malcolm Lester in 1997.

"The reason this was the most difficult book for me to write is that it is a plot-driven book—all my other books were more character-driven," he says. "I don't know where I'm going when I start a book. But if you really know your characters and there's enough conflict between them, they'll carry the story forward. That's how it worked for me."

The War To End All Wars is published by Malcolm Lester Books and sells for $26.95.

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CD includes traditional chassidic tunes, niggunim

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Andy Statman Quartet
The Hidden Light
Sony Records

The Hidden Light, a new CD by the acclaimed Andy Statman Quartet, is a lovely and evocative collection of 13 melodies performed by Statman, an acclaimed mandolin and clarinet virtuoso from Brooklyn, and pianist Bruce Barth, percussionist Bob Weiner and acoustic bass player Scott Lee.

Many of these pieces are arrangements of traditional chassidic tunes and niggunim, spiritual melodies meant to intensify prayer.

Several are original Statman compositions. Although the unenlightened might note the obvious resemblance to klezmer music, especially in Statman's beguiling clarinet, he defines the collection as "chassidic music, not klezmer music. I don't like to use the word 'klezmer.' It becomes very limiting."

If there could be a marriage between Jewish music and jazz, the Statman quartet would be the musicians chosen to perform at the wedding.

The opening tune is an uncommon version of the traditional Lecha Dodi with which the Breslover Chassidim usher in the Sabbath. Other songs celebrate the Sabbath and various mystical aspects of chassidic tradition, including the *parah adumah* or red heifer that is supposed to appear as a prelude to the messianic age.

Several tunes are written by revered rabbis of ages past, redeemed from obscurity by the musical Modzitz Congregation in Brooklyn, with which Statman has long been associated. *A Russian Waltz* written by Statman, evokes the wind blowing across the steppes.

This CD is black-hat jazz, loyal to its origins yet informed with the cadences and nuances of contemporary artists like Keith Jarrett, Charles Mingus and Chick Corea.

"Andy wants to be faithful to the emotional intent of the melodies," says Dovid Sears, a Brooklyn Chassid who has helped guide Statman through the world of chassidic music.

"He wants to take a trip with the music and he wants to use jazz as a vehicle for the trip. At the same time he wants to go into the melodies themselves, deeper and deeper. So it's a very traditional thing and yet also a very experimental thing."

Statman, 47, began his musical career three decades ago as a virtuoso mandolin player known for his affinity to bluegrass. Born to secular Jewish parents, he became an observant Jew in the early 1980s and through live performance and a handful of CDs has won a hallowed place on the cutting edge of the neo-klezmer revival.

In recent years he was among the artists chosen to play with famed Israeli violinist Yitzhak Perlman on two bestselling CDs, *In the Fiddler's House*, Part I and II, in celebration of klezmer. Statman has also been planning to release *A Shabbos in Nashville*, a CD of Jewish music interpreted in a country-bluegrass mode.

In the meantime, lovers of klezmer and chassidic music are bound to be pleased with *In the Hidden Light*, which is available on the Sony label.

Judith Cohen
Dans Mon Chemin J'ai rencontré
Transit Productions

Musical purists with a love of folklore and Jewish and other ethnic music may find much to enjoy in *Dans Mon Chemin J'ai Rencontré... (On My Way I Met...)*, a CD by Toronto ethnomusicologist Judith Cohen.

A specialist in antiquated instruments with a working knowledge of many languages, Cohen has travelled far and wide to assemble this collection of 21 songs. She sings them with her daughter, Tamar with musical backup from Rob Simms. She presents multiple versions of many of the songs as though they were Childe ballads, which in some respects they resemble.

While the title song is Acadian from Maritime French settlers of two centuries ago, others originate in Bulgaria, England, France, Turkey, Bosnia, Spanish Galicia, Italy and Greece. Numerous pieces are of Jewish provenance, such as *La Reine Captive (The Captive Queen)*, which Cohen presents from four different sources, in Moroccan Judeo-Spanish, Bosnian Judeo-Spanish, Catalan and Spanish.

As Cohen explains in the liner notes, *La Reine Captive* has been traced back to "a medieval French narrative poem, which in turn goes back to a story from the *1001 Nights*." In her travels, Cohen recorded the song's various versions from descendants of the Jews expelled from the Iberian peninsula.

In *Adonde Vais, Senor Yitzhak (Where Are You Going, Senor Yitzhak?)* the senor, who is on a religious pilgrimage, sings out all the names of the towns he plans to visit, each with its own venerated rabbi. The song came from Morocco.

Der Gitarre is a Yiddish song in which a young girl sings of her lover's betrayal, while *Shlof Mayn Kind* is a Yiddish lullaby—only slightly more soothing—in which a mother warns her baby of the sad realities of life.

Dans Mon Chemin J'ai Rencontre... is certain to appeal to musicologists and other lovers of folk music who require only musical and historical purity, without any dazzling musicianship or elaborate production techniques.

The CD, which won the Prix Marcel Blouin SRC for its musical program, is recorded on the Transit-Radio-Canada label.

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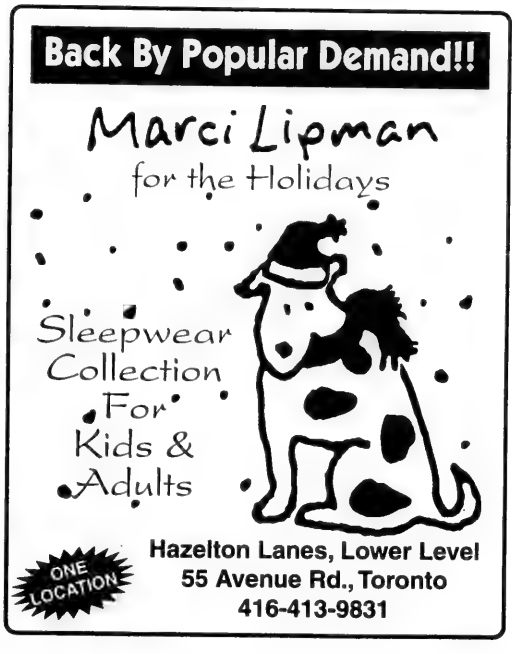

Uncanny parallels link books by talented writers

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Two of Canada's foremost Jewish writers have published collections of essays this year and though each book is strikingly original, there are uncanny parallels between them.

Either volume would make an appropriate Chanukah gift for anyone with a special interest in literature, especially related to Jewish and Holocaust themes.

Void & Voice: Essays on Literary and Historical Currents, by Kenneth Sherman, opens with two short gem-like reminiscences, *The Tailor Shop* and *Silver Braids*, recalling the author's grandfather and grandmother, respectively.

Early in the century, Sherman's grandfather opened Sherman Custom Tailors at College and Bathurst streets in Toronto, an establishment that brims with life for Sherman, since he spent his early childhood there and in the tiny apartment upstairs. He writes of these premises and the characters that inhabited them with the succinct narrative power of a Bernard Malamud.

Silver Braids describes a grandmother who lived on the edge of madness, driven mute by personal tragedy. Here, already, one sees the two poles of Sherman's organizing thesis, void and voice. The next two essays, which focus on the author's specific experiences in Poland (at Auschwitz) and Israel (Jerusalem), expand this polarity. Poland, the land of death, represents a gaping void; Israel represents redemption and life beyond the suffering – yet it still contains silences.

These four essays comprise Sherman's personalized preface. What follows is a series of essays on literature and culture – usually but not exclusively Jewish. Sherman's eclectic eye focuses on a wide range of cultural artifacts from *Schindler's List* to the works of Primo Levi, A.M. Klein, H.G. Wells and Rupert Brooke.

Sherman is interested in the interplay between literature and history and "how historical necessity alters people's writing style and the content that they're dealing with," he says.

Kabbalah

According to the Toronto poet-essayist, who has previously published some 10 books of poetry, the contrast between void and voice is a fundamental part of Jewish thought. "Lurianic philosophy and the Kabbalah are also concerned with void and voice," he says. "The Kabbalah says that God retreated from the universe, compelling man to create something, and that's where creativity comes from. It's a very Jewish concept."

Void & Voice is published by Mosaic and sells for $16.95.

In *A House of Words: Jewish Writing, Identity and Memory*, Norman Ravvin brings a personal level to a collection of scholarly essays that are mostly about Jewish literature. In the introduction, he briefly describes his grandfather's experience as an itinerant shochet or ritual slaughterer on the Prairies in the 1930s.

Author of *Sex, Skyscrapers and Standard Yiddish*, an acclaimed book of short stories published in 1997, Ravvin in his newest publication focuses on Canadian writers such as Eli Mandel, Leonard Cohen, Mordecai Richler and Chava Rosenfarb, as well as Americans like Philip Roth, Nathanael West and Saul Bellow.

A House of Words offers nine literary essays, all written in a personal voice. "I make use of my own family background and my own connection with European Jewish history to help me investigate Jewish literature," Ravvin explains.

One of his interests seems to be in interpreting Jewish mainstream writers like Cohen, Richler and Roth in a more Jewish context than most scholars concede. "I often find a deep lack of knowledge of the role of Jewishness in Jewish literature, and I hope that my reading will go some distance in changing that," he says.

Ravvin, a literature professor at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, also attempts to show how historical memories inform the lives of Jewish characters created by Jewish authors to a degree not widely acknowledged by critics. For instance, he observes:

"Even Leonard Cohen, a master of the contemporary, a genius at turning pop iconography to serious ends, cannot keep the spectre of the past from haunting his most carnivalesque fiction."

A House of Words is published by McGill-Queens and sells for $15.95.

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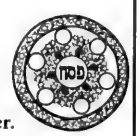

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Author shares her enthusiasm in creating children's stories

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A good picture book will appeal to anyone from age 5 to 97, says Toronto children's author Frieda Wishinsky.

Her latest book, *Each One Special*, is the story of a cake decorator who loses his job after 35 years, because the new owner of the bakery where he works wants speed and quantity, not "each one special."

Harry the cake decorator is dejected until his young friend Ben seeks his help with modeling clay, and Harry discovers a new outlet for his creativity.

The book, published by British Columbia-based Orca Book Publishers, and whimsically illustrated by H. Werner Zimmermann, was inspired by Wishinsky's late father, Herman Reches, a ceramicist and former cake decorator, who was artist-in-residence at the Koffler School of Visual Art.

Unlike the fictional Harry, Reches kept busy after his retirement. "I don't remember him ever saying, 'What should I do with myself?' I think he knew himself enough, to know he wasn't going to sit around," recalled Wishinsky in a recent interview.

Frieda Wishinsky

The themes of *Each One Special* will resonate with people of a variety of temperaments, backgrounds and ages.

"When one door closes, another door opens," mused the author, sitting over coffee at a table graced with her father's clay flowers displayed in a glass candy dish. "[The book] is about frustration, about not giving up."

Wishinsky, a mother of two, knows about opening new doors. Her husband, a Toronto physician, decided, in his late 20s, to leave the computer field and enter medical school. She herself worked until a few years ago as a special education teacher.

She began writing in earnest over 10 years ago, and has also published freelance magazine articles and educational books.

Her previous books include *Oonga Boonga*, *Why Can't You Fold Your Pants Like David Levine*, *Jennifer Jones Won't Leave Me Alone* and *Crazy for Chocolate*.

Wishinsky thinks writing children's books is a great way to deal with life issues, even if her books aren't autobiographical. "You can really get to the heart of it," she said.

Children's authors don't necessarily write for children, she explained. "You write because you want to write. You write for the kid you were, for the kid you still are, and for the feelings you have."

She devotes five half-days a week to her writing and, in a pinch, can write just about anywhere. Having grown up in New York, where she attended Jewish day school and later, City University and Yeshiva University to study international relations and special education respectively – she has no trouble tuning out the noises of a subway or a coffee shop.

Born in a DP camp in Germany in the late 1940s, she emigrated with her parents at the age of 8 months. As an adult she lived for a year in Israel, where she started a reading clinic in Ramat Gan.

Although her stories may incorporate lessons about life, she hates the thought that anyone might consider them didactic. "I don't think good stories are ever didactic. My intention is to share my enthusiasm for the story," she said, adding somewhat ruefully, "I'm sure once a teacher, always a teacher."

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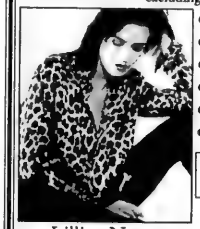
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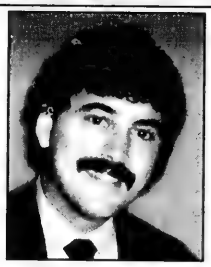
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Holiday books a delicious treat

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Finding the appropriate Chanukah gift can be a challenge. You want to get something the children will enjoy, something that will help them appreciate that Chanukah is not only about latkes, and something that the kids won't lose interest in before the evening is over.

Books are perfect.

Here are a few suggestions. These books are written, illustrated and produced well enough, that adults will enjoy snuggling up with their children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews to work off the latkes with a good read.

One of my favorites is *The Borrowed Hanukkah Latkes*, by Linda Glaser, illustrated by Nancy Cote (General Publishing, 1997).

Rachel is helping her mother prepare latkes for the ever-growing number of guests coming for Chanukah dinner. Everything is going fine – until they run out of potatoes and eggs. So Rachel runs over to the next-door neighbor.

Mrs. Greenberg is happy to give the family what they need, but refuses to come herself to the party, saying she doesn't want to be a bother.

How Rachel manages to persuade Mrs. Greenberg to join the Chanukah celebrations is both ingenious and touching.

Hot off the press is *When Mindy Saved Hanukkah*, by Eric A. Kimmel, with illustrations by Barbara McClintock (Scholastic Press, 1998).

It tells of a family of teeny tiny people who live behind the walls of the historic Eldridge Street Synagogue in New York. When the father sneaks into the synagogue sanctuary to get a spare Chanukah candle that was in the aron kodesh, he discovers to his dismay that the premises are now guarded by a giant (to him) cat. Mindy and her grandfather, following in the footsteps of the brave Maccabees, overcome the danger, and save the situation.

This delightful book is not only enjoyable for the story, although that is excellent. It is full of humor, (Zayde distracts the cat with a slingshot of pickled herring), and the warmth of family, friends and holidays.

It is often difficult to realize the beauty in very ordinary things. In *The Ugly Menorah*, by Marissa Moss (Farrer, Straus & Giroux, 1996), a little girl learns that love and caring are more precious than silver or gold.

Rachel is spending the first Chanukah after her beloved grandfather dies, with her grandmother. Even though she is sitting in her Grandpa's chair, she is sad that she can't feel him near her.

When Grandma brings out her menorah, a plain wooden board with tin cylinders to hod the candles, Rachel is disappointed because it is so plain.

But after she is told the story of how Grampa made it with his own hands, and Grandma lights the menorah, Rachel realizes how beautiful it is, and "for the first time since Grandpa died, she felt he was with her again."

The Magic Dreidels, by Eric Kimmel, with illustrations by Katya Drenina (Holiday House, 1996), is a Chanukah version of a well-known folk tale.

Everyone in Jacob's family is busily preparing for the holiday, except Jacob, who is playing with his new brass dreidel. When his mother sends him to the well to get some water, he drops the dreidel into the well.

A goblin who lives in the well gives him first a wooden dreidel that spins out latkes, then a silver one that spins out Chanukah gelt. When Jacob gets home, however, he discovers that the magic dreidels don't do anything magic at all.

What happened?

The Kugel Valley Klezmer Band, by Joan Betty Stuchner and Richard Row (North Winds Press, 1998), is set in a small valley in the Canadian Maritimes. Ten-year old Shira has only one dream – to be able to play the fiddle in her father's klezmer band.

Her father insists that she can't play with the band, because she is a girl, and anyway she hasn't had any lessons.

Shira insists that in Canada, anything is possible, so she sets out to teach herself to play the fiddle.

She keeps her new skills secret. Then one Chanukah night, the Kugel Valley Klezmer Band's fiddler gets sick. Someone must step in and save the band's reputation. But who?

A lot of youngsters like to make special crafts on Chanukah (and any other holiday too, for that matter). They will get a kick out of *Hanukkah Fun; great things to make and do*, by Judy Bastyra and Catherine Ward (Kingfisher, 1996).

It is full of ideas for different kinds of chanukiot, dreidels, latkes, oils and even candles. There are very clear, detailed instructions and drawings, and the book even suggests when you should call an adult for help.

Air Hogs go far

By JOSEPH SERGE
Supplements Editor

One of the best toys released this year has a novelty that all parents will enjoy – it doesn't require batteries.

Air Hogs, released by Spin Master Toys, is an air-powered toy plane that can fly the length of a football field. Relying solely on air-power, it requires no gas, batteries or rubber bands, and is safe and easy to use.

The Air Hogs is powered with an engine. "That makes the experience so much more real," says Ben Varadi, vice-president of product development at Spin Master. "The only difference between Air Hogs and the old model planes is that the Air Hogs engine is powered by air. The engine sounds like a gas engine and propels the plane over 100 yards."

After the plane's flight, all you have to do is pump the plane up with a pump that comes included and you're ready to fly again.

The Air Hog is all but assembled (just slap on the wings), and includes a spare set of wings.

Be advised to use this outdoors and in a large playing area. While I found it does meet the company's boast of flying 100 yards, it is extremely sensitive to wind and doesn't always stick to any flight course you may desire.

Spin Master recommends the toy for children 8 and over.

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Also new for the holidays, you'll find your favourite D.K.N.Y. sportswear at "New York Clothing Co.", and a full line of Revlon and Upper Canada Soap and Candle products at "Cosmetics N'More For Less". Both stores are opening early this month.

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A Gift of Play

An Umbro Soccer Pack from Umbro Factory Outlet, a Sander/Drill from Black & Decker Factory Store and a Toy Basket from Mattel Toy Club

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Worth over $500

A Gift of Home

An 8-piece Sunnyside Cookware set from Paderno Cookware Factory Store, a Comforter Ensemble & Accessories from Cambridge Towel & Bedding Outlet and a set of 4 Dansk "Cru" Balloon Wine Stems from Dansk Factory Store

Worth over $500

A Gift of Travel

A large and small Samsonite "Ultralite 2" EZ Cart from Samsonite Company Store, Tommy Hilfiger Sunglasses and Guess Sunglasses from Sunglass Plus and a $100 Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall Gift Certificate

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Business Profile

Success in network marketing a tough grind

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Each year, companies seek agents to sell the thousands of new products they are introducing to the marketplace.

Through multi-level, or network marketing (MLM), the agents and the companies can find each other.

MLM involves the promotion and distribution of products by independent agents, who also recruit new agents.

Gavin Herman became involved in multi-level marketing when his accountant of 15 years sent him a video and written materials.

"I was suitably impressed. We met over coffee where I learned of his thorough investigation of the company. I was looking for a new venture at the time, so I decided to join and make a go of it," he says.

Herman is one of 100,000 North American distributors selling for the Japanese firm Nikken, which markets a variety of total wellness products, including special mattresses, skin care products, nutrients and pet products.

Mitch Perry of Vancouver sells for Watkins, a home products distribution company that also carries a selection of kosher items. A friend signed Perry up and even paid for the start-up kit.

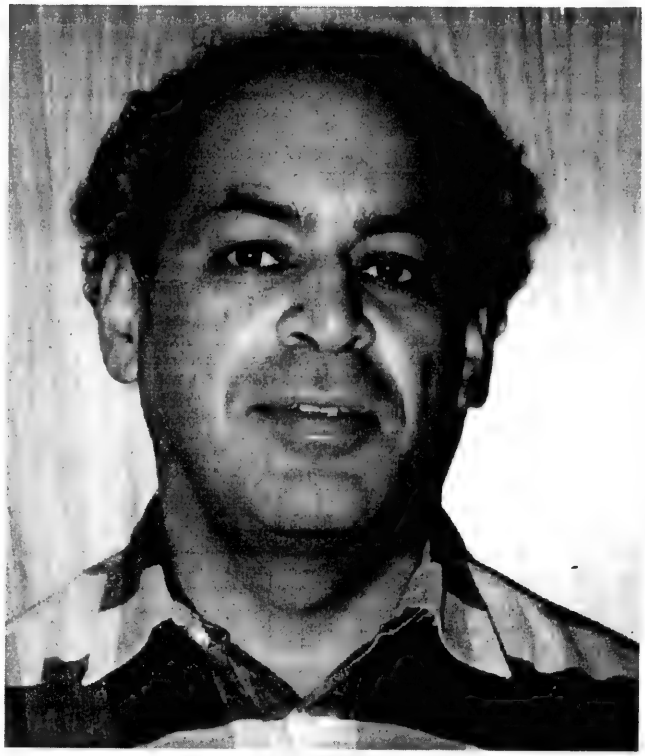
"I fooled around with it, doing it here and there. Then I dropped it, but for some reason I kept up my membership in Watkins. A customer came to me in August 1995, and placed a small order. I called all my old customers back and they all wanted to buy," says Perry.

There are a number of advantages to multi-level marketing: entrepreneurs have a low overhead; stores or extensive advertising are not required; and MLM distributors are paid on a performance basis – if they don't sell, they don't get paid.

MLM also weeds out the middle person, which eliminates costs associated with warehousing requirements.

The industry, however, does have its down side. Many people see it as being associated with pyramid schemes. Some MLM organizations predict unrealistic returns and structure a growth strategy based on using, rather than working with other sellers.

One former multi-level marketing representative, who worked for three or four years in a number of organizations and asked not to be identified, says that the industry is a rough and tumble business.



Gavin Herman

"It works for a few people. For the majority of people that get involved, the industry does not work. That's the bottom line. There is a lot of heartache and tremendous headache for a good number of people. For the few people whose dreams are fulfilled, its like winning a lottery.

"Part of their gospel is 'If you do this, you will have all the freedom in the world.' [I had] meetings almost every night, and long distance phone calls all over North America, if not all over the world...Constantly, you have to harass people to join up...Where's the freedom?"

Another former multi-level marketer, who sold various diet and health products, says that she doesn't recommend it to anyone.

"People made it sound really great. Most people who went into it were in dreamland. If some made money, others lost. The worst part is the amount of people you bring under. The people under you usually lose money," she says.

Herman warns all potential participants to do their homework before proceeding. "For those looking at similar opportunities, they should check out the people. This is very much a relationship business; one must know who they are going to work with. The company and the industry must also be investigated. Are they on an upward growth pattern, or in a stable or declining industry?

"Finally, one should study the industry of network marketing to get a full appreciation of its power, growth and potential."

Any MLM program that pays only for recruiting, and has no actual product to sell, will eventually fail if new members stop joining.

One key test is determining whether a sales representative can make money at the first level, without recruiting others into the sales process.

When asked how he overcomes the negative image of multi-level marketing, Perry points out that one must accept that everything is a pyramid.

"Even mutual funds are based on a residual to the manager and sellers. The more sales and customers, the higher your income. What's the difference?" asks Perry, pointing out that many organizations work in a pyramid format.

Perry says that people in the industry should explain to the "skeptics" that buying through him is the same as buying through a mail order company.

As a multi-level marketing organization grows, new marketing representatives must have the skills and support necessary to move products, and stay with the program. Due primarily to poor prospecting, most network marketers never get to this goal .

Perry is optimistic about direct selling in a multi-level marketing environment. "Networking is the buzzword of the '90s for success in business or any other activity. I am in the referral business. I go to a movie, read a book, go to a restaurant, and tell people how good it is. But I don't get paid for it. I show people how they can save time and money when they do their shopping – things they are doing or buying now, and I do get paid for it."

Herman's views are similar. "I do not see any drawbacks to this approach of doing business. You could purchase almost anything – from cars to soap – in this fashion."

But multi-level marketing is not for everyone. "The biggest problem people have is being able to realize their own potential. If one appreciates that this is not a get-rich-quick scheme, that with proper application one can make a lot of money, in a relatively short period of time, then it truly allows anyone to dream," says Herman.

Not all products will sell with a multi-level marketing approach. Ideally, products must be in both current and long-term demand. The best products are those which customers will place repeat orders such as health products.

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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BY BARRY GROSSMAN AND STAN GOLDBERG

THIS IS HOW I RUN THE CABINET

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shows children from Kfar Darom how he wields the wooden gavel during cabinet meetings. [RNS/Reuters]

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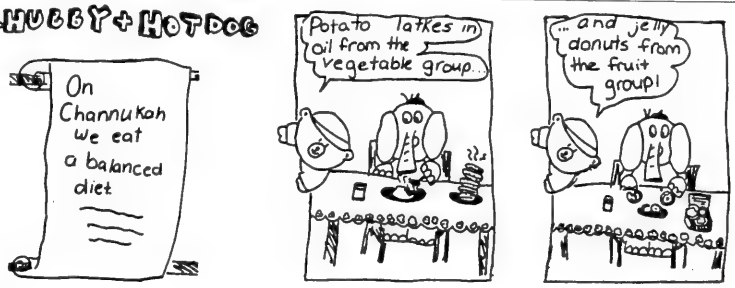

By: Alyssa Guttman

Chanukah Hi-lights

THE HEBREW WORD CHANUKAH MEANS "DEDICATION." IT CELEBRATES THE JEWISH PEOPLE'S VICTORY FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. JUDAH MACCABEE LED THE BATTLE AGAINST THE SYRIANS AND SUCCEEDED IN DEFEATING THEM. UNFORTUNATELY, THE SACRED TEMPLE WAS DESTROYED BY THE SYRIANS. THE WORD "CHANUKAH" OR "DEDICATION," REFERS TO THE REDEDICATION OF THE ANCIENT TEMPLE OF WHICH THE JEWISH PEOPLE CLEANSED AND RESTORED TO ITS ORIGINAL CONDITION. THE MIRACLE HAPPENED WHEN THE ETERNAL FLAME STAYED LIT FOR EIGHT DAYS WITH ONLY ONE DAY'S SUPPLY OF OIL.

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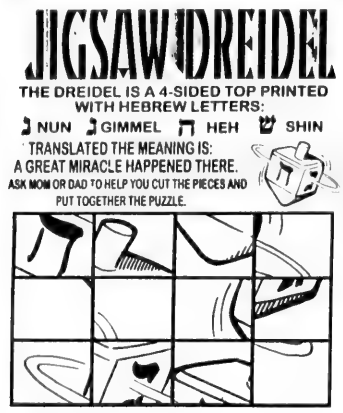
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Book's hero a young girl

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

It is very hard, sometimes, to appreciate being Jewish when it looks like the world around us is so much more exciting and glamorous.

That is exactly how Anya, the heroine of *Candles*, by Lynne Kositsky (Roussan Publishers Inc., 1998), feels. She resents that her home is "more old-Jewish than new Canadian," that her family doesn't do all the Christmassy things that her friends do, and that she is not allowed to join them, especially during Chanukah.

She is very resentful when her grandmother gives her brother a portable CD player, while she gives her an old (and to Anya old-fashioned) menorah.

Grudgingly agreeing to light the menorah to please her family, Anya finds herself being dragged backwards in time, and transformed into Estie, a young Jewish girl in Nazi Germany.

Each time Anya lights the menorah, she experiences more and more of Estie's life.

Estie's parents, afraid because of what the Nazis were doing to the Jews, arranged for Estie to be smuggled out of Germany by a brave and kind non-Jewish friend.

She reaches England, where she lives out the war years. Eventually, she comes to Canada, where she is reunited with her mother and sister, who have survived the war, and with Inge, a girl who had been her best friend until Hitler came to power.

Through living Estie's life, Anya realizes, as she herself admits, what it means to be a Jew.

Unlike some books for pre-teens, Anya is a normal girl – she loves her family, but she finds them, particularly her brother, totally exasperating; she hates her hair; she wants to be just like her friends. She is neither a goody-goody, nor a complete horror.

You will certainly enjoy the parts of the book that talk about the family's two golden retrievers, Jesse and Angel, who get into everything, eat the heads off flowers and, while loveable, are simply not too bright.

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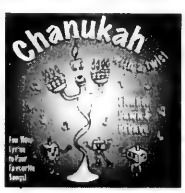

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BATHURST-WILSON 50 FT. LOT - $239,900
3 bedroom bungalow, hardwood floors, new washroom, finished rentable basement, appliances, air, alarm. *Ted Waxman

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BATHURST-CLARK - WALK TO SHUL - ONLY $289,900!
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Large 3 bedroom condo, locker, tandem parking, extra large room sizes, 2 walk-in closets in master bedroom, appliances, air+++. *Ted Waxman

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BATHURST-CLARK $209,900
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BATHURST-STEELES "THE PRIMROSE"
South view!! 2 bedroom condo, large eat-in kitchen with wall of pantry, walk-in laundry room, appliances etc. Shows great!! $182,900. *Ted Waxman

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Magnificent "Shane Baghai" bungalow, finished basement, marble floors, 9 ft. ceilings, skylight, gourmet kitchen, 3 car garage+++ $575K.

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Edward's Gardens beauty. Approx. 5,000 sq. ft. plus fin. bsmnt., w/walk-out to yard. Triple garage & much more. Rhonda Abony*

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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NEW LISTINGS by LENNA LANGER-GROSS

Bathurst/Atkinson $224,900
Lowest priced brick home on east side of Bathurst near private [illegible] & shuls. 3 bdrms., parqu[illegible]place, central vac., alarm, S[illegible] 2 tier deck, Jacuzzi, fenced yard. Carries like rent or great investment - better than the stock market!

SOLD

Clark/Dufferin $254,900
You won't want to miss this one! Oak floors, Family Room [illegible]nished bsmt., recent roof, [illegible]mics, 6 appliances, central [illegible]eplace, move-in condition, 4 washrooms, playground equipment, just painted. On quiet street.

SOLD

Executive home "WESTMOUNT" area
5 bdrms., study with built-ins, oak floors, ceramics, stunning staircase - a foyer with a statement! LR & DR Combo, 5 appls., alarm, designer paint finishes, shutters, landscaped, best schools, quiet street. This is a home meant for entertaining! Reduced.

Just Listed! Bathurst-Centre det. 3 bdrm. renovated home. Stunning! Bright white lacquer kitchen, Taupe & Cream decor, ceramics, bay window, wet bar, 7 appls., rental apartment with sep. entry, pool size lot. Must be seen! $264,000! Call now!

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Estate sale, 3 bdrms., 2 kits., 2 baths, fin. bsmnt., A-1 Buy!

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WILSON/BATHURST CONDO
$164,500. Spac. 3 bdrm., 2 baths, up-to-date kit., 5 appls., parquet flrs., A-1 Buy & loc.

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6 - 2 bdrms. + 2 - 1 bdrms., balcs., garages + pkg., fully rented, A-1 location.

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OVERBROOK FINCH
Split lvl., 3 bdrm., fam. rm., 3 baths, rec. rm., dble. gar., A-1.

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Bathurst/Lawrence - 3 bdrm., 45'x120' lot, asking $275,000.

Eglinton/Yonge - 7 rm., 2 story, 1 & 2 bdrm. self-contained apts. (rented). Walk to subway.

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Shoshana's Nursing Service. Reasonable rates, 493-2095.

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Exp. caregiver for elderly. Orthodox lady. References. No Saturday calls. 416-398-8847.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dagan/Hascal - Isaak & Ellen Dagan are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa, to Adrian Hascal, son of Marcel & Kathy Hascal. Proud grandparents are Salima Dagan, Margaret Haber and Brana Hascal.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

JSM, 50, 5"6', 147 lbs., green eyes, romantic, emotionally and financially stable, looking for a slim, attractive female, 40-50, for a longterm relationship. Call 905-889-6135.

One Of A Kind! If you want to satisfy your intellectual appetite & enjoy life to the fullest, then look no further. This well educated, sensitive, kind and attractive, successful, financially secure prof. lady, honest & sincere seeks a meaningful relationship with accomplished, educated prof. of 52-62 years of age. If you enjoy good conversation, theatre, traveling, classical music, sports & outdoors, I am sure we will find much in common. CJN Box # 7125.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Handsome, successful, athletic,caring,SJM 40's, from warm, loving family seeks traditional/observant SJ lady 27-37 with great loving heart, inner strength, elegance & matching form/beauty for lifetime with passionate, dynamic, NYC mensch, refined prof. Desires sharing active, rich Jewish family life pleasures. CJN Box 7119.

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-48, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7124.

Prof male 50 5'7"down to earth romantic, caring, loves dancing & sports seeks honest, slim female 38+ with a good sense of humour who enjoys quiet evenings, theatre, dining for a serious relationship. CJN Box 7123

Retired senior widower with sense of humor who likes home cooked food, dining out, movies live theatre, music, dancing,cultural events & more. I am looking for a lady who has similar interest & desires. We can meet for coffee. CJN Box # 7114.

Will you be the 9th light on my Menorah of love? A handsome, witty and athletic, 6', 38 year old SJM, seeks to find his own miracle of relationship enlightenment. You are an attractive SJF who is warm, caring, sensitive and enjoys the humour and wackiness of everyday life. The days are getting shorter and so is the time when we'll meet and start a long term relationship leading to ..... Reply to CJN Box 7127 to find out if you'll be the one to help fill in.....

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Women seeking Men

DOWN TO EARTH
Single female, honest, outgoing, friendly, down to earth, enjoy movies, long walks seeking a male, 36-46, for serious relationship AD#1694

WORTH THE WAIT
Single female, beautiful, kind, honest, talented, travelled, never married Seeking a male, 35-45, ready for long term Jewish family oriented relationship AD#1695

STYLISH LADY
Single Jewish female, 30ish, attractive, good sense of style, dark hair, hazel-green eyes, enjoy travelling, theater, movies, music, bowling, camping, board games. Seeking a Jewish male, with similar interests and qualities, age 32-43 AD#1692

BEST FRIENDS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", slim, attractive, intelligent, brunette, sensitive, enjoy camping, reading, theater, movies, dining and dancing, long walks by the ocean, summer festivals. Seeking a male, 35-44, single, romantic, financially secure, sensitive, handsome, with a strong sense of humour AD#1769

FRIEND, LOVER & PARTNER
Single Jewish female, auburn hair, brite blue eyes, sparking smile, 47, 5', non-smoker, romantic, pretty, playful, love to cuddle, family oriented. Seeking a male, Jewish, non-smoker, affectionate, romantic, open with his feelings and ready for commitment. AD#1671

FRIENDS FIRST
Single Jewish female, 44, 5'6", slim, non-smoker, professional, enjoy movies, theater, travel, reading, long walks. Seeking a single male, honest, professional, family oriented. AD#1691

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, professional, 42, one young child, non-smoker, warm, genuine, enjoy dining &dancing, theater, comedy, long romantic, walks Seeking a professional Jewish male, sensitive, caring, with similar interests and outlooks AD#1674

SUPERMAN NEEDED
Single mom, 5'9", thin, have 6 year old child, fit, not open minded, but loves to please. Seeking a male, does not need to have bulging muscles, but should qualify to work at the Daily Planet, Lois Lane has nothing on me. AD# 1680

LET'S EXPLORE LIFE
Single female, radiant, smart, compassionate, open, fun-loving, with depth & soul, enjoy good food, good conversation, long walks, & the cultural menu of Toronto. Seeking a male, romantic, affectionate, emotionally & financially stable, traditional values & style AD#1678

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Divorced Jewish female, 48, affectionate, romantic, compassionate, mother of 2 sons, age 21 & 23. Seeking a romantic male, financially secure and will show me all the possibilities life has to offer AD#1660

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, enjoy movies, travel, romantic walks, music, dining & dancing. Seeking a male, 50+, sincere, honest, mature, thoughtful AD#1689

SINGLE MOM
Single female, 48, 2 kids & 2 cats, fit, non-smoker, enjoy outdoors, jazz, arts. Seeking a male, non-smoker, honest, health oriented, with heart and brains. AD#1688

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, never married, 38, petite, down to earth, easy going, very laid back, good values Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, 36-42, for best friends and life partner AD#1734

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, warm, sincere, attractive, romantic, slim, 5'4", brunette, enjoy reading, theater, movies, being by the ocean, dining & dancing, flea markets. Seeking a male, 35-44, intelligent, handsome, financially secure, romantic, must believe being best friends is the basis of a great relationship AD#1662

LOVES TO COOK
Single, slim female, early 40's, intelligent, professional, fit, blondish-brown hair, hazel eyes, attractive, enjoy sailing, running, tennis, skiing, loves to cook. Seeking a male, 44-53, with similar interest. AD#1642

CHICKEN SOUP
Single female, 33, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving, enjoy long walks, movies, cycling, tennis, theater, dancing & dining, especially chicken soup. Seeking a non-smoking Jewish male, with similar interests and values AD#1651

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, brunette, nurse, warm, sensitive, intelligent, sincere, caring, enjoy the theater, travelling, dining & dancing, intelligent, romantic, successful, for long term meaningful relationship. AD#1641

FABULOUS FORTY'S
Single mom, 40ish, 5'2", slim, attractive, fit, hazel eyes, blondish hair, professional, enjoy skiing, sailing, running, tennis, cooking. Seeking a professional male, 44-50, single dads OK, with similar interests and a good sense of humour. AD#1693

Men seeking Women

TIME WAITS FOR NO ONE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, enjoy country drives, art auctions, have a business degree, stock market investor and analyzer Seeking a lady, no need to be slim, for serious relationship AD#1681

ROMANTIC AND CARING
Single white male, 56, self-employed, businessman, enjoy movies, music, travel, good conversation, quiet times. Seeking a female, compassionate, loving, attractive, sensitive, to be his special lady. AD#1784

SEEKING NICE LADY
Single male, 18, enjoy movies, dancing Seeking a single female with similar interests. AD#1670

DON'T MISS OUT
Youthful Jewish senior, 65+, semi-retired, 5'7", 180lbs, blue eyes, thoughtful, sincere, reliable, romantic, affectionate, humorous. Seeking a special lady to share love, understanding, and friendship, 50-64. AD#1676

HONEST
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'10", 160lbs, fun, fit, handsome, athletic, financially and emotionally secure, honest, professional, 2 university degrees, blue eyes, light brown hair, enjoy outdoor activities, reading, movies Seeking a female, fit, attractive, independent, fun loving, with similar values and interests. AD#1679

MY KIDS TAUGHT ME WELL
Single male, 40, ready to get into life again. Seeking a special lady to share life with. AD#1779

FRIENDSHIP
Single male, 5'7", 180lbs, semi-retired, blue eyes, sincere, thoughtful, easy to talk to, romantic, reliable, dependable, humorous. Seeking an attractive female, 50-64, that is slim, trim in body and mind. AD#1653

A NEW BEGINNING
Young looking male, 53, 5'9", 180lbs, professional, successful, healthy, enjoy long walks, good food, dancing, theater, movies Seeking a female for partnership AD#1654

INTEGRITY
Senior Jewish male, 5'7", 180lbs, presentable, romantic, down to earth, humorous, blue eyes. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 50-64, that is kind, caring to share love, understanding and integrity AD#1657

HANDY MAN
Single Jewish male, 32, 6'2", good heart, honest, caring, intelligent, funny, enjoy travelling, camping, playing pool, country drives, trying new things for an internal relationship with the right person. AD#1659

ACTIVE JUNIOR SENIOR
Single male, mid 60's, 5'6", non-smoker, Anglo-Jewish background, enjoy music, theater, outdoors, travel, public affairs Seeking a semi-dependent, warm, educated, outgoing, caring lady, 50+. AD#1690

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 6', enjoy movies, dining & dancing, exercising, good conversation. Seeking a lady with similar interests. AD#1643

STYLISH GENTLEMAN
Single Jewish male, very stylish, blue eyes, dark hair, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, music. Seeking a female, 18-40, with similar interests and outlook. AD# 1742

GOOD TIMES
Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING
Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate AD#1625

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single male, 36, 5'8", handsome, fit, well-established, non-smoker. Seeking a slim, stylish, attractive, lady, no children, non-smoker, with traditional Jewish values, 28-33. AD#1634

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity. Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

CLASS OF '98
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit. AD#1584

NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional. Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, satire & Jewish values. AD#1595

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and children in the future. AD#1597

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

330 OBITUARIES

GYURICZA, Clara - on Nov. 3, 1998.
AFRIAT, Nina - on Nov. 5, 1998
SCHOPP, Rachel (Ruth) - on Nov. 5, 1998.
GRUNWALD, Anna - on Nov. 6, 1998, late of 22 Shalimar Blvd
COHEN, Anne - on Nov. 9, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BALCON, Cecil - on Nov. 10, 1998, late of 40 Chichester Pl.
DON, Szlomo - on Nov. 10, 1998, late of 38 Verwood Ave.
DREW, Lois - on Nov. 11, 1998, late of 33 Garthdale Crt.
SHESKO, Ester - on Nov. 11, 1998.
WEISS, Elfrida - on Nov. 12, 1998.
CHERRY, Harold - on Nov. 13, 1998, late of 78 Hillhurst Blvd.
FERENS, Harriet - on Nov. 13, 1998, late of 7420 Bathurst St.
SHVEYTSER, Polina - on Nov. 13, 1998
ZYLBERMAN, Dora - on Nov. 13, 1998.
SNITMAN, Beatrice - on Nov. 15, 1998, late of 16 Barclay Rd.
COOKE, Muray - on Nov. 16, 1998, late of 11 Kerwin Gate.
LEVINSON, Sara - on Nov. 16, 1998, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W.
VENCZEL, Caroline - on Nov. 18, 1998.
SMALL, Rubin - on Nov. 19, 1998, late of 6101 Bathurst St.
TETELMAN, Leonid - on Nov. 19, 1998.
NOON, Dov - on Nov. 20, 1998, late of 97 Baynards Lane.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

CHAZAN, Fay - on Nov. 12, 1998, late of 3 Lisa St., #512.
HOFFMAN, Frances - on Nov. 13, 1998, late of 55 Bainbridge Ave.
NAHMAN, Jack - on Nov. 13, 1998, late of 72 Glen Cameron
COHEN, Sara - on Nov. 14, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
NEWMAN, Oscar - on Nov. 14, 1998, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd., #1904
UGAR, Al - on Nov. 14, 1998, late of 6161 Bathurst St., #106.
WAYNE, Marvin - on Nov. 14, 1998, late of 55 Ellerslie Ave., #102.
FINKLE, Lionel - on Nov. 15, 1998, late of 44 Jacks Ave., PH #9.
KAMCHI, Diane - on Nov. 16, 1998, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W., #1202.
GRUENSTEIN, Dora - on Nov. 17, 1998, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W., #308.
RABINOVICI, Betty - on Nov. 17, 1998, late of 411 Patricia Ave.
BARUCH, David - on Nov. 18, 1998, late of 14 McNab Blvd.

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By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although Ruby Richman hasn't played competitive basketball for a few years, and he's more than 30 years removed from his hoops heyday, he's still involved in the sport.

At 64, Richman is busy organizing a world master's tournament to bring together a group of seasoned athletes for an international tournament in Ontario sometime around the fall of 1999. There's a good chance he'll lace up his playing shoes to participate in the over-60 competition.

When he's not busy organizing events, he likes to watch basketball stars in action. When the Raptors were playing, he was a season ticket holder, going to SkyDome to watch the athleticism, power and strength of today's professional athletes.

Watching from the stands like 15,000 other fans was not quite what he had in mind a few years back when he was part of the Ballard/Cohl bid for a Toronto NBA franchise. And it's not quite like representing your country in the Olympic Games, which he did as player/coach back in 1964 in Tokyo. But it's hoops after all and that can't be so bad.

Richman, who also excelled in baseball, track and field and hockey, was honored recently by the Bloor JCC's Basketball Reunion Group for a lifetime of achievements in sports and for his contributions to the community. About 150 people gathered recently at the Bloor JCC, one of Richman's old haunts, to pay tribute to the onetime star player. Richman joins a select group of athletes, including Harry "Sharpy" Litvack, Stan Krivy and Alex Fisher, to be so honored. Those doing the honoring are a group of former athletes who played basketball out of the Bloor "Y" 30 years ago and who now host tribute dinners every three or four years to raise money for the city's junior Maccabi team.

Litvack, who's known Richman for decades, said the honoree "was one of the top Jewish players of his day. He was a good ball handler and and excellent shooter. He was also very competitive and for a little guy (five foot nine) with the desire he had, he really showed well in basketball."

"He was very dedicated and had a lot of talent too," said Archie

Ruby Richman

Richman, Ruby's brother. Not only was he known as "Mr. Basketball" in the 1960s and '70s, but in the early '50s he was offered a Major League tryout with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Archie recalled. It was an offer he turned down to continue his education.

Richman's basketball career started relatively late. Back in the days before TV and saturation media coverage of American leagues, he never even heard of the sport until he was around 10. Growing up in the College and Shaw area, his first exposure to it came from a friend who demonstrated the sport by dribbling a tennis ball and throwing it up against a lamppost.

He learned the game's fundamentals a few years later while attending Camp Northland and in high school, basketball became one of his favorite sports along with track and field, football, baseball and softball.

In his last year at Vaughan Road Academy, Richman, playing guard, helped his team to the city's junior championship.

At the University of Toronto, he was on the 1958 national championship team. He played for the Blues for seven years and later in his college career, he also coached various senior teams around town. All the while, he honed his coaching skills by attended numerous coaching clinics in the Niagara Falls area. In 1963 and '64, he coached the Toronto Dow Kings, which were sponsored by a beer company, to the Canadian Senior Championship.

That got him noticed by the *machers* on the national level, who appointed him head coach of the 1964 Olympic team. In Japan the team won a pre-Olympic qualifying tournament, advancing to the medal round by beating Australia, Mexico, Cuba, Hungary and Indonesia and a host of other Asian entries.

Canada found itself in a tough draw in the Games themselves, finishing 10th out of 16. Still, Richman said, it was quite an accomplishment considering Canada had not even qualified for the 1960 Olympics and did not qualify again until 1976, when it did so as host country.

Richman considers the Olympics one of the highlights of his athletic career. A personal highlight took place during a match against Hungary. With the game tied and only two seconds left, Canada inbounded the ball to Richman at centre court. He fired a hail-Mary shot that surprised everybody when it found net. The two points gave Canada the win.

By 1976, Richman had moved to the executive suite, serving as president of Basketball Canada. He played a key role in organizing the basketball competition for the Montreal Olympics.

He later accepted a position as vice-president of marketing for Basketball Canada and he also served as president of the Sport Federations of Canada (1978-81), president of Sports Ontario and president of Ontario Basketball.

Richman played on Canada's 1961 Maccabiah Games team and was a player-coach at the 1965, '69, '73 and '77 Maccabiahs. During that span, Canada won only bronze medals, finishing behind perennial powerhouses, Israel and the United States.

When Richman's playing days were over – at least at the highest levels – his hoops career continued as a promoter. In the early '70s, well before the NBA was North American's glamour league, he brought the Los Angeles Lakers and Kansas City Kings to Toronto for an exhibition. The Lakers featured Wilt Chamberlain, Elgin Baylor and Jerry West and were one of the best teams of all time, he said. The game drew 13,000 spectators and led to more NBA exhibitions as well as a series of league games by the ABA.

Right around that time, he and the late Harold Ballard twice attempted to bring an NBA franchise to Toronto. First, they purchased the Buffalo Braves but the team backed out of the deal. Then they looked south, way south, looking to purchase the Houston Rockets and install them in Toronto. They thought they had a done deal until they ran up against some Texas hardball. They received a threatening lawyer's letter saying they faced prosecution for removing the Rockets while they still had contractual ties to the state.

That ended that. Richman's next best chance to get involved with the NBA came a few years ago when the Ballard/Cohl group bid for an expansion club. Richman played a key role in raising a big chunk of the $125 million (US) expansion fee and he, along with Magic Johnson, were the group's basketball-savvy contingent.

"We felt we had as good a chance as anybody," Richman said. But, he believes, his partners didn't go far enough in promising the NBA the moon. It didn't help that they didn't have a profile figurehead like former Ontario premier David Peterson, who was part of the Bitove bid, he said.

"Everybody had the money," he said. "You had to show you were really interested in basketball," not simply in running an effective business.

Though he never became an NBA owner, Richman's contribution to basketball has nevertheless landed him in the Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame. He holds the unique distinction of being inducted in all three categories – as player, coach and builder.

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

מה אתם יודעים, איזה צרות יש לילדים...

תרופה מרה, חור בשן, שריטה ולעבור פתאום דיכה חן צרות ממש. שלא לדבר על חלום מפחיד, לחישאר ברחוב לבד, עונשים ועקצות ודודות שמנשקות. כך כותבת נירה הראל (תעשי מה שאני אומרת, חוצאת עם עובד) בשמם של כל הילקים. ריב גדול עם החורים, צלחת של מרק בלי סעם, סערה, ברק ורעם זה פשוט איום וכל יום יש צרות; צרות יום יום.

למשל הילד יונתן. הוא פשוט מתקשה לזכור איזה יום היום. לא יודע; אולי רביעי, חמישי, אולי יום אחר. וגמאם לו לשאול או לנחש. מצדו, שיהיה יום ראשון או שני, מה אכפת לו. הוא יודע רק זאת: "לי קוראים יונתן, זה קבוע/ש לי שם אחד בלבד/ שבעה ימים בשבוע/ אפילו בשבת."

יש ילד שמרגיש בודד בלילות. מתן, אחיו הקטן, ישן כמלאך והוא, חבכור, בחלון עומד ומהחושך מפחד. ויש ילדה ששונאת פשטידות ולא אוהבת ללבוש שמלות. היא רוצה לעשות בלונים, ולשים אודם אך אמא נוערת בה ואומרת: "את צעירה ואני מבוגרת/ אז תעשי מה שאני אומרת." וכך מבינה הילדה לבסוף "שלחיות צודקת זה באמת חשוב/ אבל יותר חשוב להיות מבוגרת."

ועוד ילד שאמר לחוריו שהוא כבר גדול והם יכולים לצאת, לבלות. אחרי שיצאו חילד קצת בכה, עצם עינים בכוח, אך תכף רצה לפקוח ולפתע היה כבר בוקר נחמד! חוריו אמרו שהוא באמת כבר 'גדול והילד..."יהוה מחר חגיע, אני כבר מרוצה/ אבל לחיות גדול/ אני עוד לא רוצה."

לילד באני רוצה שפתאום של יהודה אטלס (שבא הוצאה לאור) יש בעיות שאינן שונות במהותן מסוג הבעיות שתוארו בספריו הקודמים, הידועים של אטלס. הוא עולה במדרגות, מריח ריחות מטעמים שהשכנות מבשלות ומגיע לדירת משפחתו "פותח תידלת לאט-לאט/ושוב יש סלט."

חלק מהצרות, שיש לילדים חן פשוט התלבטויות רציניות. למשל יעל הקטנה שעומדת כל היום מול חראי, מודדת בגדים, מסתכלת, בוררת ולא מצליחה לבחור. וכי"ל גם הילד שאבן אוהב לקבל מתנות, אך לו היה נאלץ לבחור לעצמו מתנה, "כשהייתי מגיע לחנות האחרונה/ כבר חיתה נגמרת שנה."

נדמה שחילד אצל אטלס במאבק מתמיד ביצר הרע. הוא תמיד מספר סודות של אחרים, במיוחד כשאמר לו שאסור לגלות לאף אחד. בביקורו אצל סבתא בבית-חולים, בחדר החמתנה "מתחשק לי לפתוח ת'בובנוירה/ שהבאנו לה מתנה." וסתם הוא מבקש "לצאת למרפסת באמצע הלילה/ ולצרוח כמו משוגע." העולם העכשווי נראה לו רדוד בקסמו; "יפעם היה מלך/ עם שרביט וכתר/והיום יש סתם ראש ממשלה." כדרכו, מביע חילד של אטלס טרוניות כלפי דור החורים. "כשאני מספר לאמא/ שהוא כעס עלי/או חרביק/ תמיד היא אומרת: על אבא לא אומרים יהוא." הוא קובל על חשינוי שחל ביחסם של החורים; "כשידעתי לספור/ך אחד שתים/ אבא ואמא/ מחאו כפים./ וכשחצלחתי בסוף/ לספור עד שמונים/ ספרתם על זה/ לכל השכנים./ אז למה היום/ כשאני רוצה שתקשיבו אין אני סופר עד מליון/ כולכם אומרים לי/ אולי תפסיק/ לבלבל ת'מוח!"

חחיים בבית-ספר אינם פשוטים. "כשאני בא לכתה/ עם עשורי-בית וכל חמחברות/ כמה שאני מצביע/ לא יתנו לי לקרוא./ אבל לפעמים/ כשאני לא מכין/ דוקא אז חמורה אומרת/ אתה תפתח ותקרא!"

חן אצל נירה הראל וחן אצל יהודה אטלס לדמות חילד מענקת חבנה פסיכולוגית לחושות חמבוגרים. וכך מעיד חילד של אטלס; "כשהוא נותן לי מכה/ אני נשבע מיד/ שעל חילדים שלי/ אני לא ארים יד./ אבל אולי גם הוא/ לפני שהיה אבא/ חשב אותו חדבר/ כשקבל מכות מסבא." מה שלא יהיה, מבטיחה חילדה, "גם כשאחיה גדולה/ אף פעם לא אשכח/ איזה צרות יש לקטנים/ צרות גדולות כל כך."

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN

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WE SELL Whirlpool FOR LESS

ROASTED RED BELL PEPPER SOUP

3 red bell peppers
1/8 tsp crushed red pepper
4 cups chicken or vegetable broth
1 can red kidney beans, rinsed & drained
1 tblsp olive oil
1 onion chopped
1 bunch watercress
salt & pepper to taste

Broil red peppers right on rack in oven. As each side chars, turn over until blackened on all sides. Remove and put in paper bag until cooled (approx. 20 mins.). Remove from bag, peel, seed and chop. Place peppers and their juices in bowl.

Heat oil in pot over medium heat. Sauté onion until soft. Add peppers and crushed red pepper and sauté for 1 minute. Add broth and beans and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 15 minutes.

Blend soup until smooth. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve with chopped watercress sprinkled on top of each bowl. Serves 4.

About families

Dear Susan,

My best friend's son has just been diagnosed with an incurable disease. His bones will curve and break as a result of progressive multiple surgeries. He will eventually be confined to a wheelchair due to his body's inability to mend itself. Mentally, the boy will remain intact. What can I do or say to support my friend through this personal crisis?

Dear Reader,

Initially the news of her son's illness will come as a shock, as it did to you. She may want to deny its existence, but eventually she will have to move through a grieving process and ultimately accept his fate. As parents, we have hopes and dreams for our children, and your friend will have to face the painful reality that some of these dreams will never come to fruition.

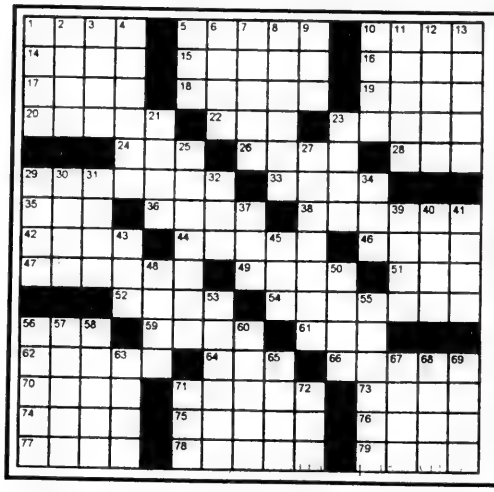
Having a chronically ill child can place a tremendous burden on a marriage and on the interrelationships between all members of a family. Parents may inappropriately direct the guilt and anger that will inevitably result from this situation, and siblings may feel overlooked due to their parents' focus on their ill child. It will take a great deal of strength, love and support for the family to deal with this situation.

As a friend you should do your best to determine how you can be of help. Does your friend need a shoulder to cry on or does she need to withdraw for a time? The initial reaction to such news is often a period of paralysis, and you may be able to help and show your support by asking about his illness and getting as much information as you can about it.

Parents of ill children will frequently be physically and emotionally drained, and will sorely need a respite. Offer to take care of her other children so she can be free to take time out in between doctors' appointments.

Your friend needs to find hope in the midst of this tragedy. You mentioned that the child's mental capacities will not be compromised in any way. Remind your friend that many individuals have successfully overcome physical adversity and have gone on to become successful in their fields.

Susan Leventhal is a psychotherapist with 20 years of experience.



The Canadian Jewish news CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Fays (Eng.)
5. Israeli Cactus
10. Jerusalem __, Newspaper
14. Jump
15. US Commodore Levy
16. Cowardly actor?
17. Golda
18. Hamas weapons
19. Uncle to twelve
20. Gaza __
22. Bissel (Eng.)
23. Like Noah's animals
24. Neither's partner .
26. Stereo
28. Use the tuches
29. Passover perils
33. Adam's son
35. Hamantasch?
36. Circumcision
38. Cosmetic queen
42. Emulate Spitz
44. "Chad __"
46. Uriel's headgear?
47. Minister of immigration
49. Snug
51. Got away
52. "Rock of __"
54. Disputations
56. Egyptian snake
59. Eve's squeeze?
61. Sabin's milieu
62. Mud monster
64. Yeled (Eng.)
66. Kol __
70. Alephbet member
71. Actor Curtis
73. Comedienne Rivers
74. Shiva clothes
75. Moses' Dad
76. Stones for David
77. Bezaleel specialty
78. Bohr
79. Myra, pianist

Down

1. Tu B'Shevat plantings?
2. Sandal holders
3. "The Great __", Sholom Aleichem
4. Aviv (Eng.)
5. Vessel for Rickover
6. Gad's boy
7. Altar
8. Teachers
9. Sighs
10. Dershowitz bargain?
11. Desert sweetspot
12. Puppeteer Lewis
13. In God we __
21. "__ out thy wrath"
23. Hummus holder
25. Imitated Solomon
27. Pita pocket stuffing
29. Plague
30. Ten commandments
31. Jan Peerce specialty
32. Depot (abbr.)
34. What?
37. Koch or Land
39. Pub missile
40. "Night" wnter
41. Staffs for Moses
43. Degree
45. Torah pointer (Heb.)
48. Artist Yaacov
50. Orator
53. Deli fare
55. King of Judah
56. 100th of a NIS
57. Artist Raphael
58. Tu B'Shvat activity
60. Abram's refuge
63. Tsitsit site
65. Telephone pad
67. Atop the shul?
68. Source for Shofars?
69. Son of Seth
71. Great tenor Peerce
72. Mems (Eng.)

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connetiçut. (Last week's answers are on page 40.)

Voices from the Heart

A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel

This Chanukah – Give a Gift from the Heart

Chanukah, 1948. The new nation of Israel was born to battle, fighting off enemy armies, struggling against scarcity and bravely building a country. Thousands of Canadians were among Israel's builders. They gave from the heart. Read their remarkable stories in ***Voices from the Heart: A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel,*** a treasured, limited edition collection of photos, memories and anecdotes, chronicling the connection of Canadians to their Jewish homeland.

Voices from the Heart is edited by Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, published by McClelland and Stewart and sponsored by UJA Federation, Israel at 50 and the Hong Kong Bank of Canada. ♥

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WHEN AND WHERE do BBYO CHAPTERS meet?

BBYO activities take place at our office as well as in local communal facilities, such as synagogues and or Community Centres. Chapters also hold many of their programs and meetings in individual homes.

HOW DOES YOUR CHILD get INVOLVED in BBYO?

Individual teens are encouraged to join established AZA or BBG chapters. Groups of friends can, however, form their own chapters. A chapter is composed of an elected youth executive, an adult advisor, and individual members.

WHO RUNS ALL OF THIS?

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH ORGANIZATION
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BBYO

PREPARE YOUR TEEN FOR THE BBYO FUTURE

GREATER TORONTO AREA COUNCIL

B
THE OPPORTUNITY
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O

WHAT is BBYO?

BBYO is the largest Jewish Youth organization in the world, encompassing over 40,000 members in 1,500 chapters.

It is divided into two groups: AZA (Aleph Zadik Aleph) for boys and BBG (B'nai B'rith Girls) for girls in grades nine to O.A.C.; and Teen Connection, for boys and girls in grade eight.

BBYO is an international organization with chapters in Canada, the United States, Israel, England, France, Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, Ukraine, Sweden, and Germany.

But WHY SHOULD MY TEEN(S) JOIN BBYO?

- **FIRST,** BBYO offers young people leadership, that is, the opportunity to create and run their own programs. BBYO is a youth-led organization, something that almost no other organization can claim.
- **SECOND,** BBYO expands your teen's social and creative activities, allowing him or her to do things that would not be possible outside of an organized group setting.
- **THIRD,** BBYO provides your teen with the opportunity to explore his or her Jewish heritage. BBYO reaches affiliated and non-affiliated youth, offering them diversity in Judaic programs.
- **FOURTH,** through BBYO your teen is part of an exciting network of Jewish youth. BBYO offers young people the chance to interact with Jewish teens from around the world.
- **FIFTH,** BBYO offers your teen the opportunity to become a leader. BBYO members can become chapter officers, council officials, or even international leaders. Even the youngest members begin by planning small programs and work their way up to running major events.

WHAT do we do in BBYO?

BBYO is just about everything you can imagine. We have social, recreational, athletic, Judaic and cultural events.

HERE'S A SAMPLING:

- **RECREATIONAL**
  Dances, overnight events, fashion shows, and inter-city events with other chapters.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE**
  Volunteering for community agencies and local causes, environmental projects, and fundraising for charities.
- **ATHLETICS**
  An AZA floor hockey league.
  Basketball tournaments, trips to see professional sports teams, and Maccabiah competitions.
- **CULTURAL**
  Films, dramatics, video and theatre are all part of BBYO's activities.
- **JUDAIC**
  Celebration of holidays, participation in community-wide events, and educational programs in such areas as the Holocaust and Israel.

WHO RUNS ALL OF THIS?

BBYO is coordinated by professional staff composed primarily of men and women with university education and a background in Jewish studies. BBYO chapters have adult volunteers who guide, challenge and supervise all chapter activities.

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This Week

National

Jewish community in Montreal resigned to four more years of uncertainty. ***Page 3***

Jews must take serious steps to stop assimilation, Ashkenazi chief rabbi says. ***Page 5***

Chess champ Garry Kasparov seeks support for Israel academy. ***Page 7***

Chanukah Supplement

Poetry contest winners and lots more. ***Section B***

Arts

Visually stunning *Prince of Egypt* breaks new ground. ***Page 52***

Toronto actor Eric Fink is in the right place at the right time. ***Page 55***

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Caution, relief greet vote

SYNAGOGUE HONORS PM

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien accepts an award from Mendel Green of Beth Sholom Synagogue in Toronto. The congregation's brotherhood honored the PM at its 47th annual Humanitarian Award Dinner last week. Chrétien used the occasion to extol the virtues of Canadian citizenship, saying Canada "is worth protecting and worth fighting for." Looking on is program chair Frank Cadesky. *[Ron Csillag photo]*

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The reaction of the Jewish community following the Quebec election ranged from caution to relief to an optimism bordering on giddy.

That the election of a Parti Québécois (PQ) government with a comfortable majority could be met with such equanimity among Jews would have been unthinkable only a few years ago.

The fact that the PQ trailed the Liberals in the popular vote by one percent and the fact that Premier Lucien Bouchard has indicated he has no immediate plans for a referendum have been greeted as an unexpected gift, after weeks of polling pointed to unstoppable PQ popularity that would create the momentum for another referendum.

"It's a very positive development. It's as good news as we could get, short of a Liberal win," said B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) regional director Robert Libman. "We've dodged quite a hefty bullet, and we're unlikely to see a referendum for many, many years. Certainly, it will be next to impossible in the next four years."

Had the PQ done better than 42.7 percent, Libman thinks, many more young Jews would leave Quebec because "they couldn't take the fatigue anymore. Now, there is genuine hope."

Libman, 38, a former Equality party MNA, said, in a way, the result is better than a Liberal victory. Any party in its second mandate is "on the wane," and Libman believes that since the PQ has so many unpopular dossiers to deal with and a reinvigorated opposition to face, it will not be able to muster the popularity needed for a referendum. And no party has been elected for a third term since the Duplessis era.

"However, if the Liberals were in power, and failed to negotiate a satisfactory deal with the federal government, the PQ would have a chance to regain its fire and come back strong."

FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick put it succinctly: "It could have been better, but it could have been a helluva lot worse."

He's pleased with the result, "because it takes off the pressure of any immediacy of a referendum,

Continued on page 46

RAMALLAH RAMPAGE

An Israeli and his hitchiking soldier passenger were attacked by a mob of stone throwing Palestinians last week near Ramallah. Both the driver and the passenger managed to escape without serious injury. Please see *Editorial* on page 8. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

INSIDE

A full report of the first *CJN* Roundtable discussion.
Please see page 15.

We wish our readers a happy Chanukah!

The News in Brief

CANADA

Agunah Get Day II

MONTREAL — Several rabbinic organizations, including the Vaad Ha'ir Beth Din of Montreal and Agudas Harabonim of Canada and the United States, are supporting Agunah Get Day II. Slated for Dec. 10, the North America-wide campaign is intended to press recalcitrant husbands to give their wives a *get*, or Jewish divorce, before Chanukah. For more information, call 718-338-0833.

Rabbi Leaving

CALGARY — Members of Temple B'nai Tikvah are adjusting to news that Rabbi Jordan Goldson will be leaving. The rabbi and his family will be making aliyah next August.

ISRAEL

Activist Arrested

JERUSALEM — Palestinian security forces arrested a senior Islamic Jihad activist suspected of recruiting two terrorists who carried out a bombing in Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda market several weeks ago. The two bombers were killed and 21 Israelis were wounded in the Nov. 6 attack. According to Israeli security sources, the Palestinian Authority has also detained two more fugitives whose arrest Israel had demanded.

Haredim Protest

BEERSHEVA — Some 500 haredi Israelis protested outside a building here in the wake of reports that it was a centre for missionary activities and baptisms of Jewish children. Israeli police appealed to rabbis to help restore order so that members of the Jews for Jesus movement could leave the building.

WORLD

Clinton Names Bronfman

WASHINGTON — U.S. President Bill Clinton last week appointed Canadian-born Edgar Bronfman to head the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States. The appointment came during a four-day conference on Holocaust assets, namely, insurance policies and artworks, to which Canada sent seven delegates. Bronfman is president of the World Jewish Congress and the World Jewish Restitution Organization.

Car Makers Profited

WASHINGTON — General Motors may have collaborated with the Nazis, according to the *Washington Post*. A class-action suit has already been filed against Ford on similar charges. Both auto companies say they had no control over their German subsidiaries during World War II. But according to the article, documents indicate that the automakers profited from the Nazis' use of slave labor during the war.

PA 'Misused' Funds

LONDON — The Palestinian Authority (PA) allegedly misused $20 million in aid from Britain and other European countries, according to the *London Sunday Times*. The aid, supposed to help poor Palestinians, was reportedly used to build luxury apartments for high-level "acolytes" of PA president Yasser Arafat, the paper reported.

Support For Anti-Semite

MOSCOW — Some 500 people rallied in Moscow to support a Communist lawmaker who recently made several anti-Semitic statements. The rally came after a nationwide public opinion poll suggested that most Russians do not support Albert Makashov.

Church to Repent

ROME — Pope John Paul II issued an edict declaring the year 2000 a Holy Year during which individual Catholics and the Roman Catholic Church should ask forgiveness for their past failings. During the Holy Year celebrations, the church is expected to ask forgiveness for specific past errors, including the Inquisition and its inaction during the Holocaust.

Restitution Planned

PRAGUE — The Czech government has established a committee to help return Jewish property confiscated during World War II. The commission will include members of the government and Czech Jewish leaders. Some 20 percent of property confiscated from Czech Jews reportedly remains in the federal government's hands.

Heirs Sue Museum

PARIS — The heirs of a Jewish art collector whose claims for a Nazi-looted painting were rejected have sued the Georges Pompidou Centre for receiving stolen property. The suit is the first of its kind in France, where the National Museum Authority is said to possess nearly 2,000 pieces of art plundered by the Nazis during World War II.

Accused Nazi Dies

PHILADELPHIA — A man who was linked to the slaughter of Jews in Lithuania during World War II died last week in a Pennsylvania nursing home before he could be deported. In April, a U.S. immigration judge had ordered that Jonas Stelmokas be deported to his native Lithuania for lying about his activities as a member of a Nazi-sponsored auxiliary police unit during the war. Stelmokas, 82, was appealing the order at the time of his death.

Soccer Game Venue for Anti-Semitic Slogans

ROME — The president of Rome's Jewish community says local Jews must react to an outburst of anti-Semitic slogans at a soccer game here last weekend.

Sandro Di Castro made the comments after a match between arch-rival teams Roma and Lazio, during which fans displayed banners deriding the other team's fans with anti-Semitic slogans.

"Auschwitz Is Your Homeland, the Ovens Are Your Homes," read a banner unfurled in the stands by Lazio fans.

Roma fans in turn displayed an anti-Semitic sign that used Nazi and Holocaust imagery.

"We've been fighting against this for years, but we don't get anywhere. It's high time to put an end to it," said Vittorio Pavoncello, the Rome Jewish community board member in charge of sports activities.

During the past decade, soccer fans in several European countries have occasionally used racist and anti-Semitic slogans to disparage their opponents.

Italy's Jews have protested formally to soccer officials in the past.

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Quebec Jews resigned to four more years of uncertainty

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jewish community voters the day after the election took some solace in the fact that the Liberals had edged out the Parti Québécois (PQ) in popular support.

But despite the so-called "moral victory," a random sampling of Jewish voters also appeared to be resigned to at least four more years of uncertainty and the threat of separation, as a result of the PQ's return to power.

And there was no consensus among those questioned, given the closeness of the popular vote, over whether there would in fact be another referendum.

Julius Strolovitch seemed to articulate the feelings of many Jews in saying that he thought that Premier Lucien Bouchard would delay a referendum, but still hold one.

The Jewish community, he said, probably feels a bit less insecure due to the Liberals' lead in the popular vote.

But the overall election results, he also said, were quite disappointing, even if not particularly surprising. "We did accomplish something by the fact that the [popular] vote was not in their favor."

Damper put on Bouchard's plans

The results, he felt, put a damper on plans Bouchard might have had to stage a referendum soon. To win one, Strolovitch said, "they have a long way to go."

Still, he was pretty certain there would be a referendum, even if it takes place in three or four years. The PQ, he said, "is never gonna give up."

Less certain about a referendum was 25-year-old Esther Ohayon.

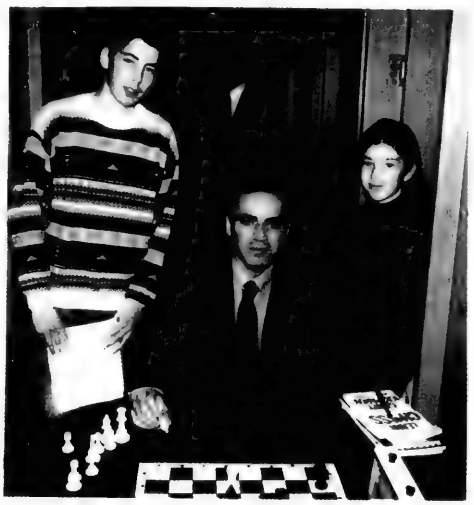
She felt that Bouchard really doesn't want one, but has been pressured by PQ militants into pledging to hold one.

The Liberal edge on the popular vote, she felt, will allow Bouchard to step away from holding a referendum he didn't really want anyway, and free him to deal with issues Quebecers care more about, like health care and the economy.

As leader of a sovereigntist party, she said, Bouchard, "has to speak about sovereignty," but that doesn't mean he really wants it.

He is "responsible," Ohayon said, and is more concerned with protecting the "interests of Quebec and perhaps his own power than secession."

Continued on page 46



A VISIT FROM THE CHAMP

World chess champion Garry Kasparov is flanked by local junior chess whizzes Roman Golts and his sister Diana. Kasparov was in Toronto to whip up support for his chess academy in Israel. See story on page 7. [Ron Csillag photo]

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From the editor's desk

Helping society evolve

Over the next few weeks, this space will contain reflections on my visit to Israel last month to attend the 67th General Assembly of the UJA Federations of North America.

***

Because Israel is so constantly in the news and because we are so constantly tuned in to that news, we tend to forget that it is a young country.

It is a society in transition, trying to emerge from the singular existential challenge of sheer physical survival that has preoccupied its first 50 years of life, to the rather more complex challenge of fashioning a way of life and nurturing a society based upon uniquely-Israeli, core, bedrock values of goodness and decency.

In Israel, typically, the challenge is complicated more than usual, for after 50 years it is still integrating large numbers of newcomers from vastly differing parts of the world, still reconciling politically opposite backgrounds among its people into a western-style democracy, still trying to find a balance between the rights of individuals and the rights of the state.

On Nov. 17, I attended a press conference that was a paradigm of that challenge. On the dais were Pinchas Zeltzer and Menachem Sheizaf of Israel, Dr. Ron Weiser of Australia and Irwin Cotler of Canada.

The press conference was ostensibly called to give "a status report on the critical issues surrounding the Maccabiah bridge disaster" of July 1997.

Three "critical issues" were identified: avoiding a recurrence of such disasters, the matter of compensation for the injured, and the fate of the two heads of the Maccabi World Union.

Readers of *The CJN* will recall that on July 14, 1997, during the opening ceremony of the 15th Maccabi Games in Israel, a pedestrian bridge over the Yarkon River collapsed. At the time of the collapse, more than 100 athletes were on the bridge. Most were from the Australian delegation.

Four Australian athletes were killed in the disaster; 64 were injured.

Some of the athletes were hurt by the fall, many others by the pollution in the river.

The bridge collapse evoked outrage. Investigations and inquiries were held into its circumstances.

Two sets of legal proceedings eventually ensued. Some of the victims and their families are seeking damages for their injuries in civil court. And the state launched criminal proceedings against five individuals:

- Yoram Eyal, chair of the 15th Maccabiah Organizing Committee,
- Micha Bar-Ilan, the engineer who planned the bridge,
- Adam Mishori, head of the Irgunit company hired by the Organizing Committee to build the bridge,
- Yehoshua Ezra and Baruch Karagula, the contractors hired by Irgunit.

In addition to these proceedings, one year after the collapse on July 29, the Knesset created a special committee to study the lessons of the disaster.

Of the three issues identified by the press conference participants, one issue was more critical than the others.

The Australian Jewish community wants the two leaders of the Maccabi World Union who were responsible for organizing the games "to assume moral responsibility" and step aside from their offices, at least for the duration of the legal and parliamentary proceedings."

The reason the Australian community has not wavered these past 16 months from pressing this key demand relates to the plight of one of their athletes hurt in the disaster. Her situation embodies the pain the community continues to suffer.

When she plunged into the Yarkon and ingested its poisons, Sasha Elterman, at the time a 15-year-old tennis player from Sidney, became infected by a terrible, debilitating fungus.

As of Nov. 17, some 16 months after she was hurt, Sasha had undergone 30 surgical procedures. She requires round-the-clock medical treatment. In the seven weeks prior to the press conference, she had been unable to get out of bed.

Sheizaf, a public activist, explained why he took part in the press conference. In typical Israeli fashion, he put the issue squarely and simply: "We want to elevate social standards in Israel closer to those of the west. Accountability must not only be legal but moral as well."

To the challenge as defined by Sheizaf, Irwin Cotler lent the considerable moral weight of his reputation. "If we take seriously the question of good government [and accountability], the chairman and the president should step aside until the outcome of the [Knesset] inquiry."

Cotler offered four reasons for his view: "It would ease the pain of the people in Australia; the absence of the resignations would send a signal of insensitivity to the Australians; it would redress somewhat the rupture in relations; and it was, simply, the right thing to do."

Weiser, president of the Australian Zionist Federation, emphasized several times that the issue was not one of support for Israel. The Jews of Australia "are very strong supporters of Israel," he said.

One of the remarkable aspects of the news conference was that it brought together Jews from three far-apart continents who were tied in the common cause of trying to help steer the evolution of Israeli society into the very best it can be.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

BEN-GURION AND COLLEAGUES IN THE KNESSET

Prime minister David Ben-Gurion in conference with Druze and other Muslim members of the Knesset, 1959.

[Keren Hayesod – UIA Communications photo]

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For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-635-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Chief Rabbi offers prescription to avoid assimilation

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jews must take serious steps to stem the tide of assimilation and intermarriage, asserts Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau.

Rabbi Lau was speaking at Ohr Somayach's Gala Event, a dinner and reception held last week at the Sheraton Centre. Program honoree was businessman, philanthropist and Ohr Somayach Jerusalem student Stephen Rosen.

The rabbi spoke of meeting an old man, Baruch Hakatsav, in Moscow in 1989, who desperately tried to spend every minute he could with him. When encouraged to make aliyah, the man cried that if he did, there wouldn't be anyone to teach his grandchildren about being Jewish.

"I see in every Russian child the grandchildren of Baruch Hakatsav," Rabbi Lau said. "I meet them in Jerusalem."

Through prayer and the study and observance of Torah we can stem the "flood of assimilation" and ensure the spiritual survival of our children, especially after the physical destruction of six million Jews during the Holocaust, said Rabbi Lau, himself a child survivor.

The rabbi quoted chilling statistics from a recent survey by the World Jewish Congress. "The study says that in the Diaspora, there are now 8.6 million identified Jews. According to the survey, because of mixed marriages and the low Jewish birth rate, in 25 years there will be 4.4 million – half the number of today."

Everyone must do their part, he said, not just rabbis and presidents of communities. "If Torah is not forgotten, we will be immortal," he said. "Then we will really be able to say Am Yisrael Chai."

Rabbi Baruch Taub praised Rosen for his "passion for learning, living, and sharing Torah."

He warned against "the welcoming embrace of our neighbors." The seeming friendship can be so "seductive", Rabbi Taub said, that people can be encouraged to leave Yiddishkeit.

Rosen, through his work with Ohr Somayach, is helping counterbalance this appeal, the rabbi said.

For six years, Rosen has spent six weeks in the summer studying at Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem. Several speakers, including his son, Matthew, praised him not only for his own progress in Torah study, but for being a mentor to the other, often younger, students.

Presentations were made to Chaya Milevsky, in honor of her late husband, Rabbi Uziel Milevsky, former chief rabbi of Mexico, and founding dean and well-respected teacher at Ohr Somayach Thornhill; and to Howard Sitzer, who received the Torah Achievement Award. Sitzer takes daily classes at Ohr Somayach's Toronto branch on Spadina.

A speech by Ohr Somayach founding dean Rabbi Nota Schiller, as well as a moving video, told the story of the institution's work in Odessa.

Before the dinner, Rosen downplayed the importance of his being honored, saying he was "embarrassed by all the attention." Rather, he said, he wanted to focus on the work of Ohr Somayach.

"A year and a half or two years ago," he said, Ohr Somayach was a "dispirited organization. Since then, it has been revitalized, and you wouldn't believe all the learning and davening that goes on there."

The dinner is "the symbol of our coming together," in warmth and enthusiasm.

Master of ceremonies was former federal cabinet minister Robert Kaplan. Speakers included Arye Lebovic, who praised Rabbi Milevsky for being able to "integrate Torah into 20th century life," John Kaplan, and Bob Benia, producer of Toronto's Israel at 50 program.

While in Toronto, Rabbi Lau visited the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, where he examined a photograph of himself as a child arriving in Israel after World War II. **[Ron Csillag photo]**

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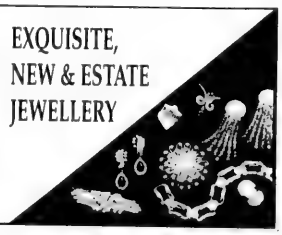

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Parents launch new funding fight

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Wayne Levin

TORONTO — In politics, they say, the squeaky wheel gets the grease. But as far as Wayne Levin is concerned, the Jewish community has not been loud enough in pressing its demands for its share of provincial funds to help lubricate the wheels of the Jewish day school system.

It's time to make some noise, says Levin, a 38-year-old father of three, who's already faced with annual tuition fees of $7,500 for just the eldest of his brood.

With prospective tuition fees of $20,000 and more staring him in the face, Levin has decided to take the bull by the horns and mobilize a grassroots movement of parents to lobby for government funding for Jewish and other independent day schools.

Levin is a key figure behind Parents for Educational Choice (PEC), a small group of parents who are developing a variety of tactics to publicize what they see as unfairness in the current funding scheme, and to press the government to include independent religious schools in their funding formulas.

Beyond the issue of dollars and cents, it's a question of fundamental fairness, Levin asserts. "We want equal treatment from government," he says.

Levin bristles at the idea that Roman Catholic schools receive full taxpayer support, while Jewish and Protestant schools do not. Furthermore, there are other educational institutions that benefit from government support, including French immersion schools, two Ukrainian schools that come under the Catholic system, a "triangle program" for gay children, and other public schools that limit their enrolment.

Jewish schools are just as deserving of government funding as these other institutions, Levin argues.

The creation of a new grassroots parents group has been welcomed by Canadian Jewish Congress, which has been pushing for day school funding for years. Ontario governments of all stripes have turned down its appeals that it fund Jewish days schools.

While there are no formal links between Congress and PEC, both share the view that the time is ripe to make political strides.

"We are under the impression that the government, and Premier [Mike] Harris in particular, is ready to be convinced," Levin said. The Ontario government has undertaken massive changes to the education system, and changes to the funding scheme for independent schools would be "a drop in the bucket," he said.

Pointing to the government's underlying philosophy of equal funds for all students, said Keith Landy, chair of Congress' Ontario region, "If ever we had a chance for government funding, it's with this government.

"This issue is *the* top issue on the Congress agenda," he added.

Congress has invited the leaders of all three political parties to address meetings of its regional executive. Premier Harris is scheduled to address the meeting in January and he can expect to be peppered with questions on the issue, Landy predicted.

Levin and Landy believe that with enough political pressure, the government will move on school funding. Congress is planning to commission a poll to survey public opinion in Ontario, to provide skeptical government officials with data showing Ontarians support funding for independent shools, Landy said.

PEC, meanwhile, is circulating a legislative petition in various Toronto-area shuls calling for fair treatment for Jewish and other schools. More than 1,000 signatures were gathered in three weeks. Similar petitions are planned for Ottawa and Hamilton. PEC hopes to present the petition to the legislature and have it read into the parliamentary record. PEC has also designed a 10-foot by 12-foot poster letter addressed to Harris, urging him to take action on the issue, Levin added.

PEC has also met with several backbench MPPs to solicit their support while another aspect of their campaign is to educate the Jewish community. "They think that it's gone to the Supreme Court and that's the end of it. That's not true," Levin said.

PEC has also set up an Internet Web site [www.total.net/~levin] with more information on the issue. The organization's e-mail address is: [equaled@total.net].

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Greater Toronto Area

Chess champ asks support for Israel academy

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There's a glint in Garry Kasparov's piercing eyes when he's asked about his official title. He's the best chess player on Earth – the highest ranked in history.

But he's not the recognized champion of FIDE, the game's global governing body. That title belongs to the man Kasparov defeated for the world crown in 1985, Anatoly Karpov.

Kasparov, who oozes self-confidence, doesn't much care for titles.

"As long as I'm unbeatable, I don't care what [FIDE] is doing. My title is self-supporting by definition. I'm the best player. That's the best title."

For chess buffs, the 35-year-old genius is indeed world champ, and probably the best player ever to slam down a rook.

He was in Toronto last week to drum up support for the Kasparov International Chess Academy in Tel Aviv, which he established in 1994 to teach the game, conduct tournaments and indulge his latest passion – integrating chess into school curricula, not only in Israel but in Europe and North America.

His visit was organized by the Tel Aviv Foundation, under whose auspices the academy operates. Accompanying Kasparov was Roni Milo, the former mayor of Tel Aviv who recently announced he will run for prime minister of Israel in the next election.

Kasparov told a select gathering that Israel now boasts 32 chess grandmasters, compared to 60 in Russia, which has dominated the game for decades.

Chess boosts math and logic skills and teaches self-confidence, especially to the many low-income kids at the academy, he said.

"In chess, you learn very quickly that you pay the price for every move. You learn that you are on your own, and that if you make a bad move, there's no one to blame but yourself."

In a *CJN* interview, Kasparov conceded that had he peaked only a few years earlier, his Jewish background could have prevented him from becoming world champ.

Born Garryk Weinstein in Baku, his Jewish father died when Kasparov was seven. Already a world junior champ, he challenged for the world adult title just as glasnost and perestroika were taking hold in the Soviet Union.

"If it had been even one year earlier, I could have lost my coaching, lost my funding, or they could have forced me to emigrate. Here I was, Armenian and Jewish. [To Soviet officials], neither was good."

Instead, at age 22, Kasparov became the youngest world champion in history. Since his defeat of his countryman Karpov, he has beaten the best, and in the absence of any strong challengers, has taken to crushing entire teams in simultaneous games.

He's also a proponent of speed chess, in which players usually have less than 30 minutes to complete a game.

The champ demonstrated his prowess by quickly but graciously dispatching two young players: Roman Golts, 16, a Canadian master, and his 11-year-old sister, Diana, a top-ranked player in her age group. The siblings are Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet republic of Moldova.

Players at this level are used to thinking for excruciatingly long periods of time, but Kasparov doesn't pause for a second when asked about his stunning loss last year to IBM's Deep Blue supercomputer – the upset that shocked the world.

"It was a fraud," he snaps. "They refused to show how the machine made its moves. They refused to show print-outs, and they dismantled it right after the match. I was happy to be part of it, but from my point of view, the match was not kosher."

Kasparov beat the first version of Deep Blue in 1996. But last May, an improved, second generation computer beat the champ in six games, throwing him and many others who believe in the supremacy of the human brain into a deep funk.

He said he would agree to a rematch with the machine only under strict conditions. In the meantime, he's busy advancing chess through the Internet and strengthening the game in Israel, which he said has the potential to produce the next crop of world champions.

Anyone wishing to donate to the Kasparov International Chess Academy may contact the Tel Aviv Foundation, c/o 55 St. Claire Ave. W., Suite 410, Toronto, M4V 2Y7 or call 416-920-3252.

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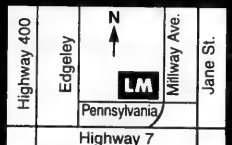

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Respite, not victory

People expected the beginning piece to fall quickly into Premier Lucien Bouchard's "winning conditions" puzzle immediately after the provincial election last week in Quebec. The experts had predicted a substantial victory for the separatists and with it, an emotional and psychological springboard to the next referendum. But there was no substantial victory for the separatists. That first piece failed to materialize. The puzzle remains, for the time being at least, merely an outline.

The Parti Québécois (PQ) did indeed win the election, returning 75 deputies to the National Assembly. But the Liberals won the contest for the popular vote by a slight margin of one percent. More people actually voted for the Liberals (43.7 percent) than for the PQ (42.7 percent). Despite the idiosyncratic result, however, most federalists seemed to be satisfied with the outcome of the election because they understood the implications of the 42.7 percent figure: the majority of Quebecers do not want a referendum.

Bouchard understood the implications of the vote as well, acknowledging even on election night and then over the course of the next few days that there appeared to be in Quebec no appetite for another referendum.

The question occupying most federalists therefore is whether the premier will focus his energies on managing the affairs of the province for the benefit of all Quebecers, or whether he will endeavor to create an appetite for another referendum.That appetite might develop if a majority of Quebecers believed, or were led to believe, there was no real possibility of linguistic, cultural or societal fulfilment within the Canadian federation.

Trying to prove precisely that case may be one of the PQ's key objectives over the next four or five years. Being confrontational, trying to goad the rest of Canada into "throwing up its hands" in frustration, some people speculate, may be the PQ's tactics. The upcoming provincial-federal discussions on renewed social union will provide us ample evidence of Bouchard's intentions.

Thus while there may have been reason for federalists to celebrate at the results of the Quebec election last week, it bears remembering it was only a respite, not a victory.

Images of horror

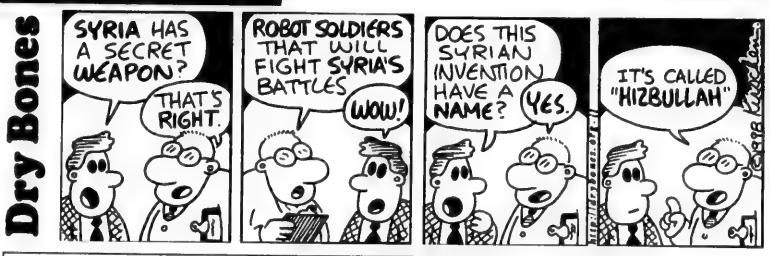
The photo on the front page of this newspaper, of rampaging Palestinians hurling stones at two Israelis in a car, was like a pounding hammer galvanizing images of horror onto the already suspicious psyche of Israelis. An Israeli driver and his hitchhiking soldier passenger had apparently gotten lost last Wednesday near Ramallah and found themselves near a gang of protesting Palestinians demanding the release of hundreds of prisoners being held in Israeli jails. The two were mercilessly attacked.

The angry mob began pelting the car with stones and smashing its windows. The driver ran away after a large rock struck him in the face. The soldier was dragged from the car and beaten. But he too was able to escape, though bleeding from the head.

In the aftermath of the attack, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu suspended the next phase of the Wye accords deployments due to take place in two weeks. He accused the Palestinian Authority (PA) of encouraging such acts of violence and was justified in trying to bring the PA to account for the mob's behavior.The images of the frenzied mob acting out their hatred were chilling.

President Bill Clinton is scheduled to be in Israel and in Gaza later this week to address the PA National Council and to oversee the public cancellation by the PA of the articles in the PLO charter calling for Israel's destruction. He comes none too soon.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"And he said (to the man) 'I seek my brothers'."
Parshat Vayeshev



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Time for a name change to help Russian Jews

Your report (*CJN*, Nov. 19), on the rise of anti-Semitism in Russia is disappointing but not surprising. Historically whenever there is an economic downturn, Jews have always been made the scapegoat.

In 1972, after a visit to the Soviet Union a number of us organized Canadian Lawyers and Jurists for Soviet Jewry with two main objects. One was to lobby the Soviets and the Canadian governments to allow Jews to practise their religion in peace, and the other was to agitate for Jews who wished to emigrate from the Soviet Union, to be permitted to do so without harassment and severe financial penalties. With the dismantling of the Soviet Union and the advent of Perestroika and Glasnost, synagogues re-opened and thousands, upon thousands of Jews were allowed to leave for destinations of their choice.

We were so delighted and optimistic that we changed the name of our organization to Canadian Lawyers and Jurists for World Jewry believing that our focus could be other than the former Soviet Union or Russia. Sadly, with your report that anti-Semitism almost has parliamentary or Duma endorsement, it may be that the name of our organization will have to revert back to what it was during the darkest days of the Cold War.

Bert Raphael
Chairman
Canadian Lawyers & Jurists for World Jewry

Wrong to imply that German Jews were forgotten

The headline "German Jews called forgotten victims of Holocaust," which appeared on an article (*CJN*, Nov. 14) was inappropriate.

Kristallnacht, while signifying the onset of the Holocaust, primarily deals with events that occurred in Germany in November 1938. Equivalent recognition, to a similar extent, has not been accorded to any Holocaust event which occurred in any other European country, yet consider the following statistics: in Germany, 50 percent of its prewar population of 500,000 to 600,000 was murdered. In Holland, 75 percent of its Jewish population was exterminated. In Poland, at least 90 percent or over 3,000,000 Jews were killed. Comparative statistics, varying only in immensity can be given for the prewar Jewish population of other European countries.

The Holocaust, regardless in which country it occurred, is a tragedy of unimaginable proportions touching all of worldwide Jewry.

Charles Abshez
Toronto

Arafat must live up to agreements

Is Arafat playing a joke on the world or is he really serious?

In the five years since the signing of the Oslo agreements, the Palestinian Authority has been responsible for the following violations:

More Israelis have been murdered by Palestinian terrorists operating in areas under the control of the authority than in any other similar period. Incitement of hatred of Israel is greater than ever. Refusal to amend the PLO covenant calling for the destruction of Israel. Refusing to dismantle the infrastructure of the terrorist organizations operating in areas under its control. Refusing to turn over known terrorists who have murdered Israelis to the State of Israel. Refusing to reduce its police force to the size agreed to under the agreement.

These are but some of the violations of the Oslo agreement carried out by the Palestinian Authority.

It is time now for the world nations, including Canada, to demand forcibly that the Palestinian Authority fulfil its obligations, and apply the needed pressure on the Palestinian Authority until it does so.

A. Noodelman
Montreal

Prevent tragedies in Israel in tribute to Holocaust

The Jewish community of Toronto commemorated Holocaust Education Week, Oct. 29-Nov. 9. In the past three decades, numerous books, memorials and university courses on the Holocaust in diverse countries have come into being by the action of many Jews. I question whether we could not have channeled much of this vast energy into a more productive cause.

Israel is far from an ideal Jewish country. In fact, it is a scandal that the Jewish homeland is no different than other Western countries with their grave social ills. Israel has a high rate of domestic violence, murders, suicides, work accidents, drownings and road fatalities. No greater memorial to the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust would there be than to work for life-affirming and life-enhancing projects to sharply reduce all these preventable Jewish tragedies.

Jacob Mendlovic
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Betrayal

By VERA JEHROS

The Jonas Daniel Meierplein in Amsterdam used to be the centre of Jewish activity before World War II. On one corner stands the Great Synagogue, or the Ashkenazi synagogue. On the other side of the square is the much larger, beautiful Portuguese or Sephardi synagogue.

Erected in the 17th century, the Great Synagogue is the oldest synagogue in western Europe. However, an expanding congregation required a larger building, and in 1686, the Obbene Shul was constructed followed shortly thereafter by a third synagogue, and finally in 1729, the New Synagogue was built.

During the first years of World War II, the five synagogues were able to continue their services, but the last years of the war saw a shrinking attendance accelerated by the deportation of the Jewish people as a result of the German occupation. The systematic plunder of Holland by the Germans drove the freezing and undernourished population to the synagogues and other empty buildings, which they stripped of all combustibles to use for heating and cooking of the scarce food.

In the middle of this synagogue complex, almost hidden and overshadowed by the Great Synagogue, stood a pharmacy of moderate proportions, whose Jewish owner was well known and widely respected. Unlike the drug marts of today, the pharmacy focused only on the preparation of doctors' prescriptions.

I lived not far from there in one of the spacious, renovated old buildings; it was subdivided into four apartments overlooking one of Amsterdam's many tree-lined canals. I not only resided there, I also worked for an elderly Jewish couple as a domestic helper, the only "profession" still permitted for a Jewish girl during the war. We were not allowed to travel, board a streetcar, visit or mix with the non-Jewish population, or enter Amsterdam's beautiful parks. I could not visit my family in the country since it required travel by train.

Slowly we were separated and isolated from the Dutch citizens, and we were caught in a net from which there was no escape.

Since I was young, I don't think I fully understood the mortal danger of our situation and every day I went out in the neighborhood to shop in the Jewish stores, though they did not have much left to sell. I simply had to escape from the sombre atmosphere of our house and the boredom of the domestic chores.

But where I had hope, my elderly employers became more and more depressed. Highly respected in the Jewish community, prominent in the Diamond Exchange, blessed with children and grandchildren, they had been issued an *Ausweis* (ID card) by the German occupation, which exempted them from deportation to Germany – or so it was thought.

They were God-fearing, yet faith had abandoned them. Perhaps they had a foreboding of approaching doom.

I had no *Ausweis* because I was not considered important or indispensable. With my yellow star of David attached to the lapel of my coat, I ventured into the streets every day. Since the Germans had imposed a curfew that prevented us from going out at night, I had to be home on time. Each apartment had a "guest room" on the top floor, but they were mostly empty.

One day we heard the German police vans racing through the street, stopping everywhere to ring the bell insistently. As soon as the door was opened, the Germans (or perhaps they were Dutch traitors in uniform) pushed everybody aside and arrested the young people who were living in the house.

When I heard the noise, I managed to run to the room on the top floor, where I locked the door from inside and hid in a large cupboard. Holding my breath, I heard heavy footsteps stamping on the stairs until they reached the top floor, where it was silent. All the rooms were empty and all the doors unlocked. When they reached my room, they tried to open the door, but since there was not a living soul up there, they assumed that this last room was also empty, and they turned around and rushed down the stairs to resume their ghastly activities.

Unable to socialize or do any meaningful work, I used the time to study French, and with the help of some nice Dutch people, I was able to successfully pass the exams for a French diploma. However, there were no other possibilities for advancement and the future looked bleak.

One day when I was aimlessly crossing the Jonas Daniel Meierplein, my eye fell on the pharmacy, standing unobtrusively and almost lost in the shadow of the adjacent Great Synagogue. On impulse I entered the premises. The owner approached me and inquired about the purpose of my visit. He was a middle-aged man, on the short side, stocky, and he had a friendly face. He wore a spotless white coat over his suit. Actually I did not know what I wanted but blurted out: "Can I work here?"

Taken by surprise he adjusted his spectacles slowly, took a second look at me and replied: "Certainly, but you have to study Latin."

"I would love to," I said, "but I have no money."

"No problem" was the reply; "I shall introduce you to our provisor.

Apparently, the owner was no pharmacist himself and therefore he was required by law to engage the services of a provisor, a qualified pharmacist.

"Come back next week. Then he will be here."

I could not believe my ears and could hardly wait for the day to meet the provisor, hoping of course that he would agree to instruct me in Latin, me a boorish, plain country girl.

The days passed by agonizingly slowly, but finally the next week arrived, and I went to the pharmacy with trepidation alternated with hopeful expectations, and at the same time fearful of rejection.

I was met by a small distinguished looking man in his 30s with dark graying hair, intelligent eyes, and a firm chin and cheekbones. I instantly liked him, and apparently he approved of me, because we came to an agreement to meet twice a week for a lesson in Latin. The problem was how and where, since he lived in the fashionable southern district of Amsterdam, and as we were both Jewish, we were not allowed to use the streetcar.

However oppression is the father of improvisation.

I had an uncle still residing in a luxurious apartment nearby, who allowed us the use of a room for our class once a week, and my new teacher was willing to walk about 40 minutes to meet me there. I would walk the same distance from the opposite direction.

And so started a warm and instructive relationship. Either he came walking to me or I went to him, walking being one of the few relaxations left to us by the Germans. For me it was a lifeline, an escape from a drab and joyless life; a shimmering light in the darkness. It was not to last.

One day he studied me for a long moment and said, "We won't see each other again. I am going underground."

I stared at him with incomprehension. People disappeared because the Germans arrested them, but voluntarily? I did not understand what he meant. What he meant was, that he, his brother (a doctor in a Jewish hospital), and six Dutch reserve army officers were going to escape to England and offer their services to the war effort over there.

He said they had been able to secure the services of a Dutch chauffeur sympathetic to their goal, who agreed to drive them to the coast, where a small boat was to pick them up for the crossing of the North Sea.

It was a good plan, it was an excellent plan. It had only one flaw: The chauffeur was a Nazi who brought them straight into the arms of the Gestapo. Eight courageous young men in their prime, Holland's glory. They were shot, all of them.

Betrayed – by one of their own.

Vera Jehros is a Toronto writer.

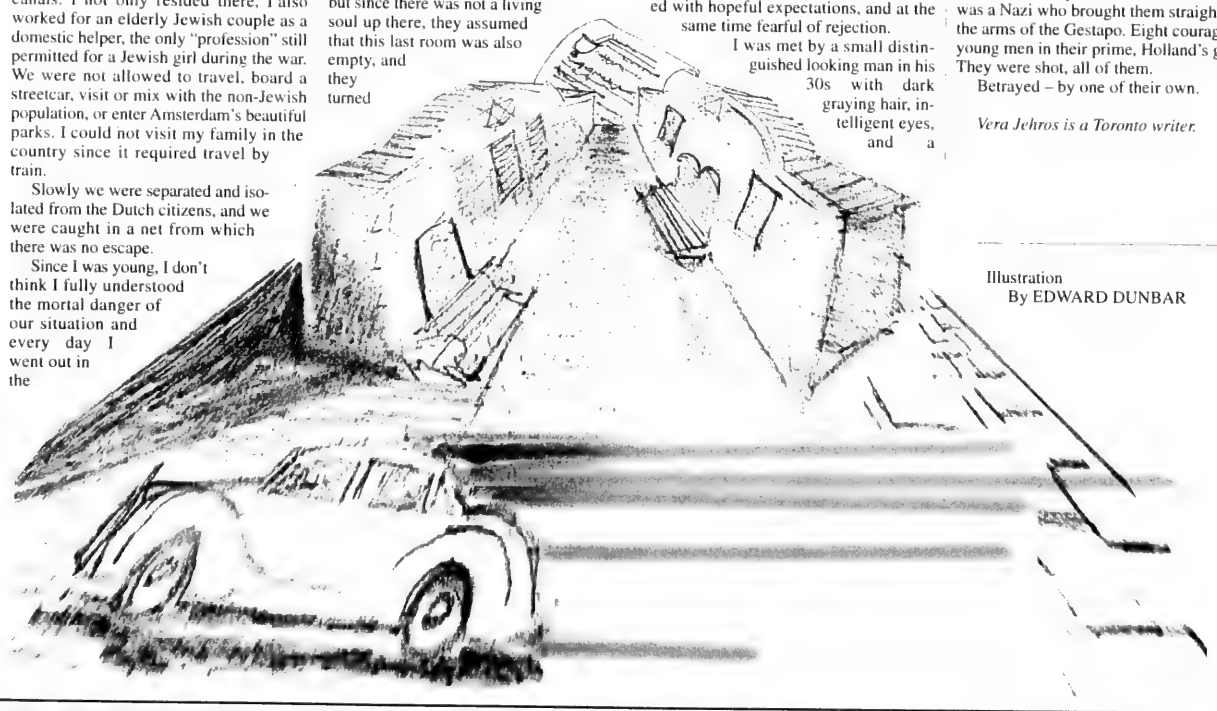

Illustration
By EDWARD DUNBAR

Opinions

Israel's student revolt—'90s style

Not far from the intensive cabinet meetings over the Wye Agreement, or the annual General Assembly of the leadership of the North American Jewish community, Israel's university students were conducting their own grassroots campaign against the system and the establishment. By striking for over four weeks, they succeeded in postponing the opening of the academic year, and in drawing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu into a marathon, six-day and six-night negotiation.

Shira Herzog in Toronto

Some hailed the student protest as evidence of a new, hopeful wave of social activism aimed at shifting social priorities. Others saw the situation more cynically, as a blatant bid for publicity by the indefatigable student leader, Erez Eshel. The truth probably lies somewhere in between.

The 29-year-old Eshel, a.k.a. "Red Eshel", is no stranger to activism and protest. Viewed by many as a young, charismatic voice representing the new "centre" in Israeli society and politics, Eshel is one of the aggressive, tenacious leaders of Dor Shalom – itself one of the more interesting phenomena on the Israeli political and social scene in the last few years.

The Dor Shalom (the generation of peace) movement emerged from the thousands of "candle youth" that filled Rabin Square in the weeks following Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. Its leaders were determined to make a social difference, rather than to simply be part of the peace movement.

Three short years later, Dor Shalom is active in disadvantaged neighborhoods across the country, trying to organize after-school programs for children and youth to counteract the influence of the haredi Shas party. In last month's municipal elections, Dor Shalom ran successfully in a number of municipalities. By winning seats in municipal councils, they hope to obtain government funding for their social programs, seeking to change the hold of the existing religious parties on extracurricular programs that attract children from poor families.

Erez Eshel, who put his kippah back on after the Rabin assassination (which he felt targeted observant Israelis unfairly and en masse), has been advocating a "social revolution" for years. He believes that Israeli society has lost its solidarity and sense of mutual responsibility, while unproductive pressure groups have taken advantage of public coffers.

Leading a student revolt to reduce tuition fees, was for him, the only way to galvanize thousands of students into action. The great surprise was the overwhelming response to his call for action, and the degree of public support for the students' demands.

On the political side, the students were eventually outmaneuvered by the prime minister. In the early days of the strike, oblivious to the perseverance of the students, and the degree of public support for their stand, he had branded them "enemies of the state". But by the fourth week, he was prepared to spend six days negotiating with students in the third week of a hunger strike, who literally camped out in the Prime Minister's Office. The emerging agreement seemed to contain the ingredients for a compromise between the students and skeptical Finance Ministry officials. Rather than lowering tuition fees (10,000 shekels annually), the agreement will expand the student loan program and an existing scholarship program that is linked to community service.

These achievements could perhaps have been gained without the drama of roadblocks, arrests and a prolonged hunger strike. Eshel and his colleagues obviously took advantage of the single issue that could unite the students in order to further their own exposure and budding political aspirations. But what was most interesting about the protest, was the chord that it nevertheless struck in so many people.

The students were backed by disparate groups ranging from professors to neighborhood activists from the "periphery." For the former, the attraction was the solidarity and commitment shown by the students to their cause. For the latter, it was the sense that they may find new allies, previously identified with the elite, for their own social battles.

Public opinion responded to the students' claim that they were older than the average university student in other countries, due to the three years of military service they were obliged to do prior to their studies. As a result, the students argued, they should not be forced to work full time in order to finance their studies, especially since many of them started families while still in school.

There may have been something deeper percolating in response to the student protest. Israelis are slowly moving from a preoccupation with security to a concern over quality of life. There are deep divisions over the shape of their society, but there is a sense that the debate is unavoidable and urgent. The students captured this sense of urgency, and reflected a frustration and a search for a "better way." Ironically, the diverse, multicultural nature of the protesters created a unifying theme, to which the public responded.

It was a protest for the times, that was perhaps perceived as being more significant than it really was. But was it a momentary burst of energy, or did it indeed portend a new source of action and enthusiasm?

Quebec, Canada and the Jews

The more things change…The recent Quebec election results will be subject to multiple interpretations, but an early consensus is that the Parti Québécois (PQ) government has been given a mandate to govern, rather than to hold an early referendum and push for independence.

Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

The nearly equal share of the popular vote received by the two leading parties should also teach pollsters, who were predicting a PQ margin of five to 10 points, some needed humility. In fact, survey support for the PQ, and for sovereignty, is usually several points higher than in actual elections or referendums.

The election was clearly not about sovereignty. In fact, it was not about much of anything. Premier Lucien Bouchard speaks of creating "winning conditions." Since the 1980 referendum, there has been almost no talk of sovereignty among the general Quebec population. There has been talk of referendum questions, of negotiating strategies, of demands, of winning conditions, but no discussion of a vision of an independent Quebec.

The question, "why or what type of independence?" is just not asked, unlike in the heady days of the 1960s and 1970s, when Quebec sovereigntists spent late nights debating contrasting visions of an independent Quebec. There has also been no passion for independence, no mobilization of students or intellectuals, anywhere, not during the 1985 referendum debate, and certainly not in this campaign.

Perhaps this reflects the assumption that many Quebecers think sovereignty is inevitable. But when, and in what shape? I think this reflects a confusion; at times deliberately fomented by crafty militants, about what sovereignty could mean. What Quebecers really want to is be treated as equal partners, to renegotiate something, but they have no clear vision of the outcome. This is why large minorities of potential Yes voters still feel that an independent Quebec would share the Canadian dollar and the Canadian passport, and send MPs to Ottawa, and why even the latest polls show significant minorities of PQ voters who do not want another referendum and would vote against it.

But what the people want and what actually happens are two separate things. The work of renewing federalism, and yes, accommodating Quebec, remains unfinished. This accommodation, too, can take many forms, and can well involve accommodation of other provinces and regions, and not necessarily via massive constitutional change.

The election campaign was also happily silent about ethnic and minority issues, and the somewhat rehabilitated Jacques Parizeau limited his inane comments to other subjects. I would guess Jews voted overwhelmingly for the Liberals, possibly more than any other ethnic group in Quebec.

Over the past years, I completed an anthology of great Canadian texts, with historian Desmond Morton at McGill. In the process, I became more convinced than ever that the French fact is an indelible part of the Canadian experience. I also reflected on why Jews are such staunch federalists. Canada has been relatively stable, a "peaceable kingdom" trying to learn from past mistakes. Quebec sovereignty would threaten that stability and offer Jews (and most others) no tangible benefits.

Apart from stability, there is the recent track record regarding anti-Semitism. Despite high levels of wartime anti-Semitism, neither Canada nor the United States visited pogroms or a Holocaust on Jews. In recent memory, no significant political party in North America has endorsed the kind of anti-Semitic rhetoric emerging again in Europe.

While attitude surveys have found somewhat higher levels of anti-Semitism in Quebec, actual reported incidents are not higher than elsewhere in Canada, and organized Holocaust denial and hate groups are based elsewhere. But Quebec society has never confronted the full meaning of its anti-conscription vote in 1942.

So Quebec Jews are never certain whether the ethnocentrism of Jacques Parizeau represented a drunken blip or a real indication of popular sentiment. My own sense is that the increasing pluralism within Quebec, notably in Montreal, is slowly undermining old prejudices.

Swiss funds for the needy

Several months ago the presidents of Canadian Jewish Congress and the United Israel Appeal were notified by the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) in Jerusalem that certain Swiss funds for Canadian Shoah survivors would be made available, and that persons should be designated to plan for and carry out the distribution of these funds.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

I accepted the invitation to chair the Canadian effort and have established a nation-wide committee consisting entirely of community-oriented survivors. I have also had the assistance of two staff members from the above-named organizations and have obtained important advice from other sources, including B'nai Brith Canada.

We have been allotted only about $2½ million (US). We have applied for an increase, but have not so far been successful. We estimate that there are some 16,000 to 18,000 survivors living in Canada who will wish to know who is and who is not eligible to obtain some share of the funds.

Our system of allocation resembles that adopted in the United States, and must be approved by the WJRO before we can proceed. There are two main conditions: an applicant must affirm to being a survivor and to being needy. The first condition is defined as someone who has lived under a Nazi regime in Germany or an occupied country, or under a regime that collaborated with the Nazis.

But the second condition is not defined at all. Neediness is something that every applicant must determine personally. The committee cannot and will not judge that decision and will not override the applicant's affirmation, which therefore remains a matter of conscience for each survivor. This means that every applicant will receive the same share.

Applicants must be living; families cannot claim for deceased relatives. Also, applicants must be either citizens or legal residents of Canada.

All members of my committee are volunteers and receive no pay, and none of the money for distribution will be spent on administrative costs, which will be sought from other sources. The members of the committee, though all of them are survivors themselves, will not become applicants. They will try their best to bring this long overdue problem to as early a solution as possible. A toll-free phone line will provide added information. Application forms will be distributed throughout the country to community centres, family service organizations, and offices of federations, Canadian Jewish Congress, B'nai Brith and survivor groups. A telephone call to any of these organizations will provide further information.

We will be forwarding the information to WJRO in the next few days, and application forms will be ready as soon as we receive WJRO's approval. All relevant information will be provided to Jewish public media across the country.

I am very grateful to my colleagues who have advised me and to the staff members who have done yeoman work. When it is all done I hope we will be able to look back on this sacred effort of providing assistance and be able to say *s'char mitzvah, mitzvah* – the reward of doing a mitzvah is having done it.

The Kirshner File

A cornucopia of books

As usual, the market is flooded by a surfeit of newly published books Jewish readers will probably be interested in.

Published to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War, Hallie Lerman's *Crying for Imma* (Night Vision Press) is a poignant account of a momentous battle on the Golan Heights – a microcosm of the horrors of modern warfare – which claimed the lives of a group of courageous Israeli soldiers, including her 19-year-old cousin. It is generously illustrated.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

On the 50th anniversary of Israel's birth, *Zionism and the Creation of a New Society* (Oxford University Press), by Ben Halpern and Jehuda Reinharz, is appropriately timed. In an erudite work, they study the ideological impulses which animated the Zionist movement.

In volumes three and four of his comprehensive, invaluable series, *Futile Diplomacy* (Frank Cass), Montreal historian Neil Caplan analyzes the attempts by the United Nations and the great powers to impose a peaceful settlement upon Israel and its Arab neighbors.

The assassination three years ago of Yitzhak Rabin still resonates. Michael Karpin and Ina Friedman, in *Murder in the Name of God* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside), present a stinging indictment of the myopic and dangerous right-wing forces that made his murder possible.

The convoluted relationship between the emergence of Israel and the Holocaust is the subject of Idith Zertal's *From Catastrophe to Power* (University of California Press), a scholarly interpretation of the clandestine immigration to Palestine of Jewish refugees.

Gerald Westerby's *In Hostile Territory: Business Secrets of a Mossad Combatant* (HarperCollins) is an odd hybrid, an occasionally compelling book that blends foreign intrigue with managerial techniques.

Apart from being a sacred language, Hebrew is a medium of divine communication, as Edward Hoffman persuasively demonstrates in *The Hebrew Alphabet: A Mystical Journey* (Raincoast).

Children will be delighted by Eric Kimmel's *A Hanukkah Treasury* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside), an inventive amalgam of legends, contemporary stories and games.

China scholar Vera Schwartz, in *Bridge Across Broken Time* (Yale University Press), explores a fresh theme: the meaning of cultural memory in Chinese and Jewish traditions. Original.

Kurt Weill, the great German-Jewish composer, is the subject of Jurgen Schebera's sympathetic biography, *Kurt Weill: An Illustrated Life* (Yale University Press).

The late Norton Simon of Los Angeles was a consummate tycoon (Hunt Foods) and a shrewd art collector. Suzanne Muchnic's engaging biography, *Odd Man In* (University of California Press), takes the measure of the man.

Media celebrity Abbie Hoffman seemed to be at the centre of the political and social tumult that convulsed the United States in the 1960s. Two empathetic biographies distill his essence – Larry Sloman's *Seal This Dream* (Doubleday) and Jonah Raskin's *For the Hell of It* (University of California Press). Another American counter-culture figure, the liberal journalist Nat Hentoff, has written his memoirs, and *Speaking Freely* (Alfred A. Knopf) is refreshingly candid.

Adam Worth (Wirth), an American Jew of German origin, was considered the pre-eminent criminal of the 19th century. Ben MacIntyre's book, *The Napoleon of Crime* (Douglas & McIntyre), stylishly summarizes his perfidious career.

Abraham Pais' autobiography, *A Tale of Two Continents* (Princeton University Press), is a workmanlike portrait of an illustrious theoretical physicist, both as a fugitive in Nazi-occupied Holland and as a renowned scientist in his adopted homeland, the United States.

Psychologist and educator Bruno Bettelheim was an exceedingly complex person who dwelled in perpetual controversy. In her brilliantly-researched biography, *Bettelheim* (HarperCollins), Nina Sutton draws a nuanced picture of this famous therapist.

All too often dreary, business journalism takes full flight in *The Reichmanns* (Times Books), Anthony Bianco's vibrant exploration of a Rothschildian Toronto clan, and in *Titans* (Penguin), Peter Newman's irreverent, sometimes racy examination of Canada's new business establishment (in which Jews play an integral role).

Aficionados of finely-honed prose will revel in two anthologies: *American Jewish Fiction* (University of Nebraska Press), edited by Gerald Shapiro and featuring the likes of Bernard Malamud and Cynthia Ozick, and *The Oxford Book of Jewish Stories* (Oxford University Press), edited by Ilan Stavans and presenting such luminaries as Shalom Aleichem and David Grossman.

There is no shortage of books concerning the Holocaust and its sister topic, the Third Reich. *Herschel* (Faber and Faber), by Andy Marino, relates the tragic story of Herschel Grynszpan, the Polish-Jewish teenager who touched off Kristallnacht in 1938. Survivor Manny Drukier, in *Carved in Stone* (University of Toronto Press), shares his memories of Poland, now and before the war, in a haunting memoir.

Dictionary of the Third Reich (Penguin), by James Taylor and Warren Shaw, is concise and readable. Laurence Rees' *The Nazis: A Warning from History* (The New Press), based on eye-witness testimonies, offers a vivid description of the rise and fall of Nazi Germany and the evolution of the Holocaust.

Culinary traditions

Food, apart from sustaining us, connects us with our ancestral roots. The following cookbooks, published recently, will appeal to a wide spectrum of readers who appreciate the pleasures of the table and its relationship with history.

Jews, having lived in Italy for 2,000 years, have developed a remarkable culinary tradition. Italian Jewish dishes, redolent of the flavors of Italy, Spain and the Middle East, are indeed worthy of celebration. And in *Cucina Ebraica* (Raincoast Books), Joyce Goldstein, a restaurant consultant, produces a lavishly illustrated book, awash in recipes and steeped in historical lore.

Joan Nathan is a food maven par excellence. Her latest book, *Jewish Cooking in America* (Random House), is a treasure trove reflecting three centuries of Jewish settlement in the United States. (Her PBS television series, *Jewish Cooking in America with Joan Nathan*, is currently being broadcast).

The paperback edition of Nathan's authoritative 1979 book, *The Jewish Holiday Kitchen* (Random House), contains mouth-watering recipes from all corners of the globe.

Marcy Goldman's *A Treasury of Jewish Holiday Baking* (Doubleday) is an outstanding contribution to the genre. Goldman, a master baker as well as a journalist, shows you how to bake fail-proof cakes, cookies, hamantaschen, mandelbrot, tarts, brownies, challahs, breads and bagels which your family will positively love. Her essay on Montreal bagels, supposedly the most sublime in Canada, is instructive.

Sephardic Jews will doubtless enjoy *Cooking at the Kasbah* and *The Sultan's Kitchen*, both of which are distributed by Raincoast Books. The first, by Kitty Morse, who was raised in Morocco, reveals the secrets of grilled meats, vegetable and fruit tangines, fragrantly spiced salads, couscous and savory pastries. The second book, by Ozcan Ozan, a seasoned chef, is a tantalizing compendium of classic Turkish fare.

Claudia Roden's latest offering, *Invitation to Mediterranean Cooking* (Raincoast Books), delves into the intricacies of a cusine well known to Jewish gourmets and gourmands. It's an attractive, richly illustrated volume which is every bit as good as her last one, *A Book of Jewish Food.*

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

The distortion of Chanukah

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

One of the dubious triumphs of capitalism is that it reduces all religious impulses to a question of commercial viability. Hence, has Christmas been converted into a massive display of consumerism, with the actual religious significance and implications of the birth of Jesus now soft-pedalled in favor of junior's new bicycle.

In modernity, Christmas sings the cash register electric, transformed and denuded of any actual substance: out with the savior's arrival, and in with Bing Crosby, the department store window display, the portly man in the red suit. And it is precisely this dilution of a very distinct religious message – one that is clearly antithetical to Judaism – that has allowed the Christmas spirit and its treacly materialism to find itself resurrected, if you will, alive and burning in the heart of many a *Jewish* youngster.

My students cry foul to my grinch-like appraisal of their seduction at the hands of the corporate Christmas machine. "What's wrong with Christmas?" they ponder. "It's not a religious holiday anyway. We like the songs and the movies and it's just a nice time of year." What's wrong indeed?

The grand inquisition of contemporary life destroys Jews not through anything so crude as forcible conversion or physical torture. The threat here is far more subtle and thus twice as insidious. If Christmas "isn't really about Christianity," then the Jew can enjoy it without inconvenient feelings of guilt or even betrayal. It's not about Jesus, Ma, it's about Frank Capra.

Many Jewish children are given a Hobbesian tour of Hebrew or Sunday school – it is nasty, brutish, and short. I recall afternoons spent listening to teachers talk about biblical figures and ritual customs that I felt, at the time, had absolutely nothing to do with the life I was then living – or trying to learn how to live. It wasn't until many years later, teaching the poet John Milton to second year undergraduates at the University of Toronto, that I realized that the "Hebrew school blues" was really just a Jewish example of a widespread phenomenon.

Verse after verse of *Paradise Lost* alluded to the New Testament, but the sources were utterly foreign to my predominantly Christian students. An entire generation had turned off of God and certainly off of organized religion. When I asked them if they had learned the Bible as kids, their amused countenances and sheepish stories of boredom in church told me that we had led parallel lives to that extent.

But Christian disinterest in their faith takes its own ironic toll on Jews. It blurs the distinctive and serious disagreements between the two religions, and causes Jews to lose track of their own identity. Today's youth of all religions, actually share a common language that is utterly secularized. The theology of the Talmud versus that of the church fathers is an utterly irrelevant dispute; what really counts is the Knicks against the Bulls.

Perhaps most sadly, what the shadow of Christmas inevitably leads to is the distortion of Chanukah among modern Jewry. Intimidated by the mess o'presents at the foot of the tree, Jewish kids and parents have managed to transform Chanukah into our own version of the winter shopping spree. As someone aptly quipped, if Chanukah comes before Christmas, it's an inoculation; if it follows, then it's an antidote.

But Jewish holidays become absurd when they are relegated to reactionary status. It is time to reclaim Chanukah for what it is — a celebration of the Jewish determination to remain committed to Judaism even in the face of immense cultural pressure. As Shlomo Carlebach once said, the whole world is waiting for the Jews to be Jews.

A look at ancient Jewish coins

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week we looked at Chanukah Gelt resources on the World Wide Web.

This week, the real stuff: ancient Jewish coins.

Ancient coins present us with an almost unique opportunity: to hold and even own an authentic part of our culture. And the Internet is a great place to learn about these coins, even to buy them. But before you spend a cent, know what you are doing.

For a good introduction into the history of minting in the Land of Israel, drop by the Israel Museum **[http://www.imj.org.il/archaeology/coins.htm]**. Coins were first minted in Gaza about 400 BCE and later in Jerusalem about 500 years later. The earliest coin known to be minted in Jerusalem bears a picture of a lily and the word "Yehud." In what was an incredible symmetry with the past, the Bank of Israel reproduced this same design when it issued its One New Sheqel coin in 1985 **[http://www.bankisrael.gov.il///catal/c39.htm]**.

The story of the Dead Sea Scrolls and their discovery in 1947 by young Beduin shepherds is well-known **[http://sunsite.unc.edu/expo/deadsea.scrolls.exhibit/intro.html]**. Less known, is that eight years later, archeologists came across three intact ceramic vessels containing a total of 561 silver coins under a doorway at Qumran. There is speculation that they had been the property of new members who had to surrender their worldly goods to the treasurer of the community in order to join the sect **[http://fddisunsite.oit.unc.edu/expo/deadsea.scrolls.exhibit/Community/coins.html]**.

Many Internet sites offer ancient Judaean coins for sale **[http://www.bitsofhistory.com/judean.html]**. With Chanukah almost here, what could be more timely than a Hasmonean Prutah coin with the Hebrew inscription "Yehonatan the High Priest and the Council of Jews." ($15)

If you have a deeper wallet, you can purchase Judaean coins from the Persian, Greek, Roman, First and Second Revolt periods for up to $600 **[http://members. aol.com/coinsold/fcatalog.html#Judaean]**.

But before you buy, be careful! In Ancient Coins & Modern Fakes **[http://www.mindspring.com/~kroh/Empirecoins/fakes.html]**, Dennis Kroh writes about notorious and common coin scams. "There have been forgeries of ancient coins for as long as there has been coinage." Novices to coin collecting are amazed that coins of the ancient world are obtainable at all for any price (They are all in museums, aren't they!) Kroh says it's no wonder that, when a tourist purchases an "ancient" coin or two, they are usually paying much more for a counterfeit than what the authentic item would cost. Although his essay doesn't focus on Israel or Internet sales, many virtual travellers should keep its lessons in mind.

For more advice, join the online community of numismatists NUMISM-L Ancient and Medieval Coin List **[http://www.bitsofhistory.com/numism-l.html]**. And don't miss The American Israel Numismatic Association **[http://www.amerisrael.com/]**. The association was established to study Israel's coinage, past and present.

You can subscribe to their newsletter, *The Shekel* and get discounts on Israeli coins or medals. But if you're really crazy about Jewish coins and are ready to graduate from the virtual experience, consider joining the association next March, when they embark on a 15-day study tour of Israel **[http://www.amerisrael.com/tour.html]**.

One of the tour's highlights: a special anniversary reception by the Israel Government Coins & Medals Corporation.

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Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Rabbinic Reflections

A forgotten lesson

By RABBI MARTIN J. BERMAN

Chanukah celebrates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem. For eight nights, we light candles to commemorate the miracle of the oil. Yet clearly there is so much more to the story.

One element that is particularly significant today is revealed in the attitudes of our ancestors to Jewish life and traditions.

In the First Book of Maccabees we find: "At that time there came forth from Israel certain lawless men who persuaded many, saying: 'Let us go and make a treaty with the heathen around us, because ever since we separated from them, many evils have come upon us.' The plan seemed good in their eyes, and some of the people went eagerly to the king, who gave them permission to perform the rites of the heathen. They built a gymnasium in Jerusalem in accordance with the custom of the heathen. They also subjected themselves to uncircumcision and stood aloof from the sacred Law."

In their desire to be just like the rest of the Greek world, there were some Jews who accepted the Greek condemnation of the brit milah, the covenant symbolized by circumcision. It was not enough that they were prepared to forgo brit milah for their sons. They were ready to undergo a painful surgery in a world without anesthesia, in order to eradicate the covenant incised in the flesh.

A few verses later in the same chapter, the author records: "In accordance with the decree, they put to death the women who had circumcised their children, hanging the newborn babies around their necks; and they also put to death their families as well as those who had circumcised them. Nevertheless, many in Israel were firmly resolved in their hearts not to eat unclean food. They preferred to die rather than be defiled by food or break the holy covenant, and they did die."

For these Jews there was no question about the sanctity of brit milah. It was a divine command. One that in the face of persecution had to be observed even though it might mean death.

Once again, there are elements in the world challenging brit milah. The Jewish community need not fear those who find circumcision medically unnecessary. I cannot judge if it is medically advisable for males to be circumcised. For me as a Jew, the question is irrelevant. We do not circumcise our sons. We enter them into the covenant symbolized by the circumcision. We do not attend a circumcision but a brit.

It is significant that the shortened form we use to describe the ceremony in Yiddish is the word bris, covenant, and not the word milah, circumcision. This is not a medical procedure, although every mohel must be proficient in the medical aspects. This is a religious ritual. It is a mitzvah incumbent upon the believing Jew.

There is another threat that is more worrisome. There are those who, perhaps with sincere intentions, seeking to prevent such abuses as female circumcision, have lumped male circumcision together with female circumcision. They are prepared to make laws banning all forms of circumcision. Some Jews caught up in the the rhetoric are prepared to abandon a practice that our ancestors were prepared to die for.

As we light our chanukiyot celebrating the escape from the dangers of those days so long ago, we must remind ourselves that some of those dangers are with us here today. We are Jews, celebrating Chanukah because our ancestors were not prepared to accept the judgment of the Greeks that their way was better than the Jewish way. We must not allow the modern Greeks to win today.

Rabbi Berman is the spiritual leader of Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Toronto.

Guest Voices

Celebrating in a new home

By SUSAN BERRIN

Yossi's bar mitzvah, parshat Toldot, fell on the third weekend of November.

We were barely in our new home. The stacks of boxes were just unpacked, or at least out of sight in the attic. As I approached the bar mitzvah, I wondered if it would serve as another re-entry ritual into the community that had drawn us from across the continent.

Certainly our synagogue life here was different. We were no longer the rabbinic family. In Newton, from the outside there was little that would distinguish us from the many other rabbis and families attending shul.

Rather than living at the pulse of shul activity, we were on the sidelines. We had little rabbinic opportunity to touch people's lives in the profound and meaningful ways we had been accustomed to in Victoria. We would have to begin anew the process of creating identities for ourselves, reinventing our strengths and building the contributions we could offer towards community.

In Newton, we were gingerly stepping into two very different shuls: one liberal Orthodox, the other traditional egalitarian. Such a way to describe groups of people! But it was these two groups that had wooed us from our 16-year tenure in the Garden of Eden. And, while I'll try here to describe these two shul communities, I hope I can convey the nuances, the depths, as well as the highly polished surfaces.

The Orthodox shul is a place I would never have imagined myself joining. We had become part of this shul the year of our sabbatical, initially as a way to support our eldest daughter. As a student at the Orthodox high school, she found this shul the place to "hang."

We had been warmly greeted and ushered into the Shabbes lunch line-up. For weeks, I hardly cooked. And after all those lunches with perfect strangers who eagerly wanted to know about our lives and what brought us to Newton, it was time to reciprocate.

Of course, there's a lot more to this community than great Shabbes lunches: a compassionate and learned rabbi; women who are seriously engaging Halachah and yet stretching its elasticity to find their own voices; an enthusiasm and joyfulness at observing each moment of Jewish life.

The egalitarian minyan is traditional in its prayer service, but offers women complete equality of participation. It is the community I feel most myself in, the place my spirit can shine. It has little structure, no edifice (we meet in a church) and no employed professionals. The minyan meets only for Shabbat morning and the festivals. Its members support the social and political causes I believe in and sing the tunes I'm familiar with.

Yossi's bar mitzvah was held at the minyan. We invited many members of the Orthodox shul, and hoped the traditional egalitarian service would not offend their sensibilities. It is to the credit of both groups that participation was so genuine. While straddling these two communities poses challenges, I've always enjoyed an eclectic web of friendship and affiliation.

The details of planning the bar mitzvah were immense, but finally Shabbat arrived. Close to 60 people crowded into our living room Friday evening. In that room were most of our two families – a good representation from Toronto – and the friends from Victoria who had come to be with us. We were not only eating a Shabbat meal together, we were creating our first memory in our new home.

Saturday morning, Yossi seemed quite calm walking to the "shul" (which had been converted from a school gym to a beit knesset for our benefit). New friends helped enormously with the details of Saturday morning preparation, weaving themselves forever into our hearts. With poise, Yossi chanted from the Torah and haftorah and delivered an insightful speech.

When I spoke to Yossi, I tried to connect the Torah portion and its narrative of family strife to our lives, telling him that family is the central core of our existence. Through even the most difficult period of the move last year, we still felt safe and adventurous because we knew we'd be moving *as* a family, and *for* the family.

Susan Berrin is editor of Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility.

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A welcome anthology

***Day by Day — Reflections on the Themes of the Torah from Literature, Philosophy, and Religious Thought*, by Chaim Stern (Oxford Press, $44).**

Books
Bernard Baskin

Over the years, I have put together a small library of books that deal with quotations, maxims, apothegms and gems of insight and sagacity. These books offer a rich composite of spirituality and practical wisdom, and enable the reader to discover, or rediscover ideas that incarnate faith, endurance, hope, pathos, brilliance and wit.

Each of the 54 chapters in Rabbi Stern's anthology offers an excerpt from the week's Torah reading and nurturing quotations connected with every day of the week. These 400 or so brief selections are derived from many sources – from Jewish and other religious traditions and from a large group of well known poets, scientists and philosophers.

This lovingly compiled miscellany will find an honored place in my ever growing accumulation of similar books.

Some selections from *Day by Day*:

• Rabbi Abraham Yaakov of Sadagora was asked: According to our sages in Pirke Avot, there is not a thing that has not its place. So humanity too, has its own place. Why then, do people sometimes feel so crowded? He replied, because each wants to occupy the place of the other. (Chassidic)

• One year, the school of Shammai and the school of Hillel were at odds. Another year, and a third. Each held to its way. A voice from beyond then proclaimed: The words of both are the words of the living God, but the school of Hillel's way is the one to follow. Why? Though both followed the living God, the school of Hillel's way was gentle, conciliatory; they would teach their own view and that of their opponents, and give priority to the school of Shamai – [thus we learn that] the Holy One exalts those who humble themselves, and humbles those who exalt themselves (Talmud)

• Strange is our situation here upon earth. Each of us comes for a short visit, not knowing why, yet sometimes seeming to divine a purpose. From the standpoint of daily life, however, there is one thing we do know: that we are here for the sake of others; above all, for those on whose smile and well-being our own happiness depends; and also for the countless unknown souls with whose fate we are connected by a bond of sympathy. Many times a day, I realize how much my own outer and inner life is built upon the labors of others, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received and am still receiving. (Albert Einstein)

• Rabbi Leib, son of Sarah, the hidden saint who wandered the earth and its rivers and valleys redeeming dead and living souls, said this: I went to the Great Maggid, not to hear him say Torah, but to see his way of unlacing his boots and lacing them up again. (Chassidic)

• Rabbi Israel Salanter saw a servant girl carrying two pails of water on her shoulder. When dinner was ready, he used only a few drops in washing his hands. When asked why he did not use more water, he replied: One must not be generous with a mitzvah on another person's shoulders. (Jewish anecdote)

• As it is possible to abuse things that are permitted, so is it possible to sin by abstaining from the right use of these things – such as food, sex, and all else that God made and called "very good." We will be called to account for our abstinence from these permitted things. (Talmud)

• If one were given five minutes' warning before sudden death, five minutes to say what it had all meant to us, every telephone booth would be occupied by people trying to call up other people to stammer that they loved them. (Christopher Morley)

• When the Nazis first came for the Communists, I didn't speak up, because I was not a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, but I didn't speak up, because I was not a Jew. They came for the trade unionists, but I didn't speak up, because I was not a trade unionist. They came for me... and by that time there was no one to speak up for anyone. (Martin Niemoeller)

• The days come and go like muffled and veiled figures sent from a distant friendly party, but they say nothing, and if we do not use the gifts they bring, they carry them as silently away. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

• A general received a message telling him that his main line of defence had been broken by the enemy. He was greatly distressed and the expression on his face showed it. His wife, hearing of the message, came to him and said. You have received bad news, I know, but I have just received worse. And what is that, he asked. I have just read discouragement on your face, she replied. Loss of courage is the worst of news. (Chassidic)

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MINYANIM IN THE GTA
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Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	4:25 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:15, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:30	Mon. -Wed. Maariv 8:45-9:00PM
Anshei Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	4:35 PM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	Mon.-Thurs. 4:30 PM
Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	4:30 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM	4:30 PM
Darchei Noam (Rec.)	15 Hove St. (416) 638-4783	----------	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:25 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	50 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	6:00 PM
Sephardic Kehilla Centre [Abir Yaacob] (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:10 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 AM	4:20 PM
Solel Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	Tuesday 7:00 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Greater Toronto Area

The mandate of *The CJN* is to be the very best community newspaper that it can be. Our core activity, of course, is to provide the news from around the Jewish world, credibly, reliably and as comprehensively as possible, given the limitation of our resources and our weekly format.

In an attempt to stretch our mandate even higher, on Oct. 27, we inaugurated The CJN Roundtable Discussion.

The roundtable discussion, to be held three or four times a year, will provide a forum, in addition to the pages of this newspaper, for the free-wheeling exchange of ideas on contemporary issues of importance to the Jewish community, locally, nationally and abroad.

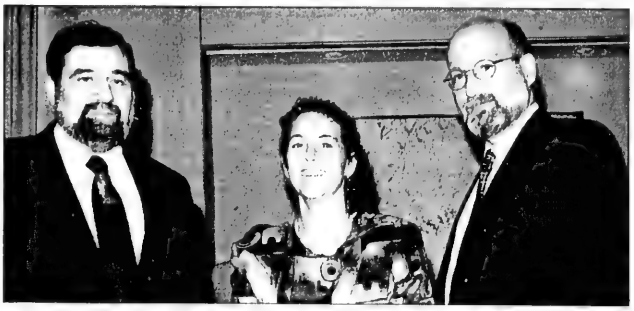
We hope in this way, to inspire "new" thinking or perhaps to consolidate "old" thinking on topics and questions that matter to us a great deal.

Each roundtable discussion brings together a panel of three renowned, acknowledged experts on specific topics, along with a number of individuals also interested and involved in that field of inquiry.

The proceedings of each roundtable will be published in these pages for the benefit of the wider public.

It is our hope that The CJN Roundtable Discussion will eventually become a deeply-embedded and highly-anticipated part of the intellectual life of our community.

The first roundtable discussion, held at the law offices of Goodman and Carr, explored the subject "The Jews of Toronto: who we are and what we can yet be." Forty people attended.



Roundtable panelists (from left) Gary Levine, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein and Jay Brodbar.

Our distinguished panel comprised Jay Brodbar, director of research, UJA Federation; Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning; and Gary Levine, lifelong career educator, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

The following report is a summary of the discussion that day.

The first roundtable will lead to many more. Look to the pages of *The CJN* for news of the next roundtable discussion.

MBD

Toronto – Canada's Jewish hub

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

As Director of Research and Assistant Director of Community Planning and Allocations of UJA Federation, Jay Brodbar is, in effect, the Toronto Jewish community's chief demographer. He has also been a pioneer in the use of the Internet as an outlet for information dissemination, and helped build Jewish Toronto, *the community's site on the World Wide Web.*

A sociologist, Brodbar has master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin. While on the faculty of Brandeis University, he taught in the Near East and Judaic Studies department and in the Hornstein School of Jewish Communal Service. He has published numerous papers on the American Jewish family.

Prior to coming to Toronto, Brodbar spent two years in Israel as a Jerusalem Fellow, a program aimed at encouraging Jewish educational leadership.

TORONTO — Toronto the Good, for Jews at least, is Toronto the Booming.

The city and environs are home to nearly half of all Canadian Jews, and while the rest of the country may be loath to admit it, Toronto has become Canada's Jewish hub.

The city teems with Jewish life: new synagogues and day schools are popping up all the time; programs, lectures and the Jewish arts scene can fill a calendar; and levels of commitment and diversity are the envy of other cities.

What community planners seem to have handled remarkably well has been the astonishing growth of the Jewish population. In the past 25 years, it has doubled, and today stands at roughly 175,000, placing it 11th in Diaspora urban populations, above Greater Washington (165,000) and below Miami (190,000).

Data culled from various surveys and studies have provided demographers (experts in population trends) with a veritable mother-lode of data, offering scads of information on age, income, occupation, affiliation, levels of religious practice, education and other variables.

Population studies also speak volumes about one of our favorite parlor games: comparing ourselves to Americans.

The Toronto community's rapid growth and change has kept Jay Brodbar busy. It's his job to pore over the mountains of numbers available on Toronto Jewry, and interpret their meanings, as well as to try and divine the population's future needs.

At *The CJN*'s recent roundtable, Brodbar crunched some numbers, mainly those contained in a 1991 study by the federation, entitled *A First Look*. Written by Brodbar, it surveyed 1,400 Jewish homes in and around Toronto, and still provides what he called the most reliable information on Jewish contours in the community.

The study found that of Greater Toronto's total population of 3.8 million, 162,605 people were Jewish, or 4.2 percent of the city's total.

Today, he said, the total Jewish population is closer to 175,000. Between 1981 and 1991, the Jewish population increased by 25 percent, whereas growth in other Jewish urban centres in Canada averaged six percent. Overall, Toronto's Jewish community has doubled in size since 1973.

Some of the most dramatic growth has been in York Region, home to some 50,000 Jews, making it, on its own, Canada's third largest Jewish community, Brodbar noted.

The community is still "fairly concentrated" in residential and geographical patterns, he said, pointing out that 90 percent of Jews live where only 20 percent of the rest of the population resides.

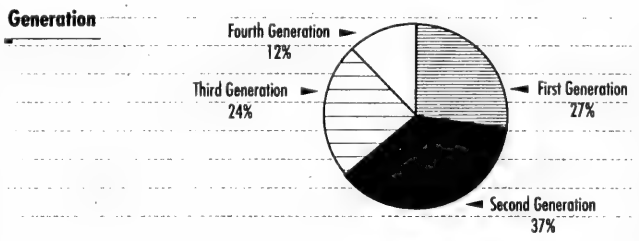
For example, 13 percent of North York is Jewish; 19 percent of Vaughan is Jewish; 40 percent of Thornhill (in both Vaughan and Markham) is Jewish; while some neighborhoods in Thornhill and Toronto are up to 80 percent Jewish.

On the other hand, some 46,000 Jews live in areas that are under 10 percent Jewish.

There have been two reasons for all this phenomenal growth, Brodbar offered: the natural birth rate is one, but "the greatest impact" has been the movement of people.

Between 1981 and 1991, Toronto saw an influx of 30,000 newcomers, split evenly between immigrants (those from outside Canada) and migrants (those from within Canada.)

Three-quarters of all immigrants came from the former Soviet Union, Israel and South Africa. These Jews tended to have a more traditional family structure, to be poorer and, with the exception of the former Soviets, to be younger than indigenous Jews.



(But Brodbar noted that over the past 20 years, the economic gap between immigrant and indigenous Jews has narrowed "and just about disappeared.")

Brodbar dispelled a prevailing belief that most migrants to Toronto are ex-Montrealers: Of the 15,000 Canadians who came here in the decade prior to 1991, 10,000 were from other parts of Ontario.

Migrants also tended to be younger and better educated, and to form a higher proportion of professionals than Jews born here. Brodbar said migrants from within Ontario tended to come with families, whereas those arriving from elsewhere in Canada came more as singles.

Toronto also has a high proportion of Jewish elderly: One out of five Jewish residents is 65 and over. (In York Region, the ratio is just three percent – a "very dramatic difference," Brodbar stated.) Some Toronto neighborhoods are over 50 percent elderly. But not all Jewish elderly live among non-Jews. For example, one-third of all residents in Bathurst Manor are Jews over 65, compared to just six percent of non-Jewish elderly.

"So it's not only that they are different by virtue of being Jewish," Brodbar explained, "but they are also different by virtue of being elderly."

And, he added, Toronto Jewry has also caught up with, if not exceeded, the general ratio of under 14s. Sixteen percent of the Jewish population is under 14. In York Region, a bedroom community, fully one-third of the population is under 14.

Canadian Jews often liken themselves to their U.S. counterparts, but Brodbar cautioned that comparisons can be misleading, partly because the leading religious denomination south of the border is Reform, whereas in Toronto, it's Conservative.

He underlined other gaps with our American co-religionists:

The main one, intermarriage, shows that Toronto, as suspected, is miles ahead of the American national average. Here, nine percent of adults were married to someone who was not born Jewish; the figure stateside was 32 percent. (However, Brodbar added, Toronto's intermarriage rate between 1980 and 1990 was double that of older marriages.)

In Toronto, 73 percent of adults said all or almost all their friends were Jewish; in the United States, the figure was 38 percent.

Studies consistently show that most American Jews have never visited Israel; in Toronto, two-thirds of Jews have gone at least once. Toronto Jews also do "very well" when it comes to ritual practice, such as lighting Shabbat candles, attending a seder or keeping kashrut.

Forty percent of Toronto Jewish adults were immigrants; two-thirds were either first or second generation Canadians, and just 12 percent were fourth generation, with at least one grandparent born in North America. In the United States, the last figure was 38 percent – what Brodbar called "a very important factor."

In sum, Toronto's Jewish community can be more accurately compared to Baltimore's than to Vancouver's, while the one in Vancouver has more in common with San Diego's, Brodbar said.

Greater Toronto Area

Reaching out to the unaffiliated

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, was ordained from Hebrew Union College in 1983. She served as assistant rabbi at Holy Blossom Temple before taking a pulpit outside Boston. Under Rabbi Goldstein's direction for the past seven years, Kolel has grown from six classes with 40 students to 14 classes with approximately 250 students. It offers events that reach about 1,500 people a year. She spoke at the recent CJN Roundtable on Toronto's Jews: Who We Could Be.

TORONTO — Synagogues must boldly ask what they can do to answer the spiritual needs of people who are not getting their needs answered, said Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, who has broken new ground at Kolel by teaching traditional texts to Jewish students from a variety of backgrounds in the context of Reform Judaism.

This city's best hope for Jewish affiliation is a group she has identified as "temporarily unaffiliated."

The group consists mostly of singles, young couples without children, couples with teens or empty nesters, she said. They feel they have either gotten what they need from synagogues, or have not yet gotten what they need.

In her work with Kolel, Rabbi Goldstein has identified two other types of Jews who are not affiliated with a synagogue: permanently unaffiliated and hostilely unaffiliated.

The former group, contrary to popular assumption, does have a Jewish identity, she said, but finds Jewish meaning outside the synagogue, perhaps through involvement in a Jewish community centre or Jewish cultural events such as the Jewish Film Festival.

The assumption that permanently unaffiliated Jews aren't religious is erroneous, said Rabbi Goldstein. "Many of these Jews light Shabbat candles, have Passover seders, keep kosher, have lifecycle events – with or without rabbis, but...they will probably remain out of synagogue life no matter how clever our marketing strategies."

"Hostilely" unaffiliated Jews are "turned off," said Rabbi Goldstein, not mincing words. This group sees synagogue life as "boring, empty and stale...In essence, they claim that synagogues are not spiritual experiences."

Rabbis and other affiliated Jews tend to dismiss their claims, she said. "If only they would join our synagogue, they would find the perfect experience, [but] we remain frustrated."

A large percentage of the hostilely unaffiliated students at Kolel are marginalized Jews in their 20s, 30s and 40s, said Rabbi Goldstein.

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein

Obvious marginalized categories, she said, include gay Jews, disabled Jews, Jews who are poor, Jews who do not live in the Bathurst corridor, Jews who are intermarried, and a large number of converted Jews who do not feel truly accepted.

Although they represent the smallest group statistically, she feels they are the group to be most concerned about, because they are the next generation.

In a recent Basic Judaism class, they told her they feel excluded from the Jewish community because their other "isms" – like vegetarianism, feminism and political activism – are more meaningful to them, and they have not found a way to synthesize those "isms" with their Judaism.

"They feel that the Jewish community disdains or devalues the other isms if Judaism doesn't come first."

Another common reason for feeling excluded was money, Rabbi Goldstein noted. Some feel they don't make enough money to sit in the established Jewish community and feel equal, she said. One of her students wanted to build a sukkah, and purchase a lulav and etrog, but couldn't afford it.

Neither were these students comfortable with perceived assumptions about what being Jewish means in Toronto – that Jews are married, heterosexual, have children, and live in the Bathurst Street corridor.

A separate issue was the feeling that the denominations are adversarial and cause conflict. Many who are new to Toronto don't understand the issues between the denominations, and find it hard to just identify as a Jew, Rabbi Goldstein said.

"We need to start talking about ways to settle the issues of territoriality between the movements." In her experience, the community's best hope is with the Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist movements.

While there is an assumption that affiliated Jews form "a monolithic bloc of dues-paying synagogue members," Rabbi Goldstein has also found three categories of synagogue members.

• "In transition" Jews are not necessarily loyal to their synagogue, rabbi or denomination, but are satisfied in the meantime. "They may have been raised Orthodox, and find themselves in a Reform synagogue because they like the rabbi. They may have been raised Reform, and find themselves in an Orthodox synagogue because they've met people in their neighborhood who go there.

"These kinds of affiliatives often move from one congregation to another, and we lose them in the shift sometimes."

• "Denominationally attached" Jews believe in the teachings and values of their particular synagogue and denomination. They generally remain affiliated.

• "Historically affiliated" Jews belong to the synagogue their parents belonged to. In most cases, Rabbi Goldstein has found, they don't like it but won't switch.

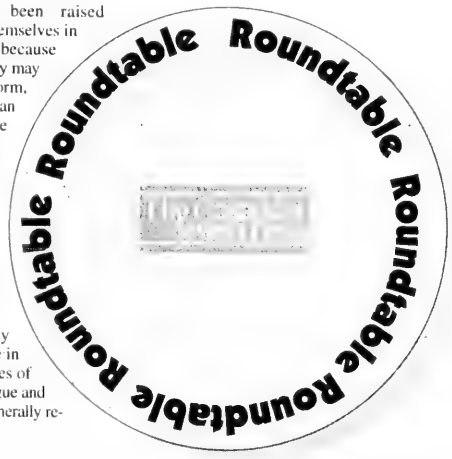
The hostilely unaffiliated will remain hostile, she said. She suggested that synagogues do membership surveys to ask members what they want.

The best way to reach out to the temporarily unaffiliated, Rabbi Goldstein believes, is to offer experiences which answer their needs.

The permanently unaffiliated will find other spiritual outlets, which need to be seen as normative experiences, she said. They might include spirituality Shabbat chavurot, High Holy Day observances geared for unaffiliated Jews, and "non-service" services.

Rabbi Goldstein would also like to see better, more reciprocal relationships between synagogues and Jewish agencies. "We rabbis often feel used by Jewish agencies," she said. "We are asked to announce news or events from the bimah, raise money for this or that organization, [use] this or that Shabbat theme."

She also believes Jewish agencies and synagogue boards need to have more "non-establishment types of Jews" on their boards. They "have what to teach us about the kind of community that we can be."



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Greater Toronto Area

'No time to rest on our education laurels'

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Gary Levine has worked with young people for many years. His positions have included director of Camp Moshava, principal of the Orah School for Russian immigrants, and educational consultant to various activities of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and UJA Federation.

He is now director of student activities and a teacher of Talmud and Tanach at CHAT.

TORONTO — While the education scene in Toronto is remarkably healthy, this is no time to rest on our laurels, Gary Levine asserted at the first CJN Roundtable on the Toronto Jewish community.

Levine said that "there are few cities in the Diaspora that can boast the breadth of choice that Toronto has to offer," citing as examples "some two dozen day schools and yeshivot, Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, non-denominational, Sephardi and Ashkenazi; a school for students with learning disabilities, a school for children with severe handicaps; as well as supplementary school programs."

This is besides Jewish community centres, camps, youth groups, Israel Experience Program and March of the Living, he said.

In fact, Toronto is so well known for the quality of its educational efforts, that Levine quoted the director of an organization that was considering a pilot project to fund thousands of youngsters on extended trips to Israel as saying that he wouldn't use Toronto as a pilot because "the community runs so well that we wouldn't be able to tell if the program were successful in itself or if it was just successful because of the city."

However, Levine said, teaching about Judaism simply isn't enough. "We need commitment," he asserted. "Not necessarily religious commitment, not necessarily commitment to move to Israel, but a personal sense of obligation that we each need to develop toward however it is we define our Jewishness."

This commitment, he said, may be to community, to good deeds or to study, but it must be "a personal acceptance of obligation to do, to be, to become."

He praised the bar and bat mitzvah programs being run by many Reform congregations in the city, "in which students study text, do service to the community, consider together who they are and what they want to be and decide on their own personal commitment, which then forms part of their bar or bat mitzvah ceremony."

Gary Levine

Levine said that he strongly supports what he called "affective" education.

"The strong emotional connection that a child develops in participating in a Shabbaton or spending a few weeks in Israel or a summer in a really good Jewish camp cannot be matched by a hundred classes in text or a hundred research papers."

On the other hand, he said, "A Jew should know what is in the Bible, what our leaders through the ages have taught, what the holidays are and how we honor them."

Such a combination of affective and cognitive education may make intermarriage or assimilation less likely, Levine said, but is no guarantee against it.

"We live in a secular world," he said, where "the influences of the media are pervasive."

Youngsters are more likely to know *Silent Night* than the second verse of *Maoz Tsur*, he said. "They don't sit down to learn it. It's just everywhere in a society that is overwhelmingly Christian."

More serious, Levine suggested, is the notion he heard from a student who demanded, "Doesn't Judaism teach that anything is okay if it's between two consenting adults?"

Levine called that philosophy "not Torah, but the *Playboy* philosophy, first espoused by that prophet of our time, Hugh Hefner."

He lamented that "We are teaching a great deal *about* Judaism and Jewishness, but our students are learning at least as much *about* the secular culture around them through osmosis, through the excitement of being a young person in an exciting world."

It is not enough either, he said, to restrict Judaism to "sadness over the Holocaust and pride in Israel. There are too many Jews in our time who are sad about the Holocaust and proud of Israel, and think about them three or four times a year, and have no personal connection with their Judaism at all."

We must, said Levine, "educate toward commitment."

This will "require a rethinking of some of our definitions of community and a major community investment of time and resources – for that read 'money' – to achieve it."

In the European shtetl and ghetto, he said, the whole environment of the young Jew consisted of the home the shul and the cheder – there were no other influences.

Now, however, that world is gone forever, Levine said. He urged the community to "consider how best we can utilize the home, the shul and the school, and in our time so many available agencies and institutions of the organized Jewish community – working together in a structured, coordinated manner – to maximize the Jewish world of our students and to help them develop their own personal sense of commitment."

Levine believes that, unlike New York, where "what Jewish education was about was: If you can afford the tuition, you can go to school; if you can't, you've got a problem. It was seen as axiomatic that each segment of the community would take care of its own as well as it could, and if there were those that got lost in the shuffle, well, you could do the best you could do." Communities in Canada have had the ability to work together; "in fact,[a] dedication to working together."

This dedication, Levine said, "led them to centralize fundraising, streamline administration and act together for the greater good of the community. This doesn't mean that the Orthodox danced fox trots at the Reform weddings. It just means that the community leadership was able to focus on issues of common purpose and common need, and to leave the questions that divided them outside the door."

Levine said that he has real fears that "this avoidance of ideological confrontation is in some danger in our time. Reflecting the dissonance in Jewish communities across North America and the rest of the world, we are seeing, not only polarization and accusation, but partisan demands entering the board rooms of community leadership."

In the near future, he asked, "Will we still be able to join together for the good of the community, or will we find separate communal services for the different denominations? Separate schools for each side, all of them inadequately funded, and the gulf between as wide as the Red Sea?"

To help today's children "meet the increasingly complex challenges of North American society, we are going to have to regain the unity of purpose and direction that build our Jewish community, and we are going to have to actively develop ways to increase the influence our community has on our children."

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Exploring the future of Toronto Jewry

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One of the more animated points in the discussion began when sociologist Jay Brodbar contended that the core issues facing Toronto Jews are "content and ideological" in nature.

Addressing that issue, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein said Toronto is home to a large group of disenfranchised Jews who live on the margins of the established community. Creating a dialogue between established community members and "the Jews we're losing" is difficult, she said.

Recent arrivals from cities like Winnipeg and Edmonton see "the Toronto Jewish community as closed. If you weren't born in Toronto, bar mitzvahed in Toronto and [attended] the same camp, you're out."

Toronto is seen as "establishment, traditional, conservative" without room for anything else. "It may be the wrong perception, but it's still there," Rabbi Goldstein said.

Longtime educator Gary Levine waded into the discussion by asserting the viability and vitality of an organization is connected to the amount of argument it can withstand.

But, he continued, "there are things we're not going to resolve... We are different and we have our own beliefs. Even within the community there are things you are not going to resolve.

"I'm Orthodox. I cannot by my religious background pray in a Reform synagogue. I have a friend who is Reform and she says she is personally insulted by coming into an Orthodox synagogue and being sent to sit on the other side of the barrier. We're not going to resolve that. There are basic philosophic differences, or in my case, religious dogma differences, which mean we've reached an impasse."

Concentrating on those differences, "will separate us so that we are not able to sit around the table to discuss issues we can resolve," Levine said.

Levine's statement prompted a comment from Gordon Wolfe, executive-director of Jewish Family and Child Service. He noted the agency recently had to schedule an extra meeting by a visiting rabbinic expert on spousal abuse because organizers could not get Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis to attend the same meeting.

"This kind of divisiveness makes me crazy," Wolfe said.

Levine agreed that in principle, it was a shame that people would not sit together in that situation.

"On the other hand, you have resolved it," he said. "In effect, you have reached a resolution that solves all the problems imperfectly, but nonetheless, in a unified manner. I think that's exactly the kind of thing that may be necessary, but which leads ultimately to retaining unity in the community [through a] hybrid, Rube Goldberg solution."

That statement prompted an immediate response from Rabbi Goldstein, who argued "that solution perpetuates the problem. It perpetuates the ongoing, adversarial nature of the rabbinic associations in this town."

Look at it from the perspective of a Jew on the margins of the organized community who is interested in "coming back home to Judaism" and who is interested in hearing the speaker, she said.

"That Jew just doesn't get it and doesn't understand why we can't all listen to a great scholar talking about something that is not even dogmatic.

"The marginalized Jew or the Jew just coming back just doesn't get it. That's where people say 'I give up, I don't want any part of it,'" Goldstein said.

"In this particular case, which group of rabbis would you have told not to come?" Levine asked.

The rabbis should have met and resolved the issue through dialogue, Rabbi Goldstein responded. Perhaps "it may not happen at all or you find a way for people to learn to work together."

"If you can't do it, better that they meet separately than we say to one, 'you are no longer welcome,'" Levine asserted. "If there is a better solution, we should try to find it. But the solution that includes, however imperfectly, is to be preferred over the solution that ultimately has to exclude. The imperfection of it is what is so problematic.

"We all have this one-person vision of unity. Of course everyone has a different vision of unity. [It may be] unity my way or unity your way, but we all have such a vision. When one gets down to the nitty gritty of how to do it, then we find ourselves having to live with imperfect solutions...One deals with it as well as one can."

The discussion then changed course, with guest Shlomo Sharon raising the question of Jewish education. Jewish education in Toronto is "almost one area of optimism," Brodbar said. "You find that is one of the few areas of growth..."

Levine offered a more pessimistic assessment, noting that while Toronto is a "strong, active, vital community," Jewish communities in outlying areas are diminishing at Toronto's expense."They're coming here. The question is, in 50 years from now, are we all still here?

"Many more people are coming into Jewish education now...We're going to have to work with them. That means we'll have to find methods that satisfy the much broader community. In some sense it was easier when you had the little Orthodox school there, and the little Conservative school there and the little Reform school there and everyone was making Shabbat for himself. At that point there was a clear understanding of what we stood for in a very tightly constructed way. Now we are serving a much broader community and as it gets larger, we will be serving it more broadly still.

"We will have to compromise, reach consensus in a North America that is going to have fewer and fewer Jewish communities, larger ones perhaps, more centralized. I don't know where we are going to be. I am afraid."

Responding to the panelists' concerns about education and Jews on the margins, Syd Eisen pointed out that Toronto's Jewish education system has registered significant accomplishments in educating the affiliated Jews of "the centre."

Education funding is limited, he said. "We [shouldn't] forget the inside, the good strong centre while we're talking about the outside. I think if we put all our resources in trying to bring in the Jew who has chosen or who by accident has not been affiliated and forget the people on the inside who want to send their children to get a Jewish education and can't do it, then I think we'll be making a mistake."

That elicited this response from Rabbi Goldstein: "Some of our best insiders started out as outsiders...All the complaints of the outsiders you'll hear from the insiders as well."

Brodbar noted that "the vast proportion of our resources are devoted to the core. It's not enough. That's the hard part. Talking about scarce resources is *the* debate in the Jewish community. How do you spend scarce resources?"

At that point, historian Irving Abella raised an existential question: "Aside from religion, what makes us Jews? What is there aside from the Torah, what is there aside from the synagogue" that will appeal to unaffiliated Jews? he asked.

Levine said "the reality is there is no one way to identify as a Jew...Every individual Jew is going to have to make, should have to make a decision as to what he or she is committed. There is no one right answer. Religion is convenient. It's tradition and for the right wing it's dogmatic. But there are Jews who may choose to affiliate culturally or religiously. There are people I've met who hold onto the Yiddish language far more stringently than rabbis I know hold onto the Talmud. They have committed there. There is something that speaks to their soul. They have worked on finding a personal relationship between themselves and Judaism in a way that works for them.

"It's a very personal thing," he continued. "One of the problems in trying to institutionalize it educationally is that you can't institutionalize a personal decision. What you can institutionalize is access to information and data and experience and a nurturing environment that will encourage one to come to one's own conclusions. We're not going to define the one thing that makes one Jewish. If we try, we'll fail.

"Judaism is as individual as every individual Jew. The question is how open we can be, because there have to be limits also. That's a major problem. How far can one go?...There may be limits to what we're going to say is an acceptable commitment to Judaism. Within those limits [we should] be as inclusive as we can of all the Jews who want to be part of community in whatever way works for them."

Educator Michael Brown then made a pitch for adequate resources to enable community workers to do their work professionally.

Putting on her hat as director of an adult education centre that "has no stable source of funding," Rabbi Goldstein said "I can speak directly out of frustration. One thing I would hope our community could do is, 'think outside the box' when we think of funding."

Groups that normally "are not funded by the establishment and that were doing interesting, unusual kind of programming" were at one point assisted through a now defunct continuity program, Rabbi Goldstein said.

"I'd like us to really think outside of the box when we fund."

Rabbi Goldstein cited the example of a late friend who was trying to set up "a group on Jewish meditation just to talk about outside-the-box spirituality. Jews who felt very spiritual but not in a Jewish context were trying to get together to find a Jewish way to feel spiritual. Her battles to fund this one little event were extraordinary because it was an outside-of-the-box kind of Jewish event.

"So we have to get back to that. We have to ask what kind of other activities and programs and organizations should community money go to that is outside of what we understand to be the kind of framework that we use."

There is a "spiritual yearning" that goes beyond cultural and ethnic identification, among many Jews, she continued. "It is profound...There is a profound spiritual longing in people aged 20, 30 and their early 40s. I see it every day and they are really not looking for chicken soup answers. They are looking to answer the question, 'How can I connect to Torah...in an agenda-less way.'

"People are asking that question...My generation, young parents in their 40s and two generations before me are asking, 'What will it mean for our children to be spiritually Jewish, not just ethnically Jewish.' It's a really critical question for the future."

In other discussions, Barry Naiberg pointed out that Jewish youngsters in public schools "wanted to connect" to the wider Jewish community. Lyle Sugar, a student at CHAT, suggested that creation of programming aimed at youth "outside the community."

Ilan Barda, president of the Jewish Student Union, said there are few channels for youngsters in the public school system to connect to the wider community. In addition, high school graduates face "a [programming] void when they go away to university."

Zac Kaye, director of Jewish Campus Services, pointed out that public school students' "marginality begins at an early stage."

The great issues that once galvanized young people, such as working for Soviet Jews' freedom, are no longer there. It is now necessary to find new "points of connections" or "gateways" for the Jews on the margins.

Bringing in students and finding a niche for them, such as Jewish arts festival or a Jewish take on the environment, is "a slow, painstaking process," he said.

"We have to recognize that not everybody wants to be part of the mainstream. Not everyone wants to be involved with the kind of things we think they want to be involved with. That's one of the issues I have with the...organizations that set themselves up as saying 'We have the answer to everything.'

"We have to deal with people where they're at."

It's a long-term project with no firm answers, Kaye added.

Greater Toronto Area

Environment priority in Israel: JNF leader

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Yehiel Leket

TORONTO — It's not just blue pushkas or planting trees.

Today's Jewish National Fund (JNF) is on the front lines of Israel's burgeoning environmental movement, and continues to "reclaim" land in keeping with its century-old mandate, says the organization's world co-chair.

The JNF straddles a difficult line in Israel, says Yehiel Leket: working to keep Israel green but at the same time, developing land for settlement.

Leket, who took over JNF's rotating chairmanship last January, was in town for the annual Negev Dinner honoring Allan Silber. The event raised $5.8 million in cash and pledges.

He also met with JNF's Canadian board of director, and with the group's six shlichim across the country.

Leket, who was a Labor member of the Knesset 20 years ago, will assume JNF's world chairmanship in January 2000. The current chair, Shlomo Gravitz, who is affiliated with the Likud, will then become co-chair.

Known as Keren Kayemet Le'Yisrael back home, JNF is preparing to mark its 100th anniversary in 2001. It's come a long way since its founding as the primary tool to purchase land for Jewish settlement in Eretz Yisrael.

Following statehood, Leket says, JNF led the way in afforestation, development, hydrology and in the past decade or so, grappling with Israel's poor record on the environment.

The organization has planted 200 million trees in Israel since 1948, and continues to plant three million a year, both in new areas and in existing forests.

Today, 17 percent of Israel – and one-third of the country's central region – was purchased by JNF. Leket says most of the country's kibbutzim and moshavim are on JNF-developed land.

The organization is responsible for some 400,000 acres of Israeli forest and open spaces, the latter encompassing both desert and arable land.

It's also built over 100 water reservoirs over the past decade, and increased Israel's water capacity by five percent. Leket knows that the precious liquid is and will continue to be a flash point in Middle East politics.

But despite a string of solid accomplishments, JNF has, of late, clashed with environmental groups, which accuse it of being too soft.

At the same time, municipal and regional governments are being pressured with hundreds of plans for developing forests.

"JNF opposes development of forests and open spaces," says Leket. "But we still must develop land, pave roads and build infrastructures. It's a dilemma. We are trying to find the balance between development and ecology."

Green groups have charged the government and JNF with ignoring Israel's growing river pollution problem.

JNF is exploring a river rehabilitation program, which would make a serious attempt to clean up waterways of industrial and residential waste.

It's also been reforesting following a recent spate of forest fires, which destroyed or severely burned roughly 20,000 acres of trees.

In addition, the organization continued to build greenhouses in the Negev.

So not only is JNF busy, but a good part of its work goes unrecognized.

"In a competition for secrecy with the Mossad," jokes Leket, "we would win."

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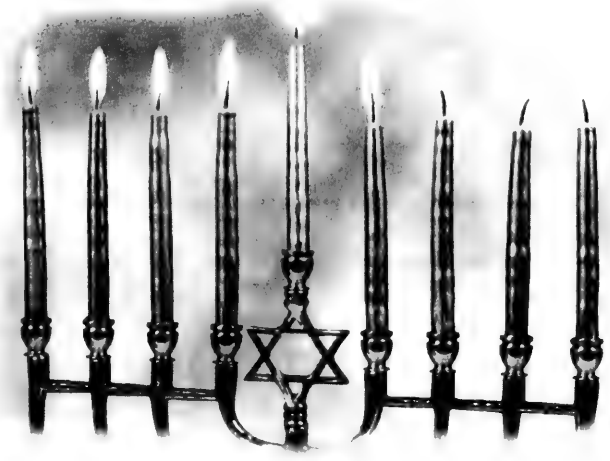

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Greater Toronto Area

Teens require better education about AIDS: author

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Parents need to take a more proactive role in seeing that their children, especially the more sexually active ones, are getting adequate AIDS education, says the co-author of a report on sexual attitudes among Jewish youth.

Michael Dobbs, who co-conducted the study for UJA Federation in New York, said findings revealed that the vast majority of kids felt it was okay to have sex, even though at least half surveyed were somewhat worried about infection. About 90 percent questioned reported using some kind of protection.

"We are aware that the high figure may, in fact, represent a socially desirable answer – respondents telling those conducting the survey exactly what they wanted to hear," said Dobbs.

He was speaking at the third annual I. Jeffrey Presement Memorial Lecture presented under the joint auspices of the AIDS committees of Holy Blossom Temple, Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue and Adath Israel Congregation.

The study was conducted over a 15-month period, with 443 youth questioned from a variety of Jewish settings, including day schools, synagogues, camps and college campuses. Topics included knowledge of transmission and AIDS testing; attitudes about being tested for AIDS; vulnerability to the disease; using condoms; peer pressure; and asking a partner to use a condom.

While the results relate only to the United States, authors say that the findings have a broader impact – teens are not getting adequate AIDS education.

There is no cure for AIDS, said Dobbs, "so the only way to deal with it is through education. We must educate ourselves and others so we will have the skills to prevent AIDS."

Parents need to speak to the teenagers, he said, because teens need support from every part of their lives. "The family must be open [about these matters.]"

The Talmud says parents have three responsibilities toward their children, said Dobbs. "They must teach them the Torah, teach them a trade and teach them to swim. Teaching them a trade means educating them, so we have to make sure our children are educated."

Annette Goldstein, coordinator of outreach and education for the Theresa Group, a Toronto-based organization dedicated to serving children and families living with HIV/AIDS, said that medical advances have reduced the number of AIDS cases, but the number of infections has not decreased. "The Theresa Group has seen an increase in the number of people it has served."

For the Jewish family, she said, dealing with AIDS means not only dealing with the uncertainty of a disease, but dealing with how the family is treated in the community. "Families need to feel safe in schools and in community institutions. They need to be accepted and understood."

It is hard to determine the number of Jewish families affected by AIDS, she said, because "often the families will not speak out. I have met Jewish children who would not speak about their secret."

Struggling with the decision about disclosure is common among parents, Goldstein said. "Many families struggle in silence because they do not feel safe disclosing their secret."

AIDS is a disease that is out there, she said. "We are here to remind you that no community can afford to be complacent. We must educate ourselves with accurate information."

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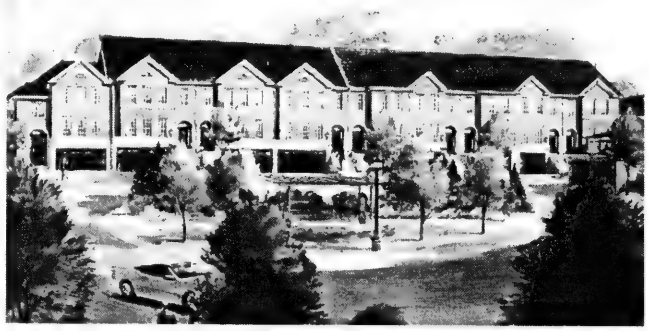

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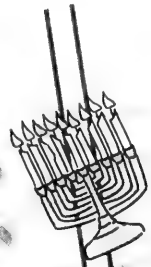

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Greater Toronto Area

WAITING FOR CHANUKAH WONDERLAND

Ron Haber, 3, of Torah Tots Pre-School, lights the menorah in anticipation of Chanukah Wonderland, which takes place Dec. 13 at Thornhill Square. A project of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, the holiday fair, scheduled from noon to 5 p.m., will feature arts and crafts, face painting, games, food and fun.

Salsberg Lane near

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — City council is expected to pass a resolution later this month naming a downtown lane after the late Joseph (J.B.) Salsberg.

A giant of Canadian Jewry, Salsberg died last February at the age of 95.

Councillors Joe Pantalone and Mario Silva, who represent Ward 20, proposed that a small, unnamed laneway at 604 Adelaide St. W. be named Joseph Salsberg Lane.

The lane is in a residential development and will have addresses on it.

The proposal is before the city's works department, and council will vote on it Dec. 16.

Silva and Pantalone told *The CJN* they expect no opposition.

"There's no question he was a colorful man," Silva said of J.B., who represented Toronto's old Ward 4 on city council in the early 1940s.

In fact, the district held by Silva and Pantalone contains a good part of Salsberg's old ward, which encompassed Spadina Avenue's many sweat shops.

Pantalone said he consulted members of Salsberg's family, and they approved.

Pantalone, a self-proclaimed social democrat, said Salsberg fought hard for immigrants' rights. Of Toronto's new 28 wards, Ward 20 has the highest percentage of non-English speakers, Pantalone noted.

J.B. Salsberg

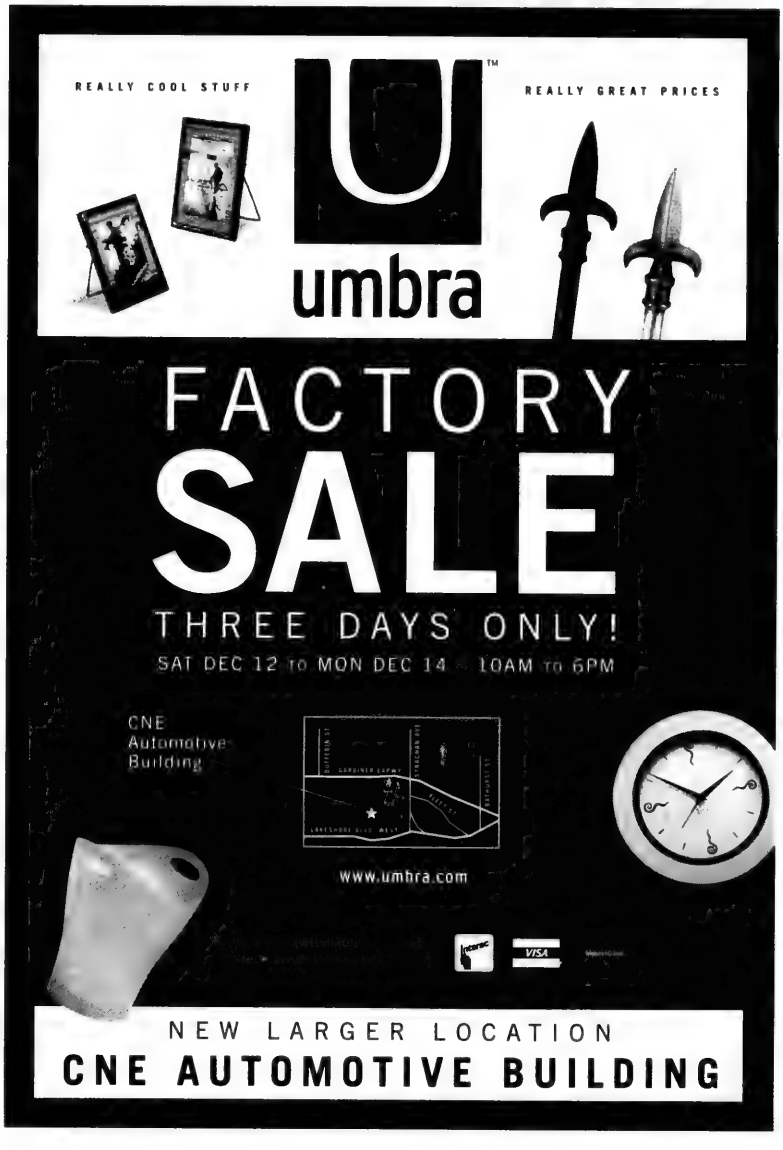
"Mr. Salsberg had deep roots in this neighborhood and in Toronto," the councillors stated in a letter suggesting the naming, sent to the works department.

Other names which came up were Third Parish Lane, Cloister Mews and Garment Mews.

As the Communist MPP for St. Andrew's riding from 1943 to 1955, Salsberg became a driving force behind anti-discrimination legislation, Pantalone and Silva noted.

"He was a caring man regardless of his politics," Silva said.

A street sign could go up as early as January, Pantalone said.



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Downtown day school expects enrolment jump

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Less than halfway through its initial year of operation, the Downtown Jewish Day School (DJDS) is already planning an expansion to accommodate an expected surge in student enrolment next year.

DJDS administrators are preparing for a total enrolment next September of 50 children, a substantial increase from this year's tiny class of 10 youngsters, said Cynthia Lazar, president of the school's board.

Next year should see 20 children attending senior kindergarten, 20 in Grade 1 and a smaller class that combines grades 2 and 3.

Lazar, whose son Max is enrolled in this year's kindergarten program, believes the DJDS provides the children with a unique "cutting edge, warm, nurturing environment." Parents who took a wait-and-see attitude last year, are now clamoring to enrol their children, she said.

When the school was first proposed, 80 parents expressed interest in enrolling their children and 30 paid deposits. "But people were afraid. They felt they were risking their kids on the first year of a school. In my mind, they missed out. It's been fabulous," Lazar said.

A psychiatrist by profession, Lazar believes the DJDS has developed a successful formula to combine high educational standards with a unique model that provides "an integrated program."

Two teachers, Gaby Fridman and Brenda Enchin, provide near constant instruction and supervision, while combining the Judaic and secular portions of the program in an almost seamless web. During Rosh Hashanah, for example, children learned about apples (science), recipes (fractions) and bees (biology) in the context of a religious holiday, Lazar said. The program is designed to get the children thinking logically, she added.

Hebrew language, Judaism, the sacred texts and daily prayer are all part of the school day, but they are approached in an "egalitarian" manner, Lazar said.

Located on the second floor of the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC), the school's main catchment area is the Annex, South Annex and Seaton Village areas of the downtown core. The school has even attracted a student from the Beaches. An estimated 15,000 Jews live south of St. Clair. Include the Beaches and Mississauga, and that number grows to 30,000.

Lazar believes the school is providing a unique service for the Jewish population downtown. "We're trying to attract families who'd never consider a day school education for their children," she said. "This is a group of unaffiliated Jews."

Pointing to demographic studies that show a 42 percent intermarriage rate for those living downtown, Lazar said "We have the potential to draw in people to this school who would be lost to Judaism."

Continued on page 25

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Greater Toronto Area

Downtown day school seeking funding benefactors

Continued from page 24

The Bloor JCC provides a natural fit for the school, she continued. The nursery school in the premises can serve as a "feeder" for the day school while the school utilizes the centre's gym and swimming facilities. A seniors' group from the aquafit class even serves as volunteer supervisors for the kids in the pool, she added.

After school, some of the children remain on the premises, and mingle with dozens of other kids from three local schools in a day-care program housed in the centre.

During Chanukah, the Bloor JCC will host a Chanukah program that will attract 350 kids from the centre's supplementary school, the day school and from the surrounding community.

"The kids here enjoy being part of their community. That you wouldn't get anywhere else but in the JCC," Lazar said.

Tuition runs around $8,000 per student, a few hundred dollars more than at other Jewish day schools. The Bloor JCC is providing two classrooms and an office free of charge, helping to keep costs down.

The DJDS has received a $300,000 grant from the Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education (PEJE), a U.S.-based philanthropic organization that includes Charles and Andrea Bronfman and Edgar Bronfman among its contributors. But the grant is conditional – the school must match each payment. It already submitted its first $75,000 cheque and is working to accumulate a second $75,000 by a January deadline. Volunteer fundraisers are approaching potential benefactors. "We're partway there," Lazar said.

Despite the financial crunch, the school has heady plans for the future. Lazar can foresee the day when it proves so popular it will require much more space on a third floor at the Bloor JCC.

And further in the future, "our dream would be to culminate with a trip to Israel in Grade 8," she said.

Kids enjoy recess at the Downtown Jewish Day School.

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Greater Toronto Area

Son seeks Israel's recognition of father's post-war efforts

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto man is trying to prove, so far without success, that his late father deserves an Israeli government award in recognition of his efforts to help Jewish refugees reach pre-state Israel after World War II.

Mark Adler claims that his father Abram, a Holocaust survivor who died in 1982 at the age of 53, led a large number of European Jews through the Austrian Alps to Palestine between 1945 and 1947.

Abram Adler, he says, was a member of the Brichah (Mossad Aliyah Bet), an organized underground operation which illegally moved upwards of 180,000 Holocaust survivors out of Europe to the British mandate in Palestine.

In honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, the Decorations Unit of the Ministry of Defence ran ads in Israeli newspapers urging individuals who had been active in Brichah to apply for the State of Israel Fighter's Award.

On behalf of his father, Adler applied for a posthumous medal. But much to his surprise and disappointment, the Decorations Unit has rejected the application.

"I feel this is wrong," he said. "I'm only asking for what he rightfully deserves."

About a year ago, Adler, 36, responded to an advertisement placed in the *Jerusalem Post* by the Decorations Unit. He had reason to believe that his father, a native of Lodz, Poland, who immigrated to Canada in December 1947, was eligible for the award.

Abram, who owned a shoe store after his arrival in Toronto, had occasionally told him about his exploits. And he possesses some 50 photographs of him in his Brichah uniform taken with other members of his unit.

Adler forwarded his application to Asher Ben Nathan, who was in charge of the Brichah operation in Austria, and who was later Israel's ambassador to Germany.

Ben Nathan, he says, informed him that there was no problem and that his father would receive a medal. But six months later, Ben Nathan backtracked, claiming that a medal would not be issued because neither he nor his friends in the Brichah could recall his father.

Stung by the rejection, Adler, the director of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, enlisted the support of Yehudi Kinar, Israel's consul general in Toronto, and Paul Michaels, the Canada-Israel Committee's director of communications.

Kinar sent the particulars of his tale to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, while Michaels wrote Ben Nathan, who did not reply to his query.

Last December, Michaels contacted the Decorations Unit, but was told that Ben Nathan was unknown to them. Michaels then attempted to contact the director of the Decorations Unit, Mayer Golan, but he was unavailable.

Several months later, Adler received a letter from Golan in which he denied his bid for a medal.

Last May, frustrated by the bureaucratic nightmare in which he found himself, Adler dispatched a letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, outlining his case.

Adler ended the letter with this appeal: "You indicated in a public speech to mark Yom Hashoah that Israel has not done enough to remember those who made sacrifices for the creation of the state. My father was one of those young men who made this sacrifice by serving in the Brichah, and yet he is being denied."

In response, Adler received a letter on June 7 from Bobby Brown, Netanyahu's advisor for Diaspora affairs. Brown said that his father's eligibility for an award would be "carefully reviewed."

On July 29, in a subsequent letter to Adler, Brown wrote: "The name of Abram Adler did not appear on the list of Brichah activists, and none of the Brichah members in Austria remember your father. Furthermore, the uniform which your father was wearing in the photograph you sent Mr. Ben Nathan was not identified as that of the Brichah.

"In light of the inability to prove your father's participation in the Brichah enterprise, we are unable to grant him the Fighter's Award."

Undeterred, Adler went to Israel in August, where he met with David Bar-Ilan, Netanyahu's communications advisor. From Bar-Ilan, Adler heard that the Prime Minister's Office was not responsible for such matters.

In a meeting with Brown, Adler showed him photographs of his father in the company of Brichah operatives. Brown, however, said that the photos did not conclusively prove anything, and that he should produce a person or persons who personally worked with Abram in the Brichah.

In an interview last week, Adler said that he knows no such person, and relies on his father's integrity that he, in fact, belonged to the Brichah.

Adler pointed out that the Hebrew University historian, Yehuda Bauer, an authority on the Brichah who has written a book on the subject, told him that Brichah had never compiled a list of its members in Austria.

Adler said that he intends to pursue the matter until his father's deeds are officially recognized and he receives a State of Israel Fighter's Award.

Both Michaels and Kinar are convinced that Adler has a compelling case.

Reached in Vancouver, where he was travelling, Kinar said, "His story sounds plausible."

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Photos by Orah Buck

Holiday Delights

Dairy dishes also a part of Chanukah tradition

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

While *most* Jews (you know the joke, two Jews, three opinions) agrees that latkes and soufganiot are the most popular Chanukah foods, a less well known, yet no less popular Chanukah tradition is to serve cheeses and other dairy dishes. The serving of these foods is in honor of Judith whose story is found in the Apocrypha. Judith invited an enemy general (one who was planning on destroying her town) to dinner. She fed him huge amounts of cheese and wine and after he fell over in a drunken stupor she beheaded him. His soldiers fled in terror and the town was saved. It's said that it was Judith's bravery that inspired the Maccabees.

DRUNKEN APPLE LATKES

2 cups biscuit mix
1 tbsp. sugar
½ tsp. cinnamon
¼ cup golden raisins
½ cup cider or apple juice
¼ cup milk
3 tbsp. apple liquor
2 eggs
Oil for frying
1 red apple, unpeeled, cored and sliced in wafer-thin wedges
Cinnamon sugar to sprinkle

In a bowl, combine biscuit mix, sugar, cinnamon and raisins. Make a well in the centre and add cider or apple juice, milk, apple liquor and eggs.

Stir to mix. Heat about ⅛ inch oil in a large skillet over medium heat until a drop of the mixture sizzles. Drop about 2 tablespoons of the apple mixture for each latke into hot oil. Place 2 to 3 apple wedges on top. Press down to flatten slightly with the back of a wooden spoon. Fry over medium heat for 2 to 3 minutes longer until the second side is nicely browned. Serve hot, sprinkled with cinnamon sugar. Makes 10 to 12.

POTATO CHEESE LATKE

4 cups peeled, grated potatoes (See directions)
1 medium onion, finely chopped, about cup (See directions)
4 finely chopped cloves garlic
1 tbsp. finely chopped cilantro leaves
1 cup ricotta cheese (nonfat or low-fat is fine)
½ cup grated carrot
1 tsp. cumin or more, to taste
1 tsp. salt
Freshly ground pepper to taste
2 lightly beaten eggs
½ cup matzo meal or breadcrumbs
8 to 10 tbsp. oil

In a food processor or by hand grate the potatoes along with the onions. Place the grated vegetables in a colander set over a bowl. Let the vegetables drain until they no longer squish when you press down. Pour the liquid out of the bowl, taking care not to pour out the potato starch which has accumulated at the bottom of the bowl. Scoop out the starch and add back to the grated vegetable shreds.

Mix all ingredients in a bowl. Heat a large skillet and place 2 to 3 tablespoons of oil in it. Use about ½ cup of batter for each pancake and use a spatula to flatten the batter to about ½ inch thick. Fry until well browned, then flip pancake and brown other side. Add additional oil for additional pancakes.

This batter should make about 16 pancakes. The cooked ones can be kept warm on a baking sheet in a 300 degree oven until all pancakes are ready.

SOUFGANIOT WITH APPLES

¼ cup milk
½ cup sugar
¼ cup oil
2 eggs
3 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. salt
2½ cups flour
½ cup raisins or chopped apples
¼ cup sugar mixed with ½ teaspoon cinnamon

Continued on page 38

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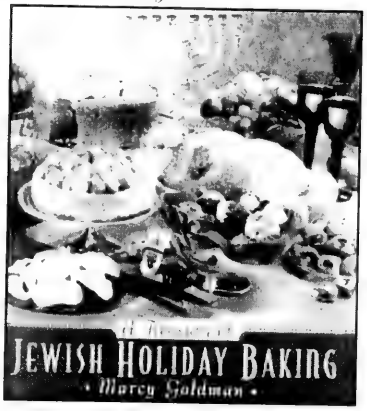

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Holiday Delights

Cookbook recipes delicious — even if they're healthy

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

A lot can happen in ten years. Just ask Rosie Schwartz. Macmillan Canada has just published the tenth anniversary edition of her popular cookbook *The Enlightened Eater* - and there are a whole lot of changes.

When the book first came out, she told *The CJN*, the focus was on what you shouldn't eat. "Now, we focus on what we should eat, such as grains, fruits, vegetables, and low fat, rather than no-fat foods."

As well, Schwartz said, the emphasis is on "being healthy and feeling well," rather than just on maintaining a healthy weight.

She said that we are just beginning to understand how proper eating can prevent diseases. For instance, she said, in Japan, the health danger is not heart disease, as it is in North America, but stroke, because of the high sodium diet.

Awareness, and a desire to change one's lifestyle, is the first step in changing behavior around food, she said. "You can't maintain extremes of behavior." Rather, she said, concentrate on learning to adapt food to individual preferences, and on cutting down, rather than on cutting favorite foods out entirely.

Other advice from Schwartz includes that eating five servings of fruit and vegetables every day (especially food like tomatoes and broccoli) will lower your blood pressure, and having a proper breakfast.

There is more awareness now that for the elderly "the ability to be mobile and active, and to fight disease depends on proper nutrition within a diet lower in calories," she explained.

The Enlightened Eater is much more than a recipe book. There is extensive discussion of food categories, nutrition, weight loss and gain, ways to keep the goodness and nutritional value in food, and physiology. The detailed recipe and subject indexes allow the reader to choose a dish, and then go back to the article about it, so as to get a better perspective.

Schwartz also discusses common beliefs and food fads. For instance, she noted, it has been discovered that garlic has many medicinal benefits, like lowering the risk of breast and stomach cancer, regulating blood pressure, decreasing blood pressure, lowering cholesterol and fighting infection. However, these benefits only come from eating garlic, not from garlic pills.

Lest it appear that *The Enlightened Eater* is a textbook, it is also a font of delicious recipes – even if they are healthy.

MANGO SORBET
Serves 6
(Almost any soft-fleshed fruit works well in this ice, which is high in vitamins, minerals, and fibre.)

3/4 cup granulated sugar
3/4 cup water
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tbsp. orange or peach liqueur (opt.)
3 cups mango puree, from about 3 large mangoes*

Combine sugar and water in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring, and boil for 2 minutes. Cool, then transfer to a medium sized stainless-steel bowl or metal pan. Stir in the remaining ingredients and mix well. Cover with plastic wrap and freeze until firm.

Remove sorbet from freezer. Place in a food processor or blender and process until the mixture is slushy but firm. Return to the freezer until needed. To serve, remove from the freezer about 15 min. before serving time.

*To puree the mangoes, peel, cut away the flesh from the stone, then process in a food processor or blender until smooth.

MACARONI AND CHEESE WITH SPINACH
Serves 4

4 tsp. soft margarine
1 small onion, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
3 tbsp. all-purpose flour
2 1/2 cups skim milk
pinch cayenne
1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
salt and pepper to taste
1 cup grated low-fat cheese
2 cups elbow macaroni, cooked and drained
1 pkg (10 oz.) fresh spinach, cooked, well drained, and chopped

Continued on page 33

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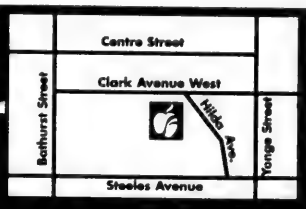

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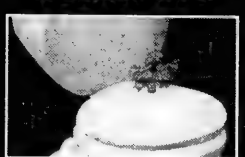

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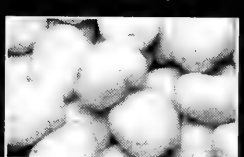

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Holiday Delights

Pepper's versatility a happy discovery in veggie-land

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Every so often, I decide that I want to be a vegetarian. Not a "give up eggs and butter and anything that even remotely resembles meat" kind of vegetarian, but rather, a "just eliminate meat for a while" vegetarian. The feeling only lasts a day or two, but it's usually during that time frame that I discover some really great recipes.

During my last foray into the land of vegetables, I fell in love with peppers. I think that they are one of the most versatile vegetables available today. In one dish they're red and sweet, the next they're spicy and savory, and the next they're three-alarm hot.

GARBANZO AND ROASTED RED PEPPER DIP

16 oz. can garbanzo beans (chick-peas), rinsed and drained
7 oz. roasted red peppers, rinsed and drained
1/3 cup yogurt
1 small clove garlic, chopped
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper

Process all of the ingredients in a food processor or blender and process until smooth. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving. Makes 2 cups.

MEDITERRANEAN PEPPERS AND POTATOES

2 tsp. olive oil
1/2 cup chopped onion
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 cup minced seeded plum tomatoes
2 cups cubed peeled baking potatoes
1 cup red bell pepper, 1-inch pieces
1 cup yellow bell pepper, 1-inch pieces
1 cup orange bell pepper, 1-inch pieces
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. black pepper
10 1/2 ounces low-salt chicken broth
1/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh basil
1/4 cup sliced pimento-stuffed olives

SWEET POTATO KUGEL WITH RED PEPPERS

4 large (2 lb) sweet potatoes, peeled
1 medium onion, quartered
1/2 to 3/4 cup parsley sprigs
1 large red bell pepper, cored and diced in 1/2-inch pieces
1/2 cup ground almonds
1/4 cup chicken or vegetable broth
2 eggs
2 egg whites
3 tbsp. vegetable oil
1/4 tsp. salt
1 tsp. white pepper

Preheat oven to 350. Spray a 2 1/2-quart baking dish with non-stick vegetable spray. Cut sweet potatoes into 2-inch chunks. Place in food processor with onion, and chop coarsely (may need to be done in two batches). Add parsley, and process to chop sweet potatoes finely. Spoon into a large bowl.

Add red bell pepper, almonds, broth, eggs and egg whites, 1 tbsp., salt and pepper. Mix thoroughly. Spoon into prepared baking dish. Drizzle remaining oil over. Cover lightly with foil. Bake in preheated oven 1 1/4 hours, removing foil last 15 minutes. Kugel should be nicely browned and vegetables tender.

To make in advance: Place a layer of wax paper on surface, then cover tightly with foil. Freeze. Transfer to refrigerator 24 hours before needed. Remove wax paper, cover again with foil and place in preheated 350 oven for 40 minutes or until heated through.

ROASTED RED PEPPER SOUP WITH ELEPHANT GARLIC AND BASIL

4-5 red bell peppers
3 cloves elephant garlic
1 cup tomato sauce
1/3 cup puree (from first paragraph of recipe)
2 cups chicken stock (or vegetable stock)
1 tbsp. honey
Lemon pepper
5-6 fresh basil leaves

Blacken the red peppers under broiler until the skins are charred and shriveled. Bake the elephant garlic at 350, leaving the skins on until garlic is soft, and skins are quite dark but not burned (15 to 20 minutes). Remove peppers & garlic from oven and place them in a paper bag, fold over the top and leave them in there for about 15 minutes until skins peel off both the peppers and garlic. Puree peppers

Continued on page 34

Keeping up with *The Enlightened Eater*

Continued from page 31

1/2 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese

Melt margarine in medium-sized saucepan. Add onion and garlic and cook over medium heat until soft. Stir in the flour and cook, stirring, for about 1 minute. Whisk in the milk, stirring until the sauce is smooth and thickened. Season with cayenne, nutmeg, salt and pepper. Stir in the cheese and cook until it melts.

Place half the macaroni in a medium-sized ovenproof dish. Top with a layer of spinach. Spoon half the sauce over the spinach. Top with the remaining macaroni and sauce. Sprinkle with Parmesan. Bake at 350 for about 20 minutes, or until golden brown.

Heat oil in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onion; saute 10 minutes. Add garlic, and saute 1 minute. Add the tomato, and cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Add potato, bell peppers, salt, black pepper, and broth; bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 20 minutes or until potato is tender, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; stir in basil and olives. Let stand, covered, 20 minutes and serve. Serves 8.

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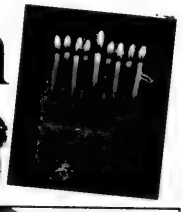
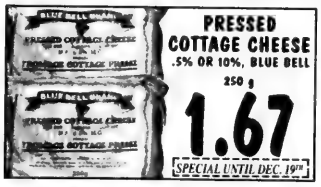
Happy Chanukah
to all our friends, from all of us at Food Basics and may the Joy of the Season remain with you throughout the coming year





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Holiday Delights

Peppers can be sliced, diced, minced or pureed in recipes

Continued from page 33

and garlic in food processor until thick but not chunky. Toss in basil leaves and puree.

Transfer puree to a pot, add honey, tomato sauce, chicken or vegetable stock. Simmer till heated through, add lemon pepper to season, and adjust to taste.

RED PEPPER LATKES

2 roasted red bell peppers
½ cup fresh or frozen corn kernels
1 shallot, finely chopped
Olive oil
2 tbsp. butter
Salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1 cup whipping cream
1½ cups flour
1 tbsp. baking powder
1 cup milk
3 eggs, separated
2 tbsp. minced chives
8 sprigs cilantro, leaves only

Chop 1 bell pepper into small dice. Set aside. Cut remaining bell pepper in half. Cut 1 half into very thin strips. Mince other half almost to consistency of puree, and set aside. Saute corn, diced bell pepper, bell pepper strips and shallot in 1 tablespoon olive oil and butter for 2 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste and stir in whipping cream. Simmer over medium-low heat 15 minutes. Set aside.

Sift flour, baking powder and 1 tsp. salt into bowl. Stir in milk and egg yolks. Beat egg whites until they form soft peaks, then fold them into the egg yolk mixture. Fold in reserved minced peppers. Lightly brush skillet with olive oil and heat over medium heat until drop of water sizzles. Spoon or pour 3-inch latkes into skillet and cook over medium heat, 2 to 3 minutes per side.

To serve, place warm pepper-and-corn sauce on each plate and top with 2 latkes. Garnish with chives and cilantro.

Scones can be an eclectic treat

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Every now and then I get tired of cookies (hard to believe, I know, but it happens). It's at this point that I turn to one of my favorite alternatives, scones. Quintessentially English, the origin of the word scone is debatable. Some say it comes from the Dutch word schoonbrot (beautiful bread) and others say it comes from Stone (Scone) of Destiny, where the kings of Scotland were crowned. Originally triangular-shaped with a soft inside, they were cut in half and served warm with butter and jam or lemon curd.

Scones are usually dairy, and while not the first (or second or third) thing you think of when the word kosher desserts come up, they can be made pareve. They are, however, best when made using milk, cream, buttermilk, sour cream, or yogurt. They can also be very eclectic. Raisins, dried or fresh fruit, chocolate, herbs, cheese and vegetables in any combination are just a few of the ingredients you can add to your scones. Using different flours (both white and whole wheat), cornmeal and oatmeal can also create endless combinations.

Scones are not difficult to make. The most important thing to remember is to *handle the dough as little as possible.* Don't use an electric mixer because overworking the dough can cause a heavy, dense and tough scone. Try not to use too much flour when rolling them out and they freeze really well.

CRANBERRY SCONE

¾ cup buttermilk or plain yogurt
1 large egg
3 cup flour
4 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt
1 stick cold, unsalted butter, cut up
1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries
½ cup granulated sugar
1 tsp. grated orange peel
1 tbsp. butter at room temperature

Heat oven to 375°. Measure buttermilk in 2 cup glass measure, beat in egg with fork. Put flour, baking powder, soda and salt into a large bowl. Stir to mix well. Add 8 tablespoons butter and cut in with a pastry blender or rub in with your fingers, till mixture looks like fine granules. Add the cranberries, sugar,

Continued on page 38

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STRUB'S Pickle Corner

Vol. 1, No. 8 • December 10, 1998

Hello! How are ya'? What's cooking? Thanks to all of you who have written me over the past eight months. I feel very honoured that you have taken time out of your busy schedules to send me your praises, your queries and your criticisms. I look forward to receiving and answering many more letters in 1999. May you and your families celebrate a Happy Chanukah and enjoy the New Year festivities with health and happiness.

Letter of the Month

So many people have asked about my Pickle Guy T-shirts and Hats, that I thought it's time to make them available to everyone. Now, you can order your very own Hat and T-shirt, by completing the order form below and mailing it to me. I will send them to you within six to eight weeks. "What about Chanukah?" you ask. Just cut out this handy Chanukah gift certificate to let your loved ones know that their gift will be arriving soon.

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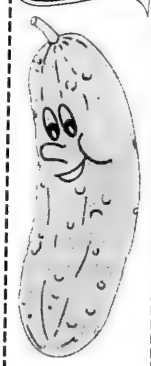

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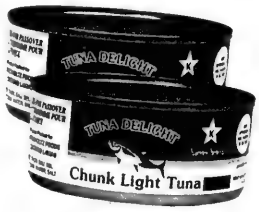

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Dairy scones are by far the best

Continued from page 34

and orange peel; toss lightly to distribute evenly. Add buttermilk mixture. Stir with a fork until a soft dough forms.

Turn out dough onto a lightly floured board and give 5 to 6 kneads, just until well mixed. Form dough into a ball, cut into 8 wedges. Form each wedge into a ball and place on an ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until medium brown. Remove to wire rack. Brush with the 1 tablespoon of soft butter. Let cool, uncovered, at least 1 hour before serving. Serve with jams, jellies and/or plain or lemon yogurt. Makes 8 scones.

DRIED CHERRY BUTTERMILK SCONES

½ cup buttermilk plus ¼ cup for brushing the scones
1 large egg
3 tbsp. light brown sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
2¼ cups cake flour (not self-rising)
1 tbsp. double-acting baking powder
½ tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt
¼ stick (6 tbsp.) cold unsalted butter, cut into bits
½ cup dried sour cherries (available at specialty foods shops)
granulated sugar for sprinkling

Preheat oven to 400. In a bowl whisk together ½ cup of the buttermilk, the egg, the brown sugar, and the vanilla until the mixture is combined; set it aside. In another bowl stir together the flour, the baking powder, the baking soda, and the salt and blend in the butter until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Stir in the cherries and the buttermilk mixture with a fork until the mixture just forms a sticky but manageable dough. Knead the dough gently for 30 seconds on a lightly floured surface, pat it into a ¾-inch-thick round, and cut it into 8 wedges. On an ungreased baking sheet brush the wedges with the remaining ¼ cup buttermilk and sprinkle them with the granulated sugar. Bake the scones in the middle of the preheated oven for 15 to 18 minutes, or until they are golden. Makes 8 scones.

LEMON CREAM SCONES

2 cups all purpose flour
¼ cup plus 2 tbsp. sugar
1 tbsp. baking powder
½ tsp. salt
¾ cup chopped dried apricots (about 4½ ounces)
1 tbsp. plus 1 tsp. grated lemon peel
1¼ cups whipping cream
3 tbsp. unsalted butter, melted

Preheat oven to 425. Mix 2 cups flour, ¼ cup sugar, 1 tablespoon baking powder and ½ tsp. salt in large bowl. Stir in apricots and 1 tablespoon lemon peel. Add whipping cream and stir just until dough forms. Turn dough out onto lightly floured surface. Knead gently just until dough holds together. Form dough into 10-inch-diameter, ½-inch-thick round. Cut into 12 wedges.

Transfer wedges to large baking sheet, spacing evenly. Combine remaining 2 tbsp. sugar and 1 tsp. lemon peel in small bowl. Brush scones with melted butter. Sprinkle with sugar mixture. Bake scones until light golden brown, about 15 minutes. Transfer to rack and cool slightly. (Can be prepared one day ahead. Cool completely. Wrap in foil; store at room temperature.) Serve scones warm or at room temperature. Makes 12.

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Soufganiot with apples

Continued from page 28

In large bowl on low speed, mix milk, sugar, oil, eggs, baking powder, salt and 1 cup of the flour. Scrape bowl constantly and mix only about 30 seconds until combined. Increase speed to medium and continue mixing for 2 minutes scraping bowl as needed. Stir in remaining flour and fruit. In a high sided fryer heat 2 to 3 inches of oil. Drop batter by teaspoons full into hot oil. As the soufganiot rise turn them. Fry for about 2 minutes on each side or until golden brown. Remove and drain on paper towels or brown bags. (These are best if available.) Roll the puffs in sugar mixture before serving.

Community Matters

UJA Campaign Heads for the Finish

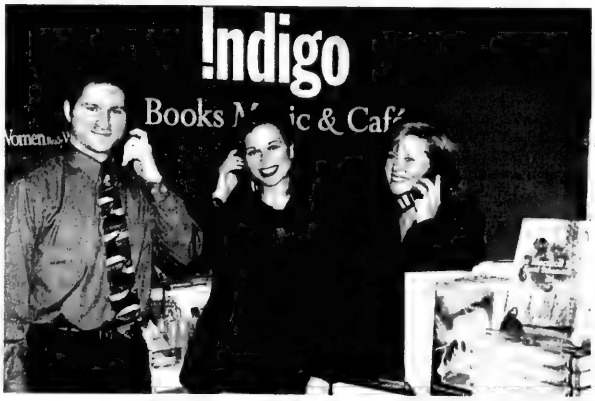
UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty is racing to the finish line next week, with hundreds of campaigners making calls to contributors from their homes, offices and even their cars.

It's the final lap of what is being touted as UJA Federation's most successful fundraising drive ever. The Campaign for Fifty, with a $50 million annual fundraising goal, officially closes on December 14, but donors who have yet to be reached will still be contacted.

Momentum has been growing in recent months. October and November telethons raised close to $1.5 million and campaign pledges have grown an average 20% from last year.

The final series of *Dare to Dream* telethons, currently being held throughout the city, include venues such as Indigo Books Music & Cafe at the Yonge and Eglington location.

Fashion Division campaigner Paul Silvertown, who went as far as calling a supporter during one of his business flights, has been keeping in touch with dozens of donors from his office at Incredible Clothing Company during his free time. "I find that many contributors are willing to give their time as well as their money to a worthy cause."



(l-r) Ephram Spiegelman, Marketing Manager, Indigo Books Music & Cafe, Riki Lichtman, UJA Federation volunteer and Janet Pickell, Marketing Consultant, Bell Mobility, which donated phone rental and air time during December 6 - 10 telethons.

"The Campaign for Fifty has been such a great success because people are willing to go the extra mile when they see the need," says Howard Lichtman, who is co-chairing the current *Dare to Dream* telethons with his wife Riki, Tammy Anklewicz, Sharon Perlmutter and Miriam Rosenberg.

"The overall response has been very positive," notes Stephen Goldhar, who co-chairs UJA Federation's Developers Campaign with Zelic Altman. "I believe many of our new donors will remain committed," adds Goldhar.

The Campaign for Fifty, led by Larry Tanenbaum and Brent Belzberg, along with Vice Chairs Dr. Howard Price, Glennie Lindenberg and Abe Glowinsky, will allocate increased contributions to programs that strengthen Jewish identity, assist the vulnerable and rescue Jews around the world.

If you would like to help UJA Federation reach its goal, you can call in your pledge by dialing (416) 631-5705 or by mail to UJA Federation, 4600 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario, M2R 3V2.

Paul Silvertown (left) and Abe Glowinsky at their Downsview office.

JEWISH toronto

*The families of **Cory Sterling** (L) and **Jesse Glowinsky** have one more reason to be proud of their sons, who recently celebrated their bar mitzvahs. The two grade 8 **Leo Baeck** students raised more than $2,000 for **UJA Federation**, by inviting their school chums to make charitable donations in their honour in lieu of gifts. Cory and Jesse learned about the importance of tzedakah from their parents **Carole** and **Jay Sterling** and **Abe** and **Janice Glowinsky**. Some of the funds will be used for summer camp scholarships for needy children.*

Glowinsky Photo: Hudson Taylor. Sterling Photo: Signature Photography.

Celebration of Miracles

Junior UJA is inviting kids of all ages to a **Chanukah Party** and **Treasure Hunt**, Sunday, **December 13, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**, in the lobby of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street. Festivities include entertainment, latkes, clowns, prizes and much more! **Children under 5 require adult accompaniment.**

Toy Drive

UJA Federation's **Young Professionals Network** and **Jewish Family and Child Service** will be collecting gently used and new toys at the Junior UJA Celebration of Miracles Chanukah party, **(see above for details)**, to make the holiday brighter for needy children. **Alternative drop-off** - UJA Federation, 5th floor, 4600 Bathurst Street, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm, Mon. - Thurs., Fri. until 3:30 pm.

Spiritual Success

Rabbi **Michael Skobac** and Dr. **Elliott Malamet** lifted the spirits of more than 100 participants at a recent panel discussion sponsored by **UJA Federation's Young Professionals Network**, chaired by **Sarit Goldman** and **Betty Gerstein**. Campaign for Fifty Co-Chair **Brent Belzberg** offered the group additional spiritual guidance with an invitation to explore volunteer opportunities at UJA Federation. The program was chaired by **Lesley Arbus** and **Kirk Wisemayer**.

Mazel-Tov

Congratulations to **Dr. Anne Golden, President, United Way**, who was recently honoured with the **Woman on the Move** award and Global Television's **Newsmaker of the Year** award for her outstanding professional achievements and contributions to community.

It's on the Web!

For complete information on the latest news about ***Jewish Toronto***, its organizations, activities and special events take a tour of our Website.

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By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Dec. 14 is deadline for Dec. 24 issue, and Monday, Dec. 21 is deadline for Jan. 7 issue.

As there will be no issue on Dec. 31, all items that would ordinarily have appeared in the Dec. 31 column, will be included in the Dec. 24 issue. Please be sure to submit announcements by or on Dec. 14. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Dec. 10

MIDEAST PROSPECTS

Canadian Institute of International Affairs, Toronto branch, presentation by **Patrick Martin**, Middle East correspondent, *The Globe & Mail*, on Mideast Prospects: Oslo to Wye to Where?, 5-7 p.m., Hart House, 7 Hart House Circle, University of Toronto. RSVP to **Lisa Marcus** 487-6830.

Saturday, Dec. 12

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Congregation Beth Haminyan Chanukah celebration following services which begin 9:30 a.m. at West Preparatory Public School, 70 Ridge Hill Dr. Program includes Kiddush, children's play, Chanukah story. 783-3011.

Sunday, Dec. 13

CHANUKAH WONDERLAND

A kids' paradise (face painting, clowns, carnival, prizes); Jewish Expo, boutiques, menorah lighting, food, noon to 4:30 p.m., Thornhill Square Shopping Centre Bayview and John). Sponsored by Chabad Lubavitch of Markham and the shopping centre. 905-886-0420.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Na'amat annual holiday bazaar and auction, bargains on clothes, gift items, toys, games, linens, housewares, live and silent auction, food, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd. Door prize, $2,000 cash. 636-5425.

CHANUKAH FESTIVITIES

Winchevsky Centre hosts a community Chanukah celebration featuring the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir and the children of the Morris Winchevsky School. Chanukah music, activities, candlelighting, stories, 10:30 a.m., 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Members $3 per person, $15 per family. Non-members $7 per person, $18 per family, plus contribution to pot-luck lunch. Latkes and drink provided.

VARIETY SHOW

Chanukah Variety Show with juggler/comedian **Daniel Cole**; music, magic and ventriloquism of **Philip** and **Henry**; Dan the Music Man, candlelighting, latkes, 10:30 a.m., Adath Israel Congregation. Presented by brotherhood and congregational school. $3.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. Come listen, come tell. All welcome. Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. $4. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

HAPPY CHANUKAH

Beth Tzedec Chanukah party with DooDoo the clown, plus songs, games, pottery, clothes painting, bingo, crafts, latkes, lots of fun, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. $5.

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Shaarei Tefillah Congregation, 3600 Bathurst St., Chanukah celebration, first day of Chanukah, includes slide presentation, music, refreshments, special children's show featuring a clown and treats for all the children, 4-6 p.m.

CASINO RAMA

Jewish Women International, Orah chapter, trip to Casino Rama, bus leaves Promenade Shopping Mall 9:30 a.m., departs Casino Rama 4 p.m. $6 includes lunch. Reserve. **Rhonda** 905-889-0432 or **Gloria** 739-6595.

LITTLE FINGERS MUSIC

Free children's concert featuring **Charlie Kert**, 1:30 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. Sponsored by

Continued on page 41

Price Chopper
Happy Chanukah!
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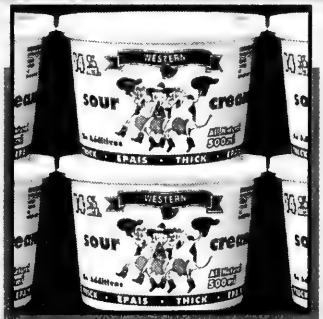

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What's New

Continued from page 40

City of Toronto Parks and Recreation.

CHANUKAH PARTY

All the latkes you can eat. Dance to the sweet and sour sounds of **Ronnie Wiseman**, "The King of Jewish Reggae," and his band Kedusha, 7 p.m., Anshei Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrew St. (Kensington Market). $5. Children free. 595-5723

Monday, Dec. 14

THE HABIMA PLAYERS

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of United Jewish People's Order Chanukah program, Laugh with the Habima Players, a seniors' drama group under the direction of **Minabelle Haneford**, 12:30 p.m., at the Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Light lunch. $5.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International (40+ singles) membership drive and Chanukah party, 6:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. $6. **Lil** 905-771-8386.

Tuesday, Dec. 15

ITZHAK PERLMAN

New Fraternal Jewish Association Chanukah celebration features **Itzhak Perlman** in the recent film *In the Fiddler's House*, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St. 661-1827.

MUSICAL LUNCHEON

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood meeting, a musical luncheon with **Vladimir Gurevich** and **Larissa Rosenfeld**, 12:30 p.m. Reserve. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

CHANUKAH EVENT

An entertaining fashion demonstration of comfortable knitwear at Adath Sholom Sisterhood's Chanukah celebration, 8 p.m., 864 Sheppard Ave. W. $3. 635-0131.

Wednesday, Dec. 16

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group is joined by the Senior Chaverim of Beth Tzedec for Musical Memories, with **Jack Garson**. 1 p.m. at the temple (note change of time). $2. Reserve. **Shelly** 789-3291, ext. 233.

Thursday, Dec. 17

MAON NOAM PARTY

Maon Noam Chanukah party featuring a song and dance performance, storytelling, and of course, latkes, 7:30 p.m., at Bnai Torah Congregation, 465 Patricia Ave.

And What Else Is New

AJLAC CHANUKAH PARTY

AJLAC (Latin-Judeo Association of Canada) – Torah in Spanish Chanukah celebration, 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 20. **Flori** 590-9174 or **Miriam** 905-889-4901.

ADULT HEBREW CLASSES

Temple Sinai adult Hebrew classes. $85 members, $115 non-members. To register, 487-4161.

Thursday, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Jan. 7 to June 3. Requirement: completion of beginners session or prior knowledge of Hebrew letters. Focus is on siddur reading.

Saturdays, 8:45-9:45 a.m., Jan. 9 to June 5, multi-level class using siddur as text. Geared to intermediate level.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Workshop entitled Men are for Mars and Women are for Venus, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 7-10 p.m.

The Power of Kabbalah – documentary film, Thursdays, Dec. 17 and Dec. 24, 7 p.m.

Kabbalah One course begins Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m., for 10 weeks.

JEWISH SINGLES

Jewish Singles 20s, 30s, 40s, looking for something to do on Dec. 25? A Shabbat evening with **Allan Gould** speaking on Laughing to Keep from Crying: The Jewish Joke and Jewish Humor at the Leah Posluns Theatre. $30 (by pre-registration only), includes full dinner. Sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. 905-709-1900, ext. 222.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave. winter courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew, all levels: Monday mornings, Jan. 18-April 19; Wednesday mornings Jan. 20-April 21; Thursday evenings, Jan. 21-April 22. Register. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

CHANUKAH PARTY

Congregation Keshet Shalom Chanukah party, Saturday, Dec. 19. Havdalah service 7 p.m., candlelighting and music 7:30. Bring your own chanukiyah, eight candles and pareve dish, latkes, donuts or other dessert. Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 925-1408.

TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Shomer Israel Congregation traditional heimish minyan welcomes all non-affiliated. No dues. Shabbat 9 a.m. Shabbat Minchah study class with **Rabbi Sheldon Schwartz**. Sunday minyan 8:30 a.m. 60 Rockford Rd. **David** 256-1600.

KIDS YIDDISH CLASSES

Free Yiddish classes for junior kindergarten to Grade 8, Sundays 9:30 a.m. to noon, Associated Hebrew School, 6100 Leslie St. Sponsored by Toronto District and York Region school boards and Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation. **Naomi** 635-2883, ext. 150.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 46

FOR SENIORS

Senior Haverim of Beth Tzedec join Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group for musical program featuring **Jack Garson**, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1 p.m. Check details under date.

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group Chanukah celebration features the Professional Musicians International – klezmer, gypsy rhythms, soft pop, jazz, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. $9. RSVP 221-3433.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip postponed to Purim. Chanukah entertainment with **Lenka Lichtenberg**, Monday, Dec. 21, 12:30 p.m., light lunch. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Dorothy Bloomfield, 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israel Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 10 is a lecture by **Yonaton Kassel**, envoy to Habonim Dror; Dec. 17 bingo; Dec. 19 Chanukah dance, reserve by calling **Malka Colla** 630-5771; Dec. 31 party for members. For general information, **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334 or **Dalia** 661-4689.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 15 lecture and video presentation on Dental Care for Seniors 10 a.m.; Dec. 17 Chanukah and holiday show at Richmond Hill Country Club, leaving 1 p.m.; Dec. 20 dance; Dec. 21 Casino Rama; Dec. 31 New Year's Eve dinner and dance. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip 1999, four, six, or eight weeks. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip, Saxony Hotel, from Jan. 25 or 26, 29 days, double occupancy, $2,999.95 (Cdn), entertainment, heated pool, efficiency, deposit now or pay more for plane. Haddon Hall hotel, two months only, $2,550 (US). **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Chanukah luncheon/dance, Wednesday, Dec. 16, noon to 3 p.m. Members $10, non-members $12.

Osteoporosis Support Group informal session to review highlights of 1998 and to plan for 1999, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1:15-2:30 p.m. Resource person **Joan Turner.**

Movie matinee, *I'm Not Rappaport* with **Walter Mathau** and **Oscar Davis**, Thursday, Dec. 17, 1-3 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Dec. 15 is a Chanukah party. **Anna**.

Movie *Tootsie* Sunday, Dec. 13, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Registration has begun for JCC Winter Break Camp, Winter Fun Days, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday, Dec. 21 to Thursday, Dec. 24, and Monday, Dec. 28 to Thursday, Dec. 31. A wide range of activities, including music, sports, swimming, games. Members $27 per day, non-members $35 per day. Parents can register children for as many days as they wish.

Register for winter programs for preschoolers, children, teens, adults. Classes start week of Jan. 4.

Wednesday Wellness Night health talk, Dec. 16, Motivation in Motion. 7 p.m. Reserve.

Seniors Club: Thursday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m., **Rabbi Ron Cahana,** recently arrived from Sweden and currently rabbi of Lodzer Congregation, speaks on How to Live as a Jew in the Larger World: The Meaning of Chanukah. Thursday, Dec. 17, 1 p.m., gala Chanukah party featuring songs of **Arnie Wiskin** accompanied by **Paul Matthew** on the piano. Light lunch. Members $4, Others $6.

ISRAELI ASSOCIATION GALA

Pictured above are committee members of the recent gala of the Israeli Association of Greater Toronto. Bottom row (from left) Leah Zelver, Itia Golan, Shula Jacobi, Mary Laufer. Top row (from left) Eli Ophir, Manny Keshet, David Gerichter. (See story, Nov. 26 issue, page 16.)

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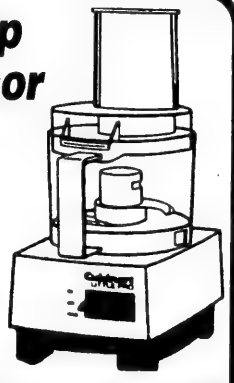

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BACK TO THE SOURCE V

FORMER "JEW FOR JESUS" SPEAKS OUT

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Larry Levey *Successful U.S. Attorney*

Larry was raised in a conservative Jewish home. While working in Los Angeles, he had a "born-again" experience and became a "Jew for Jesus". He went from professional attorney to professional missionary for a leading "Hebrew-Christian" missionary group.

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Sunday, Dec. 20, 8:00PM
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788 Marlee Ave. (at Lawrence), Toronto
Admission: $5
For info call:
(905) 761-0040

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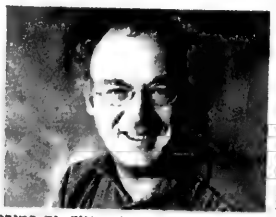
שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים



שישאר בינינו - קשה לקרוא את זה:

בשבועות האחרונים יתכן שאתם מתקשים לקרוא את "שישאר בינינו". לא, הראיה שלכם לא השתנתה וקהרב לודאי שהמשקפיים שלכם עדיין בפוקוס. אבל מה - הנייר משום מה לא סובל את מה שכתוב והיצירות האלמותיות שאני מפיק יוצאות בדפוס דהה ובלתי ברור. זה בעיקר מתסכל, כי שאר הדף, באנגלית, נראה דווקא טוב מאוד. זה כמובן קשור לכך שאת הדף שלנו אנחנו מכינים בעברית וצריך לצלם אותו בתהליך ההפקה. הגשנו תלונה. נקווה לטוב. העיקר להיות חיוביים.

אפילוג הטיסה לארץ:

מה הדבר האחרון שקורה כשנוחתים בישראל, ממש לפני שכולם נדחקים להגיע ראשונים לאוטובוס שממילא מביא אותם ביחד לטרמינל? מה קורה, כמו בסוף של כל הופעה וקונצרט כמובן, מוחאים כפיים! בתור מי שנמצא באויר יותר ממה שעל הארץ אני יכול להעיד שלא ראיתי עדיין נימוס כזה בשום מקום אחר, אם כי מספרים לי שכמו הרבה דברים טובים, זה בא מפלגיה. או בא לי רעיון שזה לא מנומס מצד הקברניט והצוות לא לחגיג ולהודות, אי לכך הצעתי לחברות התעופה את הנוסח הבא שאותו תדקלם הדיילת למיקרופון אחרי התשואות: "רבותי וגבירותי, הקברניט לוי ביקש ממני להודות לכם על מחיאות הכפיים ולמסור לכם שלמרות שאינכם יכולים לראותו הוא קם כרגע מכיסאו ומשתחווה לכם."

הקייטנה של קנלר:

זהו ספר סיפורים חדש של אתגר קרת, סופר צעיר שעומד בחוד החנית של דור חדש של כותבים בעברית. קראתי את ספריו הקודמים ונדלקתי! זהו. אם אינני טועה, ספרו הראשון שמגיע לראש רשימת רבי המכר, וזה סימן טוב. הספר עצמו קטן וצנום. סך הכל מאה עמודים באותיות יחסית גדולות ודפים פצפונים אבל מה - קמות ואיכות לא חד הוא. הכתיבה עצמה, ברמה החיצונית שלה היא "זרוקה" - זוהי ארץ ישראל חדשה, ציונית, מצחיקה. מתחת למעטה הזה-הסיפורים נגעו ללבי מאוד. הספר וסופר הם מאוד "תל-אביביים". עם כל הטוב והרע שבזה. היזה, כדי לתת לכם לטעום.

"בכל מה שנוגע לכעיה של מירון, הדעות, כמו שאומרים, חלוקות. הרופאים חושבים שזה איזה טראומה מתקופת הצבא שעלתה לו פתאום מחדש למוח, כמו גוש שצף לך פתאום באסלה הרבה אחרי שהורדת את המים. ההורים שלו מתעקשים שזה הכל מפטריות שבלע במזרח ושהפכו לו את המוח לקיש".

("הקייטנה של נמרוד", מתוך "הקייטנה של קנלר", בהוצאת כתר, 1998)

סיפור שמח עם התחלה עצובה:

כמה שהחיים מוזרים! עד לפני מספר ימים לא ידעתי מי היא לינור אברגיל בת התשע עשרה. יום אחד אני פותח את העיתון הקנדי המכובד ורואה תמונה שלה בעמוד החדשות ומספרים לי שהיא ייצגה את ישראל וזכתה ב"מיס תבל". נדמה לי שעבר בדיוק דור מאז שישראלית זכתה בתואר מלכת היופי העולמית. יופי, אני אומר לעצמי, נעים לקרוא הודעה כזו אחרי שבועות של פיגועים והרוגים ומה לא. לא עוברים יומיים ואותו עיתון מגלה לי שלפני כחודש, בשהותה באיטליה בתצוגת אופנה, נאנשה לינור באכזריות על ידי בעל סוכנות נסיעות מצרי שהציע לה טרמפ לרומא. היא התלוננה במשטרה והאיש נעצר ויישפט. חשבתי לי- איזו מסכנה! להתכונן לתחרות של חייה אחרי אונס אכזרי בארץ זרה, ועוד לוכות! זה מראה שהיא חזקה ומיוחדת. רק מה - אם לא יטפלו בזה כראוי עכשיו, השילוב של הפרסום העצום, פלוס הטראומה, פלוס הפרסום על הטראומה עלול להרוס אותה. אני מתפלל בשבילה שהיא מוקפת באנשים שאוהבים אותה ושיעשו את הדברים הנכוניםבשבילה, ולא רק כאלה שרוצים פרסום וכסף. אבל שיישאר בינינו.

On Campus

Students' adviser was outgoing, vibrant

Obituary

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

HAMILTON — Sheila Freedman, longtime adviser of the Jewish Students Association (JSA) at McMaster University, died in late October of cancer. She was 55.

"She was a wonderful, wonderful director," said Judy Schwartz, who was hired as JSA director in September. "She loved those students, and they loved her."

Freedman, a native of Toronto, attended Bathurst Heights Secondary School before entering teacher's college. Her father, Hy Kirsh, was an ordained rabbi who had immigrated from Poland.

Before moving to Hamilton with her husband Mel in 1972, Freedman taught Grade 1 at Fairmeadow Public School.

In Hamilton, she taught religious school at Temple Anshe Shalom, and later at Beth Jacob Congregation for 12 years, until last December. She was also active in Beth Jacob's sisterhood, and on one occasion gave the Sisterhood Shabbat sermon.

Her son Mark recalls tagging along to campus activities when he and his sister were younger. "It always used to surprise me to see how cool she was with [the students]," he said. "She was less like a mother than an older friend. They used to seek her out for personal advice."

A decade ago, Freedman began taking courses at McMaster toward a BA in Religious Studies. She was one course short of attaining that goal when she died, her husband told *The CJN*. The degree will be granted posthumously at spring convocation.

"She was a vibrant, outgoing individual, interested in other people," recalled her husband. "She was an excellent teacher and had a real rapport with the university students."

The JSA lounge is to be rededicated in Freedman's memory, and JSA students are setting up a fund in Freedman's name to benefit students, said Schwartz.

In addition to her husband Mel and children Amy and Mark, Freedman is survived by her brother Gerald Kirsh and mother Sylvia Kirsh.

Campus group, JVS launch career mentoring program

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS) is launching a career mentoring program in partnership with Jewish Vocational Services (JVS).

The program, called Career Connections, will match graduating and recently graduated university students with professionals working in their respective areas of interest.

The idea came about through a focus group conducted last summer by JCS, said Jason Soloway, JCS program associate. "We recognized a need to reach out to a growing number of students who have an idea where they want to go professionally, but don't know the tangible steps to get there."

Once the program gets under way – by the beginning of January, organizers project – Soloway hopes to have 35 students and 35 mentors as participants. Mentors will be sought by JVS after selected students indicate their areas of interest.

After an introductory meeting, it is expected that matched participants will meet one hour a month for six months, or more often if they like.

Mentors might offer information, emotional support and ideas, said Barbara Fish, a career counsellor at JVS.

Concrete suggestions such as the types of people the student can contact, as well as how to build a resume appropriate for that field would also be helpful, said Soloway.

Students will make contacts that could lead them to jobs that enhance their careers, he said.

So what's in it for the mentors? "I think that people generally get a good feeling from being helpful to others," said Fish, noting that often people want to mentor others as a type of repayment for having been mentored themselves.

The experience can also provide an opportunity for them to reconnect with people in their field, and they may even pick up new ideas or techniques from the students, she added.

Pearl Gropper Berman, assistant executive director of JCS, sees the project, which is funded by UJA Federation, as a bridge between the students and the Jewish community.

"I think it's important that the students know the community's there for them, that Jewish Campus Services is offering more than just social programs and that Jewish Vocational Services is accessible for them," she said.

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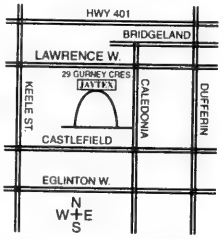

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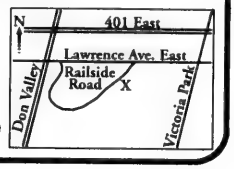

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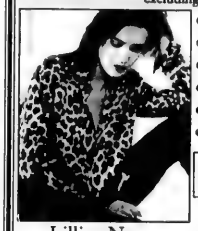

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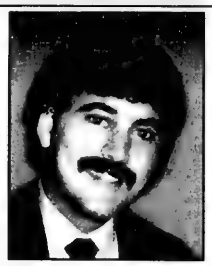

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CJC backs hate law proposals

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress is applauding a series of proposals that would toughen Canada's anti-hate legislation.

The proposals, advanced by a working group representing federal and provincial attorneys general, would remove denial of the Holocaust as a potential "truth" defence to a charge of promoting hate. The proposed reforms would also make it a crime to possess hate propaganda for the purposes of distributing it and would create a new crime for the desecration of houses of worship and cemeteries. Other proposed changes would allow for the seizure of computer hard drives that stored hate propaganda and for the expansion of the groups protected from hate propaganda.

"I have received support from the federal and provincial attorneys general to expand the groups protected from hate propaganda and to update the Criminal Code to address hate crime," British Columbia Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh stated in a news release.

"In supporting this package, the justice ministers showed great sensitivity to the concerns of vulnerable minorities in our society," commented Mark Weintraub, chair of Congress' national community relations committee. "They also understood the need to upgrade the Criminal Code to make our laws more reflective of the demographic reality in Canada," he said.

Congress President Moshe Ronen said "identifying the Holocaust as an historically recognized act of genocide in law will send a critical message that Holocaust denial is unacceptable in Canada."

Elissa Lieff, senior counsel in the criminal law policy section of the Department of Justice, declined to comment on the reported recommendations. She said federal Justice Department lawyers will study the proposals to determine whether it violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and would forward their findings to the minister.

The proposals may eventually be introduced to parliament in the form of a bill, she added.

Students pitch in

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The students at the Gray Academy of Jewish Education have joined the international efforts to aid the victims of Hurricane Mitch, which devastated Central America last month.

The 750 students raised over $800 with a creative fundraising campaign they conducted in mid-November in the heart of the Asper Jewish Community Campus, of which the Gray Academy is a component. The money was given to the Canadian Red Cross.

The students stretched a 23.5-metre-long roll of tape the length of the Asper Centre's "Main Street," and students and visitors attached $1 and $2 coins, quarters and dimes. A kindergarten class contributed $30. Many students gave their lunch money.

"We are encouraged to do chesed in the Jewish community," says Sheera Cipilinski, the Grade 12 student council member who initiated the fundraising campaign. "I felt that the school should get involved in other things that are going on in the world. I am pleased that this worked out so well."

Leona Lakser, principal of Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate, the high school portion of the Gray Academy, says she is proud of her students. "The response was beyond our expectations."

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From coast to coast

Complaints against refugee board dismissed

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An investigation dismissing the complaints of a former member of Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) has the complainant seeing red.

In September, Maureen Silcoff, who served on the IRB for five years until early 1998, filed complaints against three members, as well as the deputy chair, for inappropriate and unprofessional behavior.

In one, she complained about a member making anti-Semitic and homophobic comments.

But in a 22-page report released last Friday, Prof. Ed Ratushny, a University of Ottawa law professor charged with probing the matter, dismissed all of Silcoff's complaints, saying they "are without merit."

Ratushny said he found no evidence to establish Silcoff's allegations of improper conduct on the part of IRB members.

He rejected outright her allegations against two members, and did not address the charges against Lubomyr Luciuk, the member who supposedly had made anti-Semitic remarks because, as of Nov. 4, Luciuk was not re-appointed to the board.

Ratushny said the board has no legal jurisdiction to deal with complaints about former members' conduct.

And he noted that the complaint against the deputy chair, John Frecker, for allegedly interfering with a case, had already been dismissed by legal counsel.

Silcoff, now a lawyer in private practice, told *The CJN* she is "hugely disappointed" by the findings, and said she would write to IRB chair Nurjehan Mawani to correct what she called "unfair" and "inaccurate" aspects of Ratushny's report.

"It basically says I'm lying. I don't see what possible ill motives they can ascribe to me."

Silcoff said the report spends too much time assessing her own credibility. She said it might discourage other current and former IRB members from launching grievances.

Silcoff said the time it took to produce the report meant Ratushny did not have to deal with Luciuk.

Ratushny's report came two months after another probe cleared Frecker for allegedly uttering the words, "sieg heil," accompanied by some form of salute.

Last week, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) renewed its calls for an open, independent probe of bias, homophobia and anti-Semitism at the IRB.

CJC president Moshe Ronen said Congress would take the matter up with the federal ministries of justice and immigration.

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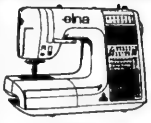

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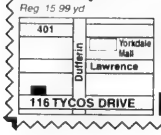

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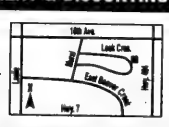

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Quebec Jews feel relief

Continued from page 1

and that's the single most important thing for the community."

The prospect of another four years of PQ government doesn't bother Plotnick. "In terms of management, they've done a good job, and as far as the Jewish community is concerned, they've always been responsive."

He's not concerned federalists are being lulled into a false sense of security.

"People are so tired, that any sign that they can let down their guard a moment is welcome. If and when any crises arise, we'll deal with them."

Plotnick has a personal stake in Quebec's future. He's the prime mover behind the Jewish community campus project. During the campaign, he announced it was expanding from a $23 to a $30-million project.

David Shapiro, co-chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' (CJC) political action committee, was also encouraged by the better than expected results, but more restrained.

"It's a reprieve and that's important. We've bought some time, and time is on the side of the federalists," he said, adding, "But it's not the end of the [national unity] question."

Shapiro is struck by the calm in the Jewish community. "The community has evolved in such a way that it doesn't panic when the PQ is elected. They don't see it a crisis like they used to. That's healthy."

If there is any exodus, it will be because the PQ cannot improve the economy, not because of fear of separation, said Shapiro, 37, a lawyer for Air Canada, who returned to Quebec after earning degrees in Ontario and the United States.

Two national unity activists, Aaron Makovka, co-founder of Team Canada for Unity, and Gary Shapiro, chair of the Quebec Committee for Canada, take somewhat different views.

Makovka, 27, is convinced the vast majority of Quebecers don't want a referendum and the PQ could never hold one under those conditions. "The community should be confident and hang tight. Bouchard is not so sure of himself anymore. In four years, Charest's time will come. The outlook is great," he said.

Shapiro, however, warns that, "until separatism is officially dead, the threat still hangs over our economy. The fact is the smart money is still not coming here.

"The PQ's platform continues to call for separation, and while that's there, we will always be looking over our shoulder. Ideally, we would have the referendum tomorrow and put the uncertainty to bed."

Among Sephardim, the election result was not grabbing as much attention as was a CBC TV report. Although the estimate was not attributed, CBC said that 10 percent of the over 20,000-member Sephardi community would likely vote PQ.

Elie Benchetrit, community relations director for the Communauté Sépharade du Québec, said, "It's misleading. I don't know where they got it."

Benchetrit said, being very generous, he would put it at five percent. "Among the people I know, 99 percent were voting Liberal."

The report has caused some ill feeling among Ashkenazim. "Some are blaming Sephardim for the Liberals not winning," he said.

In 1994, two Sephardim, Armand Elbaz and Salomon Cohen, vied for the PQ nomination in Outremont, with Cohen eventually running. At least one former ardent Pequiste, Gila Benesty-Sroka, editor of *La Tribune Juive*, has become disaffected. She's dropped her membership and didn't even bother to vote. "It's boring," she says of Quebec politics. She is not aware of any other Jews in the party today.

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Referendum concerns

Continued from page 3

Friend Yvette Hazan could not have disagreed more vehemently.

Hazan, 39, the mother of twin girls, said several times that she was very, very, disappointed by the election results and was certain that Bouchard would look for a pretext to hold a referendum at the expense of issues that really matter to voters.

"A referendum? I hope not, but that's his only goal, and they're going to fight to have one. It's awful."

Miriam Spilberg, 78, wanted the Liberals to win, but was assuaged by the Liberals' slim plurality in the popular vote.

"Of course I was relieved," she said.

Spilberg has one child in Montreal, but two left for Toronto 15 years ago, and she was among those who hoped and did not think there would be a referendum during the PQ's term in office.

On the other hand, she also said she had predicted a Liberal victory.

Dave Klein, like everyone *The CJN* spoke to, also expected the PQ to win, but was relieved that the Liberals were able to pull ahead in the popular vote by the time all the votes were counted.

Because of that, Klein said, Bouchard might hold a referendum, "but he'll be scared to do it. A lot of francophones, even those who voted PQ, do not want a referendum. They don't want separation."

Klein also was glad to see Jean Charest as leader of the Opposition, since Charest was someone he felt had the potential to respond to Bouchard articulately and with rhetorical skills of his own in the National Assembly.

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Mideast tensions rising before Clinton visit

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has blamed Palestinian officials for encouraging violent protests in the West Bank.

Netanyahu made the accusation amid a series of demonstrations that led to clashes between Israeli troops and the protesters, who are demanding the release of Palestinian activists being held in Israeli jails. Some 20 Palestinians were wounded in the weekend clashes.

The latest argument between Israel and the Palestinian Authority comes as U.S. President Bill Clinton is slated to visit the region next week.

Netanyahu said at Sunday's weekly Cabinet meeting that Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat must take clear steps to "stop the incitement and violence" in the West Bank. He added that Israel could not consider handing over additional West Bank territory to the Palestinians given the current atmosphere of violence over the prisoner releases.

Last month, Israel freed 250 Palestinian prisoners as part of the Wye agreement.

After releasing the prisoners, Israeli leaders said no prisoners with blood on their hands would be freed.

But Palestinian officials, noting that many of those freed were common criminals, have demanded the freedom of security prisoners – those jailed for anti-Israel activities.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Palestinian prisoners joined a hunger strike Sunday to demand their freedom.

Last week, Israel's Inner Security Cabinet threatened to suspend any further troop withdrawal in the West Bank pending Palestinian fulfilment of a number of conditions, including a public renunciation of incitement and violence.

The Palestinian Authority rejected that stance, saying Israel cannot present new conditions for implementation of the Wye accord.

The United States also criticized the Israeli threat. But at the same time, American officials upheld Israel's position that its recent release of Palestinian prisoners was done in accordance with the Wye agreement, which was signed in October.

Tensions between Israel and the Palestinians have been rising in the days leading up to Clinton's arrival in the region. The president hopes his visit to Israel and Palestinian self-rule areas will help to further the peace process by building upon the goodwill established at Wye.

During his visit, Clinton is scheduled to attend a meeting in the Gaza Strip at which the Palestine National Council and other Palestinian groups are expected to approve the revocation of those clauses in the Palestinian charter that call for the destruction of Israel.

Student strike comes to an end

By RELLY SA'AR
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — After a 44-day protest, 600 arrests and some 50 casualties, the National Student Union ended its nationwide strike last week, clearing the way for the university year to begin as early as this week.

Although student leaders reached an agreement with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, they refused to sign the document, signaling their disappointment with the outcome of negotiations with the government.

The agreement promises a 50 percent tuition break to any student who tutors disadvantaged children, and subsidized loans to all students, to be paid back after graduation.

Netanyahu congratulated the nation's students "for putting an end to their strike and returning to their studies, despite the fact that their representatives were unable to stand behind the agreement" by not signing.

Meanwhile, substantial progress was made in negotiations with the union representing university professors, which has threatened to cancel undergraduate classes over salary issues.

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Duma fails to censure anti-Semitic lawmaker

BY LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Some 500 people gathered recently in a Moscow square to express support for a Communist lawmaker who recently escaped parliamentary censure after making several anti-Semitic remarks.

"We all live in poverty, and Zionists in government are to blame. They think only how to destroy Russia, and when a patriot calls a spade a spade, they immediately want to throw him in jail," said Nina Drobysheva, who attended the rally for Albert Makashov.

The significance of the rally's turnout is unclear. It was far less than the roughly 2,000 people who turned out in Moscow two weeks ago at a rally honoring slain liberal lawmaker Galina Starovoitova.

The rally, held in bitterly cold weather, came on the heels of a nationwide public opinion poll conducted last week that strongly suggests a majority of Russians do not share the views of the demonstrators.

Some 83 percent of the poll's more than 1,500 respondents said public statements insulting Jews should not be allowed; only eight percent said they should be allowed.

Roughly 43 percent said they opposed the Duma's failure to censure Makashov for his anti-Semitic remarks, while 23 percent supported the body's failure to act. The poll's margin of error is about 3.5 percent.

Dmitry Vasilyev, leader of the ultranationalist group Pamyat, and other speakers at the rally hailed Makashov as a Russian patriot.

Some speakers were critical of the Communist Party's equivocal stance on the controversy, and others were particularly outraged by a recent meeting that Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov held with German Jewish leader Ignatz Bubis in an apparent attempt to save his party from further international embarrassment over Makashov.

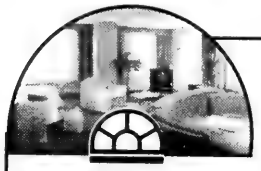
The flags above the crowd at the rally represented the full spectrum of contemporary Russian ultranationalism – from the white, yellow and black colors of monarchists to red Soviet-era flags to white banners with black crosses belonging to the small, rabidly anti-Semitic National People's Party.

One of the newspapers sold at a rally called on its readers in large-print letters "to clear Moscow of the wicked Jews."

Though the Russian criminal code prohibits this sort of "incitement to racial hatred," authorities have not prosecuted any of the dozens of Russian papers spewing hate that are regularly sold at many of Moscow's subway stations.

Meanwhile, the Moscow Prosecutor's Office said it would investigate a small ultranationalist group to see if the group could be charged under Russia's hate crimes law for a rally it held. The leader of the Black Hundreds, named after a czarist-era group known for its role in pogroms, said the demonstration was not anti-Semitic and that its participants used humorous slogans to protest the "Jewish-controlled media."

Demonstrators gather at a Moscow square in a show of support for Communist lawmaker Albert Makashov. Makashov recently escaped censure after making several anti-Semitic remarks.
[Lev Krichevsky/JTA photo]



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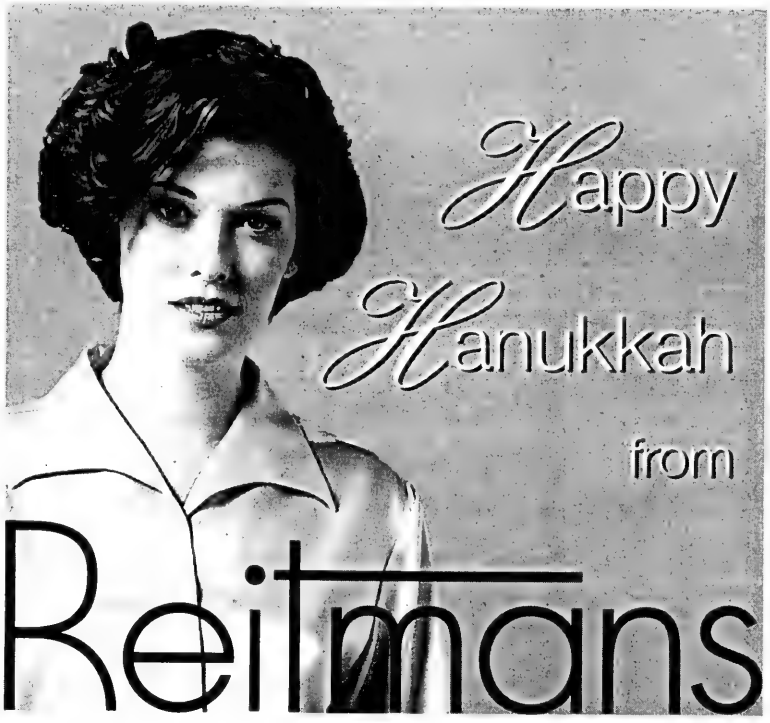

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France to examine restitution

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS — France will create a new body to examine restitution claims made by the heirs of Jews whose property was looted during the Nazi occupation of the country.

"We know that no reparation will ever be sufficient, because what was committed is irreparable. At the same time, it is fair that those whose property was seized – or their descendants – obtain some kind of reparation," Prime Minister Lionel Jospin told Jewish leaders over the weekend at the annual dinner of CRIF, the umbrella group of secular French Jewish organizations.

More than half a century after the end of the war, France is still grappling with charges that it is reluctant to come to grips with the collaborationist past of its wartime Vichy government.

Jospin denied a suggestion by Jewish leaders that banks, insurance companies and other state agencies were dragging their feet in turning over their archives to a government-appointed panel known as the Matteoli Commission, which is investigating the systematic plundering of Jewish assets during the war.

"The deliberate discreet nature of [the commission's] work should not mask the extent and quality of the results it has already achieved thanks to the active cooperation of the state agencies concerned," Jospin said.

Yet he promised that his left-wing government would allot some $1.75 million to hire more staff for the Matteoli Commission and said he had already asked various ministries in possession of wartime files to devote more personnel to search for records of the confiscations.

Jospin added that the commission would set up the new office to hear individual claims, and once it had completed its probe, would suggest a means of compensation.

The prime minister also reassured Jewish leaders that the commission's final report on its inquiry would be completed by the end of 1999.

During the dinner, CRIF president Henri Hajdenberg accused state agencies and financial institutions of balking at the probe.

"Because of a shortage of staff and a lack of goodwill in certain ministries and official bodies, we fear the final official report will not be ready before the year 2000," Hajdenberg said.

Hajdenberg also asked that more than two tons of gold plundered by the Nazis and returned to France after the war be allocated to needy concentration camp survivors, and be used to construct a Holocaust memorial and create a nationwide school curriculum on the Holocaust.

It would "not be moral" for the looted gold "to be used merely to help fill the state's coffers," Hajdenberg said.

Jospin did not reply directly, but he said France had recently pledged about $3.5 million to an international fund to help Holocaust survivors.

Hajdenberg, who in the past has kept a relatively low profile on the restitution issue, gave a hard-hitting speech at the dinner, making it clear that the Jewish community had to be reckoned with.

He was especially harsh on the insurance companies, accusing them of making no effort to seek out survivors or their heirs while profiting from their money.

"It would be entirely intolerable for the misappropriated savings of the victims to continue to enrich financial institutions, whether private or state-controlled" he said.

French President Jacques Chirac (right), accompanied by French Culture Minister Catherine Trautman (left) and Henry Hajdenberg, head of the French Jewish community, examine Jewish artifacts in the new Museum of Judaism, located in Paris' Jewish quarter. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Nazi loot addressed

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A wonderful revival meeting is how Irving Abella describes last week's historic Washington Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets.

Abella, one of seven Canadian delegates to attend the conference, said there was a sense among the 44 participating nations that the return of war-time assets is a moral issue.

"Each country tried to match, if not out-do, the [commitments] of the previous country," Abella told *The CJN* upon his return from the four-day conference. "It was really quite remarkable."

The conference's goal was to establish steps for the return of artworks and communal property, and the payment of insurance policies.

In the end, countries and participating non-governmental groups adopted 11 non-binding principles, which would impose a moral commitment on the nations of the world to find, identify and publicize looted artworks with a view toward finding their owners or the owner's heirs.

Although non-binding, the resolutions have the backing of the United States, Abella pointed out.

As well, the Americans led the way in establishing three commissions: Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, will head the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States; Lawrence Eagleburger, a former U.S. Secretary of State will head the commission on insurance policies; and Ronald Lauder, chair of the Museum of Modern Art, will head the commission examining looted art.

Lauder was quoted as saying that 110,000 pieces of art, worth between $10 and $30 billion, are still missing or unaccounted for.

The Russian delegation played a major role, delivering three important documents on art looted from Austrian Jews. Russia also promised it would try to identify and return so-called "victim art" – treasures the Nazis took but which were later plundered by Stalin's troops as "reparations" from Germany.

Abella said Canada played the role of "moral bystander," lending expertise in the area of Holocaust education. An international consortium, consisting of the United States, Great Britain, Sweden, Germany and Israel was created to examine Holocaust curricula in schools and public education.

Canada ups aid ante

WASHINGTON — Canada has pledged $92 million over four years to assist Palestinian development in self-rule areas.

The money will go toward economic and social assistance, Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Cooperation Diane Marleau announced last week.

Axworthy was one of 50 foreign ministers attending the Conference to Support Middle East Peace and Development, held in Washington.

Ottawa's contribution to the roughly $3 billion in worldwide aid to the Palestinian Authority is almost double its previous pledge.

In 1993, Canada committed $55 million over five years to the West Bank and Gaza Strip in support of the peace accord between Israel and the Palestinians.

This past June, Marleau, in a visit to Israel and the territories, pledged nearly $600,000 to several peace initiatives.

Canada's assistance will help Palestinians build health clinics and sanitation and water facilities, a statement from Foreign Affairs said.

Funding for Canada's latest pledge was provided for in the February 1998 federal budget.

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The Week in Israel

Nov. 30

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he is ready to reopen peace talks with Syria without any preconditions. He denied reports that Syrian President Hafez al-Assad had sent a message offering Israel peace with Lebanon and Syria in return for a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Dec. 1

• Israeli media reported that Yasser Arafat had referred to eastern Jerusalem as "occupied territory" that Israel had to return under the terms of UN Security Council resolutions. Arafat made the comment at the end of a donors' conference in Washington that netted the PA pledges of more than $3 billion (US) in aid from 50 countries, including Canada.

Dec. 2

• Israeli troops opened fire on Palestinian protesters in the West Bank after the demonstrators beat two Israelis, one of them a soldier, and set fire to their car. The protesters were demanding the release of Palestinian activists held in Israeli jails.

• Israeli police believe that a Jewish extremist may have been responsible for the stabbing death of a 41-year-old Palestinian father of six in eastern Jerusalem. Police are investigating possible links between the killing and six previous stabbings of Arabs, one of them fatal, that began late last year in a haredi neighborhood in Jerusalem.

Dec. 3

• Rabbi Mordechai Ashkenazi said the Lubavitch movement would cut all ties with Netanyahu. Calling the prime minister a "crook and a swindler," Rabbi Ashkenazi told a group of followers that Netanyahu's willingness to return more West Bank territory to the PA reneged on a promise he made during the 1996 election campaign.

Dec. 4

• The number of Israeli families living below the poverty line decreased slightly in Israel in 1997. But the rates remain high among large families, single-parent families and the elderly. Some 730,000 people lived below the poverty line in 1997.

Files from the JTA

Israel & the Jewish World

Poland seeks extradition of alleged prosecutor

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — A 79-year-old Jewish woman living in England is facing possible extradition to Poland for her alleged role in prosecuting and executing a leading Polish war hero more than 40 years ago.

Polish Justice Minister Hanna Suchowka has reportedly asked the British authorities to extradite Helena Brus to face charges of falsifying evidence and wrongful arrest in her role as a chief prosecutor in Poland's Stalinist show trials during the 1950s.

The Polish authorities claim that in 1951, Helena Wolinska, as she was then known, ordered the arrest of Gen. Emil Fieldorf, a former leader of the anti-Communist Polish resistance movement, because he had refused to collaborate with the new Communist regime in Poland.

The Polish authorities now allege that Fieldorf was falsely accused of having killed Soviet soldiers and Communists.

He was executed one year after his 1952 trial, but he was posthumously cleared of all charges when the Communist regime collapsed in Poland in 1989.

Brus, who has lived in Britain for the past 26 years, is now a British citizen, and married to Wlodzimierz Brus, a retired Oxford University professor. They have one son.

She has denied the charges, which carry a 10-year jail term.

Speaking from her Oxford home, she described the allegations as a "shameful pack of absurd lies. I welcome the news about the extradition request because I will at last be able to give the real answer – to reveal in front of unbiased people the absurdity of the allegations against me," she said.

"It makes me furious. I don't give a damn about the Polish authorities, but I am upset about the attitude of those in England."

Brus has refused to discuss her role in the Stalinist trials, but said she had served in the Polish Resistance during World War II.

"I came from the Warsaw Ghetto," she said, "and was in the underground movement, which is how I survived."

Brus is reluctant to return to Poland because she does not believe she will get a fair trial there. She said she wants to answer the charges in Britain.

Janusz Palus, a spokesman for the Polish military prosecutor, said Brus had contravened Communist-era law by holding the general for more than six months without charge.

"She used her role as a military prosecutor to persecute opponents of the Communist regime on the basis of their political view or their religious faiths," he said.

DYNASTIC WEDDING

Twenty thousand Gerer Chassidim attended the recent marriage of Yisrael Menahem Alter, 19, son of the Gur Rebbe, and Esther Eiger, 18, granddaughter of the Rabbi of Lublin, who were married under a rooftop canopy in Jerusalem. [Isranet photo]

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For its part, the City of Vaughan Public Works Department will make every effort to ensure that sidewalks on main streets, transit routes and school zones are kept clear of snow and ice.

Owners and tenants of property in the City of Vaughan are also hereby notified that By-law #358-86 prohibits the building, placement or maintaining of posts, fences, trees, hedges, and wooden or cement curbing on all public road allowance on any road or sidewalk in the municipality. The City cautions that all such objects must be removed from City property prior to the winter season in order to expedite the safe and efficient clearing of snow from sidewalks in the municipality.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Works Department at (905) 832-8577.

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Owners and tenants of property in the City of Vaughan are hereby notified that Ontario Highway Traffic Act, Section 181 prohibits the placing of snow or ice on a roadway.

Please ensure that any snow removed from your property is not placed on the roadway.

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To allow for a more efficient flow of traffic during winter storm conditions, the City of Vaughan will be actively enforcing its "No Parking" restrictions, as permitted under the authority of By-Law #1-96.

In addition to other general parking restrictions, Section 4, subsection (7) 1. of By-law #1-96 states: ***"No person shall park a vehicle on a highway so as to interfere with the clearing of snow."***

Please do not park your vehicle on City streets during or after, a winter storm. Vehicles found in contravention of the By-law may be subject to ticketing and/or towing.

For complete information on parking restrictions within the City of Vaughan, please call the City's By-law Enforcement Division at 832-8505, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive.

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Dated: December 1, 1998 John D. Leach, City Clerk

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Musical a new 'Zion King'

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jeffrey Katzenberg, one of three celebrity partners behind the Hollywood mega-studio Dreamworks SKG—the others are Steven Spielberg and David Geffen – breezed into Toronto recently as part of a four-city North American tour to promote the company's latest cinematic offering, *The Prince of Egypt*.

A visually stunning 90-minute animated musical, *The Prince of Egypt* breaks new ground, being the first full-length animated film to focus on a Biblical narrative – in this case, the story of Moses. Another first: its director, Brenda Chapman, who was also in Toronto, is being touted as the first female director of an animated feature.

The film also sets a precedent in its Hollywood-style treatment of the story, which highlights the relationship between Moses and his "brother" Rameses, the man who will be Pharoah.

The film paints them as rambunctious teenagers who, as grown-ups, are reluctantly driven apart by a destiny that neither one wants, or regrettably, seems capable of understanding.

The high-powered vocal talent includes Val Kilmer as Moses, Ralph Fiennes as Rameses, Jeff Goldblum as Aaron, Sandra Bullock as Miriam, Patrick Stewart as Pharoah Seti, and Steve Martin and Martin Short as court wizards.

Moses (Val Kilmer, left) is wed to Tzipporah (Michelle Pfeiffer), the daughter of Jethro (Danny Glover), the High Priest of Midian.

When 80 years of action is crammed into 1½ hours of cinematic time, major compromises are inevitable. God is practically written out of the script, for instance, and the revelation at Sinai seems tacked on as a hasty afterthought. Most of the film's intended audience (adults and children alike) probably won't mind the overly simplified narrative, however, dazzled as they're bound to be by the visuals and by Stephen (*Pocahontas*) Schwartz's and Hans (*The Lion King*) Zimmer's silly but catchy music.

Jeffrey Katzenberg

"We went through a lot of angst and fear and trepidation about what the voice of God would be, and what this event would look like and feel like, because God is a very sensitive subject to a lot of people. The one thing we weren't going to do was have a booming voice like Earl Ray Jones."

Studio technicians tried blending a multiplicity of voices to represent the Lord, but wound up with a sound so distracting that listeners couldn't concentrate on the words. Another simulated voice "ended up sounding like a computer named HAL in *2001*," Chapman confided.

Dreamworks consulted hundreds of religious leaders, historians and scholars while making the film to ensure no one would find it offensive. Some scholars suggested using the voice of Moses for God, so Moses wouldn't be afraid.

Though he's not credited with the role onscreen, Val Kilmer was ultimately given the honor of speaking the part of God in the $70 million (US) production, which has taken four years to complete.

Three Cds

So confident is Dreamworks of having a hit on their hands (which they probably do) that they've produced three related CD albums by top recording artists. The CDs are already in stores, weeks in advance of the movie's scheduled opening of Dec. 18.

Some wry pundit has already noted that Katzenberg, who received a golden handshake worth tens of millions when he left Disney several years ago, has gone from The Lion King to The Zion King. Katzenberg says it was Spielberg who first suggested the idea for *The Prince of Egypt* "and I didn't have to hear it twice."

"David (Geffen) gave me a wonderful piece of advice. He said, 'You can't slap a happy ending on it, you must do it faithfully and you must do it accurately. And you don't know anything.' Four more truthful words were never spoken than 'You don't know anything,'" said Katzenberg.

According to Chapman, the short burning bush scene was "the most difficult thing to do in the movie, and it was the last scene completed. We thought of doing it off-screen but I think the audience would have felt cheated.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

CHOIR SINGS YIDDISH

Echo, a 60-member choir of women's voices, brightens the bleak mid-winter with All Women Singing, a rousing concert of music from many lands and cultures. A variety of folk songs and seasonal selections are performed in English, Spanish, Ukrainian and Yiddish. Dec. 13, 3 p.m. Humbercrest United Church, 16 Baby Point Rd. Adults $10. 537-2526.

* * *

Theatre News: Theresa Tova's acclaimed and award-winning play, *Still the Night*, has been published by Scirocco Drama; the book is available at TheatreBooks.

A well-known Yiddish songstress and star of the former TV show *ENG*, Tova has been touring the United States in the last few months with a Livent production of *Ragtime*; she's been playing the role of anarchist Emma Goldman.

The latest word from Livent is that its touring production of *Ragtime* is still on the rails, even as the beleaguered company massively cuts back elsewhere in an attempt to fend off bankruptcy.

* * *

Book News: British Columbian children's author **Ellen Schwartz** was in Toronto recently for a couple of readings. She's the author of the lovely children's book *Mr. Belinsky's Bagels* (illustrated by **Stefan Czernecki**), in which the title character must work hard to keep up with the competition when a fancy new bakery opens across the street.

When reading this book to their children, alert parents may notice a few Jewish visual symbols embedded into the story, adding to the fun. See if you can spot them. (Tradewind Books, $19.95)

* * *

In the Spotlight: In the Depression-era 1930s, when organized crime was rampant and people relied on books and movies to help them forget their troubles, two young men in Cleveland, Ohio, came up with an idea for Superman, a comic book hero who would prove popular and as durable as steel.

Joe Shuster, who was born in Toronto in 1914, moved with his family to Cleveland around 1931, and met **Jerry Siegel** at his new high school soon afterwards. Shuster and Siegel, both science fiction fans, collaborated on the Superman comic idea for years until the first issue was printed by Action Comics in June 1938.

The comic took off immediately, and *Superman* became an instant success that eventually spawned toys, TV shows, movies – and a whole range of imitators.

The evolution of this popular comic book hero from his inception to the present day is carefully chronicled in *Superman: The Complete History*, by **Les Daniels**, a lavishly illustrated coffee-table book (Chronicle, $44.95). A colorful and nostalgic look back over this cultural icon's first 60 years of life, the book offers examples of rare comic book art, working sketches and original character designs.

Toronto is given its due credit as the model for certain elements in the Superman story. Superman's alter-ego, Clark Kent, worked as a reporter for the *Daily Planet* in a city known as Metropolis; the newspaper had been modelled on the *Toronto Daily Star* and the city on Toronto itself.

Fans of the legendary man of steel will enjoy flipping through the book, but anyone interested in the veiled Jewish elements that Shuster and Siegel put into their work won't find them mentioned here.

Funky AshkeTANTS set

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

TORONTO — Get into the groove. This year's AshkeTANTS Yiddish dance party is going to be funkier than ever.

"It's going to be very dance-oriented," said David Buchbinder, the event's artistic director and leader of the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band.

Buchbinder has put together a hot lineup of musicians for the Ashkenaz All-Stars that includes local musicians Daniel Barnes, Steve Donald, Andrew Downing, Levon Ichkhanian, Ravi Nampally and Ernie Tollar.

There will be a mix of music, from traditional klezmer and Yiddish to Israeli and Arab songs.

"We'll be doing the whole Mediterranean thing," Buchbinder said. "Both in the Yiddish and in the other songs we'll be doing funk, funk grooves and soul," so people can dance many different styles.

"Our aim is to make it as high a party as we can. It's going to be a Yiddish rave."

The AshkeTANTS is a warmup to the biennial Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture that will take place this summer.

Buchbinder has already sifted through "a huge mound of applications" for that festival and promises that "this will be the most international Ashkenaz Festival yet."

One of the novelties this summer will be a 20-piece band of international Yiddish musicians that will perform songs created for the event.

The AshkeTANTS dance party takes place Dec. 12, 8 p.m at the Bloor JCC. Tickets $10 advance/ $12 at the door. Call 924-6211.

Eight Nights, Eight Lights

TORONTO — Eight Nights, Eight Lights, a festive and reflective event for Chanukah, will again combine shadow puppetry, masks and songs at the annual event presented by Ashkenaz and the Bloor JCC.

"We will have a very festive atmosphere," said director Anne Barber. "The auditorium of the Bloor JCC will be full of activities including dreidel games, singing and chanukiyah workshops."

Shamash will come out of the darkness to introduce eight vignettes. After each one, the actors involved will light a candle.

"There are eight separate vignettes, each one different from the other," Barber said. "For example one will feature two bubbies making latkes and another will have a girl reading from Anne Frank's diary. So each light will have a different theme, reflecting the different themes of the holiday like friendship, freedom."

Dec. 13 at the Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor. 11:30 a.m. Tickets are $2 for children, $7 for adults, $8 for families and include latkes. Call 924-6211.

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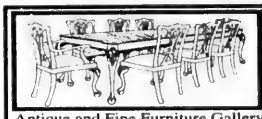
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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

How to Calculate Spousal Support

One of the most vexing questions for lawyers and their clients is, How to calculate spousal support? Unlike the Child Support Guidelines, there is no legislation that imposes a grid or tables of "dollars per month" which depends on the payer's income or any other factors. Rather, clients are at the mercy of what appear to be many conflicting and inconsistent decisions, often within the same Court! As a result, I sometimes receive inquiries from senior colleagues about my "gut feeling" for an appropriate spousal support number in a given situation. Often, no one has the slightest idea.

In Canada's Divorce Act and provincial legislation, we do have general philosophical principles governing what a Court must consider when assessing a spousal support claim and what factors it must review. For instance, the Court must assess the years of cohabitation, the number of children, if any, the parties' means and needs, and the economic consequences of marriage on a particular individual, particularly if she relinquished part of her career outside the home to raise the children and clean toilets. The Court must also consider the relevance of any prenuptial agreement (also known as a marriage contract.)

Amount of support not specified in Act

However, the legislation does not provide numbers or even a rough guide to numbers. So, lawyers are left scrambling to look at what Judges in similar cases have awarded. The problem is that there is such a vast library of cases dealing with spousal support that even the use of a computerized legal research facility would make the job only marginally easier.

These online legal research services search cases by "keywords". After typing in these keywords, you might get cases similar to your case. However, this method is generally unsuccessful when dealing with "spousal support" because this phrase shows up in so many case digests that your online search yields a prohibitively large number of "hits," the majority of which are not, in essence, cases that answer the question: How much and for how long?

New database predicts support amount

Working with Martin Adler of Lipton Adler Computer Consultants Ltd. (Toronto), about one year ago I developed a new, more efficient system. We call it the **Spousal Support Database.** With the help of able legal staff, we summarized over 6000 cases that were decided in Canada since 1992, when the Supreme Court of Canada issued its most recent decision on spousal support (Moge). These decisions represent virtually every case in which Judges offered written reasons for their verdict. We fed the summaries into a computer program that can, in a sense, predict what a Court might order for spousal support given existing case law.

All we need to know are the age of the parties, their respective gross incomes, the number of children they have (if any), the length of cohabitation, the parties' respective ages, and any special circumstances (such as illness or disability.) The database provides a possible "range" of orders with real numbers, not just philosophical principles.

The results of this project have been amazing. We receive several requests daily for searches from lawyers across Canada. For a nominal fee we courier a colourful chart showing how a number of cases similar to that of the lawyer's client were decided. We also enclose all the case summaries and two other charts for easy comparison.

Many senior lawyers in the Toronto area have endorsed the project and it is quickly becoming become part of our legal culture. It is especially useful for parties who wish to settle a case rather than pursuing ongoing litigation. The project has even been favorably commented upon by a Judge of the Ontario Court in a decision released in December 1997.

So, there is hope. Spousal support does not have to remain an enigma.

In closing, I would like to wish you and your family a very Happy Chanukah.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 365-0300, ext. 22.

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

INGERSOLL'S BIG CHEESE & THE ELMHURST INN

A huge cheese wheel, more than six feet in diameter and three tons in weight, helped bring a measure of fame to the southern Ontario town of Ingersoll, near London, in the last century.

Regional dairy farmers, concerned because they were producing much more cheese than could be consumed locally, exported the huge cheese to world's fairs in New York state and England in the 1860s, making headlines wherever the cheese appeared.

Legend has it that while the cheese was sailing home from England, its odor so offended the ship's crew that much of it had to be dumped overboard to avoid a mutiny. The rest was divvied up among the workers of the five cheese factories in Ingersoll that had manufactured it. From then on, southern Ontario was said to rank near Derbyshire as a producer of fine cheese.

Much of this history is captured in documents and artifacts in the Ingersoll Cheese Factory Museum. The museum is part of a complex of heritage buildings that also includes a blacksmith shop, farm museum, community museum and the hockey hall of fame.

Displays in the community museum recapture the flavor of life of a bygone era. Some items pertain to Major Thomas Ingersoll, the former Massachusetts resident who founded the town in 1793, and his more famous daughter, Laura Ingersoll Secord, the War of 1812 heroine.

Also on display, are a foot-powered drill and other implements resembling instruments of torture; they belonged to the late Dr. Kennedy, a local dentist. Edgar Dunlop, who operated a barber shop in Ingersoll from 1909 into the 1980s, bequeathed to the museum his barber chairs and shop fittings. The museum also has a display on Aimee Semple McPherson, the popular bible-thumping evangelist who was born in nearby Salford in 1890.

In winter, the museums are open by appointment only; to arrange a visit, contact the town office (519-485-0120).

More local history may be found along King Street, which once formed part of the stagecoach route between Hamilton and London. At the corner of Hall Street is a building with covered porches that, in the last century, was an inn that serviced the stagecoaches. Many more elegant century homes may be seen along Ann, Albert and Oxford streets.

James Harris was the entrepreneurial farmer who thought up the mammoth piece of cheese. His 1867 Victorian house is now the centre of the 49-room Elm Hurst Inn. Its peaked roofs, pointed gothic windows, four-story tower and decorative gingerbread trim, give the inn much of its character.

The original house is now the Victorian Mansion Restaurant, in which diners are seated in an array of cozy high-ceilinged rooms of varied dimensions. Most are named after members of the British royal family; one holds a portrait of Queen Victoria. The rooms upstairs are more intimate: one chamber, just big enough for a table for two, is a favorite of newlyweds and couples on the brink of betrothal.

Several ski trails

The inn's 43 rooms, six suites various meeting rooms and country spa are housed in a modern wing whose peaked roofs and pointed windows reflect the style of the original building. When ground was broken for the Harris homestead the territory was still known as Canada West. Today, when viewed from the windows, the gently rolling, bucolic landscape that immediately surrounds the inn seems almost magically untouched by time.

Half an hour by car to London, and roughly 40 minutes to Stratford, Ingersoll is a feasible stopover point for those attending productions at London's Grand Theatre or at Stratford. For winter visitors, the area boasts several hiking and cross-country skiing trails.

Located beside Highway 401 (exit 218) at the junction with Highway 19, The Elm Hurst Inn offers day and overnight spa and other packages, with rates beginning around $72.50 per person (double occupancy). For details phone 519-485-5321 or 800-561-5321. E-mail [elmhurst@ oxford.net]; Web site [http://www. oxford.net/~elmhurst/].

* * *

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The guidebook can direct you to dozens of beautiful and enticing B&B inns, hotels, cottages and lodges in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Washington DC and Virginia. Chronicle, $27.95.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Versatile performer 'discovered' in Toronto subway

By LORI FIREMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Eric Fink has one thing in common with Lana Turner. Though he could never hope nor want to walk a mile in her shapely sweaters, he shares with the buxom blonde the luck of having been in the right place at the right time.

He was on a Toronto subway when he drew the attention of former magazine editor Beverly Rocket, who thought he had the perfect look for the cover of the now-defunct *City Woman* magazine.

It was not long before he launched an acting career, which finds him, some 18 years later, a veteran of stage, screen and television.

He is now starring in the North American premiere of *Ladies' Night*, the play on which the Oscar-nominated film *The Full Monty* is based.

Eric Fink

In the play, currently at New Yorker Theatre at 651 Yonge St., Fink plays nightclub owner Bernie Lapinski, "a cross between Liberace and Neil Diamond in appearance, who sounds and acts like Rodney Dangerfield."

Fink was already 30 when he got his start as an actor, and though he had lived in New York for eight years working in television production, he had never shown interest in being on the other side of the camera.

He started off as a delivery boy and worked his way up to producer easily. Always a sharp dresser, Fink laughs now as he describes himself then, "dressed to the nines in fancy suits, and I always had a cigar."

His cigar, he said, was a tribute to the old-school style of performers like his idols Groucho Marx and George Burns, and even in the environmentally-correct '90s, his cigar remains close to his heart, if not his lungs.

A Toronto native, Fink first went to New York because "[I was] always a hack...and always felt connected to show biz, and to the performers I grew up watching on *The Ed Sullivan Show*."

Fink met Sullivan in a chance encounter at the Plaza Hotel, and considering the way he was "discovered" on the subway, it might be tempting to dismiss his success as a lucky break, but that would only be partly right. For whatever area he tackles, whether it be producing and directing *Infinity Factory*, a U.S. TV show about mathematics, or writing, or acting, there is no denying that Fink is good at what he does.

A versatile actor who never studied the craft, Fink's roles have "ranged from nerdy wimps to mafiosos and suave maitre d' types," although lately he has been doing mostly comedy, in roles such as banana peddler Haskell in *The Immigrant* at Manitoba Theatre Centre Warehouse and his current character in *Ladies Night*.

When asked about his future plans, the father of three already show-biz kids says, "Acting is my first love...whatever the medium... but I do think I have good instincts in directing, so I'd have to see what opportunities were out there."

More Arts on page 61

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Fruits, veggies aid seniors' memories

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Patients who do not have Alzheimer disease can suffer memory loss from not eating enough fresh fruits and vegetables, a research scientist told 200 people at the Ada Starkman lecture series at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Appetites decline in later years, she said, and seniors may need supplements to replace the minerals they lose, said Dr. Carole Greenwood of the Centre's Kunin-Lunenfeld Applied Research Unit.

The lecture was sponsored by the Baycrest Centre Foundation.

Greenwood, who practises "bedside nutrition", said the optimum number of dietary fruits and vegetables has doubled in the last few years.

Seniors also have problems getting enough calcium in their diets, and must be reminded that the calcium must be combined with vitamin D to be of benefit to their bones, said Greenwood.

A moderate intake of alcohol – one or two glasses a day – can be beneficial, she said.

Brain function

Sexual desires in seniors do not go away and their physical and emotional healths cannot be separated, said Dr. Michael Gordon, vice-president of Baycrest's medical services.

There is no question that physical activity helps keep older people healthy, and Dr. Gordon recommended simple and cheap exercises like walking, swimming and bicycle riding.

The speakers were thanked by Beverley Black whose family sponsored the series.

***

TORONTO — Researchers at Baycrest Centre's Rotman Research Institute (RRI) have unveiled new methods of enhancing brain function in older people.

Dr. Cheryl Grady, a psychiatry professor at University of Toronto, speaking at the final lecture sponsored by Baycrest Centre Foundation and the Beverley and Aaron Black family, said that the brain's frontal lobes – located just under the eyes – can become so activated, that people from age 60 to 75 can do just as well as those in their 20s in recalling paired words such as parent/piano.

This is the result, she said,when both groups are given time to study the pairs.

The seniors also do as well as those much younger in recognizing faces, if the time frame in which the faces are presented is reduced to 21 seconds.

Again, in this experiment, the frontal lobes of the older people showed increased activity, said Grady.

These results come from RRI's use of Positron Emission Tomography (PET), which charts brain activity in much the same way as Medical Research Imaging (MRI).

"Unfortunately, we're not getting [the results] out to doctors and nurses in the community," said Dr. Donald Stuss, Baycrest's vice-president of research and RRI director. "We have to bypass them."

In PET studies, a part of the central brain known as the hippocampus, has shown to be important for memory, particularly in younger people, Grady said.

The revolutionary changes in brain activity for older people, come as a result of animal research, which shows that neurons in the brain can be re-aroused, instead of withering away, as once thought, Stuss said.

Rats that had increased brain activity, had brains that weighed more than those in rats which were inactive, he said.

Stuss agreed with an audience member, that learning activity of every kind is helpful in cognitive ability for seniors.

Heredity makes a difference in cognitive function, he said."There might be a predisposition to Alzheimer disease, but we don't know what the triggers are."

There is no definitive research done on the relationship of herbal remedies and estrogens to memory, he said.

The research presented has far-reaching implications for seniors, the researchers said, and resulted in a request from the audience that the results be printed and distributed to the public.

Elaine Todres, Baycrest Foundation president said, "This is an example of the ground-breaking research at Rotman. An institute that did not exist 10 years ago, is now one of the top five research centres in the world."

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Glaucoma campaign launched

TORONTO — A new national glaucoma awareness campaign was launched recently to combat Canadians' ignorance of the disease.

Mission For Sight hopes to educate Canadians about the risk factors for glaucoma and the importance of early treatment. The campaign will include an information booklet, posters, a toll-free information number and a speakers program.

It's sponsored by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB), Shoppers Drug Mart and ophthalmic products manufacturer Alcon Laboratories.

A recent poll by Environics Research found that 72 percent of Canadians are unaware that glaucoma is a leading cause of blindness.

And even more don't know what the risk factors are for the disease, according to the Alcon-sponsored survey.

Glaucoma silently and gradually reduces the peripheral vision of its victims as nerve cells at the back of the eye slowly die. Most people don't notice their eyesight has been reduced until the very late stages of the disease, because glaucoma spares central vision.

Although anyone may develop glaucoma, the elderly and those with high blood pressure in the eye or a family history of glaucoma are at greatest risk.

More than 200,000 Canadians have the disease, but it's estimated that only half of them are aware of it and are taking steps to preserve their sight. By the year 2000, about 67 million people worldwide will have glaucoma.

"Many people do not realize that glaucoma is a blinding disease without any warning symptoms," said Dr. Neeru Gupta, director of the glaucoma unit at St. Michael's Hospital. "The good news is that in most cases, blindness can be prevented if the disease is caught at its early stages, treated and monitored closely."

Shoppers Drug Mart stores across Canada are participating in the campaign by distributing the booklets, displaying posters and hosting in-store education clinics for people in high-risk groups.

To receive more information about glaucoma, call the CNIB's toll-free information line at 1-800-513-7813.

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Ethiopian nurse in maternity ward, Tzfat. [Photo courtesy of UIA Federations Canada]

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Evening Dresses & Suits
Size 4-12
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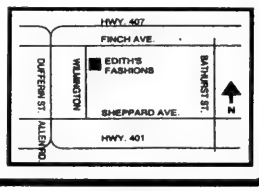

*Cruisewear, New Arrivals not on sale

OUR BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY, HEALTHY CHANUKAH

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

List with us and appear on our Website: www.foresthill.ca

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

SPADINA RD./ST. CLAIR $1,399,000
Magnificent brownstone 3,650 sq. ft. Outstanding materials & workmanship. 3 bdrms., 4 baths. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875.

LOWER VILLAGE! GREAT FAMILY HOME
6 bdrms., 7 baths, dble. gar. Stone front. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

$698,000 LAWRENCE/BATHURST - EAST
New stucco. 4 bdrm. & fam. Fin. lower-apt., skylit, granite, hrdwd., cedar deck & fence. Gorgeous! Janie Lerner* 226-1987

BLDRS.! 2 CARIBOU RD. + 4 CARIBOU RD.!
Otter Cres. area! Side by side 60 x 152' & 50 x 100' lots! $599,950 + $435,000! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 295 CHURCHILL AVE.! 75 X 145' LOT
$429,900! Incredible opportunity to develop/build new! Don't miss! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987.

36 ALDBURN RD.! 45 X 105'! NOW $159K!
Vendor says sell! Upper Forest Hill opportunity! Build your dream! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

EXECUTIVE RENTAL! BATHURST/GLENCAIRN
4 bdrms., 3 reno'd baths, dble. garage. Reesa Sud* 488-2875.

JUST LISTED! CEDARVALE – FOR LEASE
Renovated 3 bdrm., 2 storey, fin. bsmnt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

187 ELMWOOD AVENUE! $299,999!
Prime Bayview/Sheppard 146 x 44' treed corner lot w/mint 2+1 bdrm. bungalow! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

AVENUE RD./ST. CLAIR $899,000
Extraordinary condo residence. Cobblestone landscaping, outstanding finishes. Hurry! Only 3 units left. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875.

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Short term rental approx. 5 months, 1 bed + den, pkg. Designer decor finished $1,975/mo. Ann Bookman* 226-1987.

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936 sq. ft. with parking. Allen Tobe**/Russell Pearsall* 488-2875.

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The North York & Thornhill Realtor

Primrose Condo – Bathurst & Steeles!!!
$174,900 – Luxury, 2 bdrms., hardwood floors, balcony, 2-prkgs.!
Bathurst & Antibes – Renovated Townhouse!!!
$189,900 – 3 bdrm., renovated kitchen & bath, fin. bsmnt.!!!
Bathurst & Steeles – Luxury Townhouse!!!
$216,900 – Plaza Del-Sol, 3-storey, 3 bdrms., 3 bathrooms!
Bathurst & Steeles – 3 Bedroom Detached!!!
$229,900 – Main flr. family room w/fireplace, ensuite in master!
Townsgate Condo – Bathurst & Steeles!!!
$239,900 – Luxury, 2 bedrooms, oval tub, solarium, balcony!
Townsgate Condo – Bathurst & Steeles!!!
$274,900 – Luxury, approx. 1,520 sq. ft., balcony, hardwood!
Clark & Judith – 3 + 1 Bedroom Detached!!!
$279,900 – Fin. bsmnt., 2 kits., 4 baths, lrge. fam. rm., dbl. gar.!
North York – Yonge & Steeles Bungalow!!!
$299,900 – Renovated 3+1 bedrooms, 50 x 132 lot, in-law suite!
North York – 5 Bedrooms, Approx. 3,590 s.f.!!!
$519,900 – Custom built, 5 bedrooms, circular drive, fin. bsmnt.!
North York – Custom, Approx. 6,300 s.f.!!!
$999,000 – 4 fireplaces, elevator, walk-out basement, 3 kitchens!

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29 Theodore Place. Thornhill
5 BDRMS. & loft 4000 sq. ft., beautiful family home $478,500.00
249 Harbord St., Toronto SOLD **Triplex**
251 Harbord St., Toronto SOLD **Triplex**
88 Rainbow SOLD **#24, Vaughan**

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- **Exclusive,** custom blt. 4 bdrms. 4 baths, fin. bsmnt. $479,900
- **Brand New,** 4 spac. bdrms., custom blt., priv. ent., in-law suite. $399,000

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Open House - Sun. 1-4 p.m.
44 Laurelcrest Ave. New luxury single family home on 50' lot. 4 bdrms., 4 baths, fam. room + den, walk-out to basement, 2 skylights, soaring ceilings, granite & hardwood flooring & much more! **Buy Direct & SAVE!**
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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

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BATHURST/GLENCAIRN – EAST SIDE
Premium lot on very desirable street, 4 bdrms., 2 ensuites. In-law potential. Large principal rms. Paula Bernstein*

YORK MILLS GARDENS $1,598,000
Perfect example of elegance & quality. Traditional 2 sty., 5 bdrms. w/ensuites, 10' ceilings. Terrific family home with great lower level & maids qrts. Michele Noar*

BAYVIEW HILLS – NOW $499,900
Exceptional value! 4 bdrms., 2 ensuites. Fin. bsmnt. w/Nanny's ste., vast foyer, lge. eat-in kitchen. 70 x 147 lot. 4,290 sq. ft. Great entertainment centre. Call Michele Noar*

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS – ON TUDOR
Fabulous Georgian reno., 4 garages & coach house/office. By Napier Simpson. Mn. flr. fam. rm. & library. 4 bdrms. each w/ensuite. Binova kitchen. Perry Betel**

NEW CONDOS – ONLY 40 IN TOTAL
Boutique building – precast exterior, indoor pool, each unit has 9' ceilings, FP, balcony, hrdwd. in LR/DR, marble/granite foyer. Sabbath elevator. Perry Betel**/Olga Schrage*

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Mollie Rothman
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7 CUSTOM HOMES AVAILABLE AT BATHURST & LAWRENCE

Magnificent 4 + 1 bdrms., 4 baths, fin. bsmt. (in-law suite), cornice mouldings, marble fireplace, oak plank hardwood floors, rear deck, Jacuzzi +++, only $489,000 (incl. GST). Model homes available for viewing now. **DON'T MISS OUT!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHUST / LAWRENCE

California-style, spacious ranch bungalow, 2,700 sq. ft. (approx.), 4 bdrms., oversize family room, 69 x 120 ft. lot, eat-in kitchen, only $349,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK AREA — EXCLUSIVE LISTING
Fabulous bldg. lot in great location, 48' front, widens to 55', over 130' deep. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CORTLEIGH BLVD. — NEW LISTING

Country in the city! Spacious 5 bdrm. family home, most prestigious location, surrounded by multi-million dollar homes, asking $1.25 mil. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

NEW LISTING — INVESTMENT ON BLOOR ST.
Store + apt. near Bathurst & Bloor. Fabulous rental at $3,100 per month. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — NEW LISTING
Spacious 3 + 1 bedroom bungalow, huge family room addition at rear, 50 x 150 ft. lot, quiet street, only $279,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

VIEWMOUNT AVE. — RARE 50 x 140 FT. SOUTH LOT
3 bdrms., 2 storey, renovated kitchen, baths, centre hall plan, w/o to patio from living room. **ACT NOW!** Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE LISTING
Custom-built 4 + 1 bdrm., 2 years new, 4 baths, family room, fireplace, deck, maple kitchen, hardwood floors, asking $649,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

From condos to castles. Michael gets results

NEW LISTING – BATHURST & SHEPPARD TOWNHOUSE
Developers end unit on the ravine, 3 bdrms., basement walk-out, multi-level, breathtaking view! **Only $239,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 630-0111.

EXCLUSIVE! 5 BEDROOM RANCH BUNGALOW
Located on a private court in Bathurst Manor, updated & spacious. **Asking $429,900.** Act Now! Call Michael Harari at (416) 630-0111.

JUST LISTED - 150 NEPTUNE CONDO!
Exclusive building, 4th floor, 3 bedrooms, only 6 units per floor. Shabbos elevator, ensuite laundry. Asking only $159,900. Call Michael Harari at (416) 630-0111

NEW CUSTOM HOMES - JUST $529,918
Just steps from Earl Bales Park, approx. 3,000 sq. ft. with 4 bdrms., maple kitchen, library, 2nd floor laundry room, 44 foot lots, 2 to choose from, now available for showing. Call Michael Harari at (416) 630-0111.

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With warm thoughts & special wishes for a Happy Chanukah & a Healthy & Happy New Year

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ATKINSON/CAMPBELL FANTASTIC LOCATION!!
1st time buyer home - Great buy. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, detached. 5.85% financing. Come & view.

BATHURST/TORRESDALE
$229,000. Gorgeous 2 bedroom condo, huge solarium, 1,500 sq. ft. View it before leaving for Florida. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, detached.

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CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST MANOR
Just listed! 4 bdrm. bung., mod. kit., 2 baths, L-shape liv. & din., fin. bsmnt. w/priv. entr., lge. lot, gar., move-in condition.

• • •

ALLEN RD. SHEPPARD
3 bdrms., 2 baths, 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., steps to all.

• • •

AVENUE RD. LAWRENCE
8 plex, 6 - 2 bdrms. & 2 - 1 bdrms., balcs., garages + pkg., well maint. bldg., good income, A-1 location.

• • •

NEPTUNE DR. CONDO
Reduced for quick sale! 3 bdrms., up-to-date kit., appls., 2 - 4 pce. baths, 2 balcs., lndry. ens., fast poss. Don't Miss!

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Atkinson/Clark, Spectacular totally reno'd 3 bdrm., 2 1/2 bth. home. New modern kit., new appl., hrdwd flr., extra income bsmt apt. w/sep entr. $249,500. Call 905-882-0288

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

4 bedroom, Josephine Avenue. 905-660-1919.

Viewmount Ave., 3 bdrm., 3 bth., new kit., kosher, 7 appl., fin. bsmt., great backyard, walk to subway, school, shuls. Avail Feb. 15. $2300/mo. 787-9356.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK #65 – 2,205 sq. ft., 25th flr., 2 bdrms., 3 bath, den, balcony, $ in extras. Ask $398,000. B. Sieger, Broker (416) 650-5930.

Yonge/Steeles - high flr., N/W exp., 3 bdrm., 2 bth., balc., ensuite storage & lau. $162,000. 416-422-5776 or 705-325-9785.

Townsgate, lower flr., upgraded excellent European style. Move-in cond. 661-1041. G. Baron, Rltr.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

130 Neptune - 2 bdrm. condo, new decor, 1 pkg., $1250/mo. all inclusive. 905-771-9727.

SKYMARK - THE CLASSIC. Don Mills/Finch. Lux. 1 bdrm. + den. 2 bth., 5 appl., cable/pay TV, CAC, pkg. Avail immed. 416-402-8379.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles - furn. room in 2 bdrm. apt., male, kosher kit., sauna, pool. 416-665-1388.

Fully furn. room available. Shared facilities. Forest Hill. $400/mo. Call 416-782-5586.

Yonge/Eglinton roommate wanted to share modern 2 bdrm. loft apt., 2 bth., 5 appl., deck, pkg. $767/mo.+ util. 485-2015.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON
CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Baycrest,spac. bsmt apt, new kit & bth, exc loc. n/smkr, n/pets. $500/mo. 782-2102.

Bath/Sheppard - Newly reno'd, sunny, bright, 2 bdr., undergrnd. pkg. Avail. Dec 15. 635-5031.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

North Miami Beach, Coastal Towers, 2 bdrms., 2 baths. 416-223-7147.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

QUADOMAIN, HOLLYWOOD, FLA. Spectacular oceanview, full 2 bedroom on beach for rent, fully furnished, Kosher. 633-4141.

MIAMI BEACH furnished studios during winter season. Versailles Hotel Condo. At Collins & 34th Ave., oceanfront avail. Call Elizabeth, Rental Office (305) 538-8651.

Arlen House East, spotless 1 bdrm., 2 bth., ocean view. Avail. immed. Call 905-886-0347.

Delray Beach, new waterfront low rise, 2 bdrm. condo, fully furn., Jan. 15 for 3 - 4 mos. $1800./mo US. 416-485-5575.

Hallandale, 1 bdrm., furnished, equipped, ocean view, 2 mos. min. 905-881-7197, eves, Sara.

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on ocean, 1 bdr conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. from January. 488-9819.

HOLLYWOOD, Hallmark 2 bdr, 2 full bath, corner, pkg., valet etc. 905-731-0609.

International Village, Lauderhill, 1 bdrm. condo, furn. $1000/month. Open Feb., Mar. & Apr. Days 266-0900. Eves 431-9350

Miami Beach condo. Ocean front for rent. Fully equip. Call 305-226-7688.

N. Miami Bch, modern, lux., 1800 sq. ft., 2 bdrm., 2 bth., white kosher eatin kit., sleeps 6. X-mas-$1850 US; Seas. 3-4 mos. min. - $2000 US/mo. Yrly - $12000 US. 416-630-2473.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

Miami, Hallandale - 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 bths., ocean view, $1500/mo. U.S. 416-638-7257.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

MYSTIC POINT, VENTURA. Looking for apt. for 1, 2 or 3 months ASAP. 416-259-1155.

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

Help me drive. No Charge. Philip & Freda Band. 782-9808.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Beit Shemesh - English speaking community, 3 1/2 bdrm. apt $140K US. Call 416-663-5540 or 972-4-834-5798.

185 OUT OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES

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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

#1 Perfect home-based business. People's Choice Award. 24 hr message 1-888-688-8896

Where Do We Go From Here? An Outlook For The Future.
On December 9, 1998 I am pleased to present a special information meeting with ***Mr. Jeffrey Leibel, Vice President*** & member of **Chairman's Council** at **RBC Dominion Securities.** The meeting begins at 4:30p.m. and will be held in the Boardroom at Royal Bank Plaza, South Tower, Ste. 3900, 200 Bay Street, Toronto. Would you kindly RSVP at the following numbers, as seating will be limited.
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Exec. Marketing Assistant
(416) 842-2472 or
pager (416) 426-2214

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Catalogue Home Business. Orders drop-shipped direct to customers. No inventory. Low $start up. $1000 to $10,000/mo. realistic. 416-410-1715, 905-826-9949.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Caring secretary for Downtown Jewish School req'd., Sundays and Wednesdays. Phone Doris at 924-6211 ext. 135.

Experienced bookkeeper for small property management office. 12-15 hrs/mo. Bath./Wilson Call between 3-5 at 488-9792.

GP - Psychotherapists for clinic at Bloor & Dundas in Toronto. F.T./P.T., no on call hours. Semi-retired and recent graduates welcome. Excellent financial and service arrangements. Comfortable offices, active referrals, clinical advice if desired. Please call for further info at (416) 516-6969.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Jack of All Trades w/car avail. to work 10-12 hrs/wk. 781-9769

Young lawyer with great potential to excel seeks senior lawyer for mentorship, retraining & rejuvenating career interest. Call Gary, 416-630-9449.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Staff training in safety, appropriate behaviour and even Jewish cooking!
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with 20 yrs. exp. is now recruiting *NEW PROVIDERS* to do childcare in their own homes.
We'll provide: • advertising for children • training equipment • excellent pay • program ideas • benefits & fun
You provide: • care in your own home • imagination & an enjoyment of children
416-494-5898
Homes are now needed in the Thornhill, Richmond Hill & North York areas

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

I will clean your house/apt, any day of the week. Call 638-9654.

Experienced cleaning lady avail., refs. Sonia 532-6693.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Reliable, exp. cleaning lady avail. any day of the wk/wkend. Call after 8pm. 614-7334, Basia

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Nanny to care for 3 small children. 3 days/wk. Oakridges/Richmond Hill area. 905-773-7601.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

HCA avail. for all positions. Please call 416-516-9651.

Heath care aide seeks job with elderly, disabled, babysitting or house cleaning. 498-9954.

Shoshana's Nursing Service. Reasonable rates, 493-2095.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Fairy tales can come true, it can happen to you. Call Soulmates today. Evelyn at 905-709-3868.
www.soulmates.com

Driver & car for appt's., etc., no wheelchairs. Pref. 24 hr. notice, reasonable. 905-731-2815.

Jewish Singles Registry, over 1680 registered. 483-4151

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

MAIN/DA Drugstore at Ave. Rd., beside Bruno's on Sat., Nov. 28 @ 4pm. I was the blonde in the brown suede coat you bumped into in front of the magazine section. I would love to meet you & chat. 487-9397.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Are there any decent guys left out there? If you know one or are one, I'd like to hear about it. I'm all the usual things you read about in these ads. I'm 29, blonde and good-looking. I love theatre, movies, cooking, etc., and I'm for real. If you're for real and you're looking for a soul mate, drop me a note. I'm worth a try. CJN Box # 7129.

Handsome, successful, athletic,caring,SJM 40's, from warm, loving family seeks traditional-observant SJ lady 27-37 with great loving heart, inner strength, elegance & matching form/beauty for lifetime with passionate, dynamic, NYC mensch, refined prof. Desires sharing active, rich Jewish family life pleasures. CJN Box 7119.

One Of A Kind! If you want to satisfy your intellectual appetite & enjoy life to the fullest, then look no further. This well educated, sensitive, kind and attractive, successful, financially secure prof. lady, honest & sincere seeks a meaningful relationship with accomplished, educated prof. of 52-62 years of age. If you enjoy good conversation, theatre, traveling, classical music, sports & outdoors, I am sure we will find much in common. CJN Box # 7125.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-48, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7124.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
For these ads, address your mail to:
Box #_____
The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd.,
Suite 420,
Don Mills, Ontario
M3C 3A1

SJM - 27, active, down to earth, passionate about the great outdoors, architecture, Israel. Seeking female, 21-29 on same wave length. CJN Box # 7128.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

I will buy your coins, stamps, gold, silver, diamonds, watches & antiques **for cash. 605-1640**

315 CARS FOR SALE

Turn you old car into renewed hope. Donate your used car to benefit Jewish special education and receive maximum tax credit.Free towing.787-1101

330 OBITUARIES

BLOOM, Rose - Peacefully, with her family by her side at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, on Tues., Dec. 1, 1998 in her 89th year. Beloved wife of the late Joseph Bloom, loving mother of Norman, proud and devoted grandmother of Hayley & Lindsay. Will be sadly missed by her sister Essie Blair of Winnipeg, Sara Isman of Calgary and her nephew, nieces, great nieces and nephews & great great nephew. Predeceased by her brothers Irwin Dorfman, Sidney Dorfman and sister Molly Knelman. Rose will be lovingly remembered by her family, close friends and all who cared for her in these last months as a sweet, gentle and generous person. The family would like to thank Dr. Sheldon Tobe, the wonderful staff on D2 at Sunnybrook and her very special caregivers. Funeral services took place at Steeles Memorial Chapel on Thurs., Dec. 3, 1998. Donations to the Sunnybrook Foundation Renal Unit Fund or favorite charity would be appreciated by the family.

HIGHMAN, Arnold - Died peacefully, at Kitchener-Waterloo Health Centre of Grand River Hospital on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1998, at the age of 69 years. Dear father of Howard and Jennifer Highman and Lisa and Mitch Teitelbaum of New York and grandfather of Lily Highman and Jenna and Ali Teitelbaum; dear brother of Sylvia and Sol Jacobs of Hamilton. Fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews, Ira and Barb, Judy and Howard, Naomi and Gerald and also by his dear friends, Marion Larsen, Ed Dyck, Kris Splettstoesser and Morty Taylor. Arnold will be remembered with great affection by the many people whom he helped with kindness throughout the years. The funeral service was held on Thursday, Dec. 3, 1998 at Beth Jacob Synagogue, Kitchener at 11 a.m. Interment Beth Jacob Cemetery. Shiva held at 124 Dufferin St., Hamilton. Arrangements entrusted to the Ratz-Bechtel Funeral Home, Kitchener (519-745-9495).

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330 OBITUARIES

PROVERMAN, Pearl - on Oct. 12, 1998, late of 3636 Bathurst St., #1208.

BREGMAN, Selma - on Nov. 20, 1998, late of 306 Finch Ave. E.

MADONIK, Chuck - on Nov. 20, 1998, late of 4266 Bathurst St., #715.

OTIS, Felicia - on Nov. 20, 1998, late of 44 Forest Grove Dr.

SHIFF, Morris - on Nov. 20, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #310.

ANDREWS, David - on Nov. 21, 1998, late of 65 Spring Garden, #408.

GRIEF, Phil - on Nov. 21, 1998, late of 18 Lower Village Gate, #508.

KORSON, Belle - on Nov. 21, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.

SAHKER, Anita - on Nov. 21, 1998, late of 12 Elynhill Dr.

KESHEN, Milton - on Nov. 22, 1998, late of 101 Maplewood Ave.

MANDLSOHN, Sol - on Nov. 24, 1998, late of 99 Arjay Cres.

PORTIGAL, Sophie - on Nov. 24, 1998, late of 400 Walmer Rd.

BAKER, Samuel - on Nov. 25, 1998, late of 82 Garthdale Crt.

BUCKSTEIN, Lawrence - on Nov. 25, 1998, late of 432 Drewry Ave.

FINE, Lillie - on Nov. 25, 1998, late of 19 Hashbury Place.

SHOICHET, Isaac - on Nov. 5, 1998, late of 65 Skymark Dr., #202.

SIWAK, Dina - on Nov. 26, 1998, late of 82 Garthdale Crt.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

MARTIN, Nicholas - on Nov. 20, 1998.

BAKMAN, Rachel - on Nov. 21, 1998, late of 175 Hilda Ave.

LURIA, Fania - on Nov. 21, 1998.

PARSHAN, Dov - on Nov. 21, 1998, late of 3000 Bathurst St.

SCHILLING, Herman - on Nov. 21, 1998, late of 4266 Bathurst St.

TRUSTER, Roe Hilda - on Nov. 22, 1998.

CUKIER, Esther - on Nov. 24, 1998, late of 123 Brighton Ave.

MONAS, Jerry - on Nov. 24, 1998, late of 3892 Bathurst St.

EISEN, Anna - on Nov. 25, 1998.

EMERSON, Joseph - on Nov. 25, 1998, late of 38 Ridelle Ave.

POTASKY, Gerald - on Nov. 25, 1998, late of 14 Mogul Dr.

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DOWN TO EARTH
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WORTH THE WAIT
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STYLISH LADY
Single Jewish female, 30ish, attractive, good sense of style, dark hair, hazel-green eyes, enjoy travelling, theater, movies, music, bowling, camping, board games. Seeking a Jewish male, with similar interests and qualities, age 32-43. AD#1692

BEST FRIENDS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", slim, attractive, intelligent, brunette, sensitive, enjoy camping, reading, theater, movies, dining and dancing, long walks by the ocean, summer festivals. Seeking a male, 35-44, single, romantic, financially secure, sensitive, handsome, with a strong sense of humour. AD#1769

FRIEND, LOVER & PARTNER
Single Jewish female, auburn hair bright blue eyes, sparkling smile, 47, 5', non-smoker, romantic, pretty, playful, love to cuddle, family oriented. Seeking a male, Jewish, non-smoker affectionate, romantic, open with his feelings and ready for commitment. AD#1671

FRIENDS FIRST
Single Jewish female, 44, 5'6", slim, non-smoker, professional, enjoy movies, theater, travel, reading, long walks. Seeking a single male, honest, professional, family oriented. AD#1691

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, professional, 42, one young child, non-smoker, warm, genuine, enjoy dining &dancing, theater, comedy, long romantic walks. Seeking a professional Jewish male, sensitive, caring, with similar interests and outlooks. AD#1674

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Divorced Jewish female, 48, affectionate, romantic, compassionate, mother of 2 sons, age 21 & 23. Seeking a romantic male, financially secure and will show me all the possibilities life has to offer. AD#1660

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Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, enjoy movies, travel, romantic walks, music, dining & dancing. Seeking a male, 50+, sincere, honest, mature, thoughtful. AD#1689

SINGLE MOM
Single female, 48, 2 kids & 2 cats, fit, non-smoker, enjoy outdoors, jazz, arts. Seeking a male, non-smoker, honest, health oriented, with heart and brains. AD#1688

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, never married, 38, petite, down to earth, easy going, very laid back, good values. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, 36-42, for best friends and life partner. AD#1734

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, warm, sincere, attractive, romantic, slim, 5'4", brunette, enjoy reading, theater, movies, being by the ocean, dining & dancing, flea markets. Seeking a male, 35-44, intelligent, handsome, financially secure, romantic, must believe being best friends is the basis of a great relationship. AD#1662

LOVES TO COOK
Single, slim female, early 40's, intelligent, professional, fit, blondish-brown hair, hazel eyes, attractive, enjoy sailing, running, tennis, skiing, loves to cook. Seeking a male, 44-53, with similar interest. AD#1642

CHICKEN SOUP
Single female, 33, warm, canng, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving, enjoy long walks, movies, cycling, tennis, theater, dancing & dining, especially chicken soup. Seeking a non-smoking Jewish male, with similar interests and values. AD#1651

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, brunette, nurse, warm, sensitive, intelligent, sincere, canng, enjoy the theater, travelling, dining & dancing, intelligent, romantic, successful, for long term meaningful relationship. AD#1641

Men seeking Women

COMPANIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 55, professional. Seeking a non-smoking, Jewish female, 50-60, with traditional values, who enjoys the theater, dancing & dining. AD#1710

TIME WAITS FOR NO ONE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, enjoy country drives, art auctions, have a business degree, stock market investor and analyzer. Seeking a lady, no need to be slim, for serious relationship. AD#1681

ROMANTIC AND CARING
Single white male, 56, self-employed, businessman, enjoy movies, music, travel, good conversation, quiet times. Seeking a female, compassionate, loving, attractive, sensitive, to be his special lady. AD#1784

SEEKING NICE LADY
Single male, 18, enjoy movies, dancing. Seeking a single female with similar interests. AD#1670

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Youthful Jewish senior, 65+, semi-retired, 5'7", 180lbs, blue eyes, thoughtful, sincere, reliable, romantic, affectionate, humorous. Seeking a special lady to share love, understanding, and friendship, 50-64. AD#1676

HONEST
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'10", 160lbs, fun, fit, handsome, athletic, financially and emotionally secure, honest, professional, 2 university degrees, blue eyes, light brown hair, enjoy outdoor activities, reading, movies. Seeking a female, fit, attractive, independent, fun loving, with similar values and interests. AD#1679

MY KIDS TAUGHT ME WELL
Single male, 40, ready to get into life again. Seeking a special lady to share life with. AD#1779

FRIENDSHIP
Single male, 5'7", 180lbs, semi-retired, blue eyes, sincere, thoughtful, easy to talk to, romantic, reliable, dependable, humorous. Seeking an attractive female, 50-64, that is slim, trim in body and mind. AD#1653

A NEW BEGINNING
Young looking male, 53, 5'9", 180lbs, professional, successful, healthy, enjoy long walks, good food, dancing, theater, movies. Seeking a female for partnership. AD#1654

INTEGRITY
Senior Jewish male, 5'7", 180lbs, presentable, romantic, down to earth, humorous, blue eyes. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 50-64, that is kind, caring to share love, understanding and integrity. AD#1657

HANDY MAN
Single Jewish male, 32, 6'2", good heart, honest, caring, intelligent, funny, enjoy travelling, camping, playing pool, country drives, trying new things for an internal relationship with the right person. AD#1659

ACTIVE JUNIOR SENIOR
Single male, mid 60's, 5'6", non-smoker, Anglo-Jewish background, enjoy music, theater, outdoors, travel, public affairs. Seeking a semi-dependent, warm, educated, outgoing, caring lady, 50+. AD#1690

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 6', enjoy movies, dining & dancing, exercising, good conversation. Seeking a lady with similar interests. AD#1643

STYLISH GENTLEMAN
Single Jewish male, very stylish, blue eyes, dark hair, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, music. Seeking a female, 18-40, with similar interests and outlook. AD# 1742

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Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship. AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING
Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator. Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate. AD#1625

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single male, 36, 5'8", handsome, fit, well-established, non-smoker. Seeking a slim, stylish, attractive, lady, no children, non-smoker, with traditional Jewish values. 28-33. AD#1634

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity. Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

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Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit. AD#1584

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Queen brings joy to Chanukah

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The air in the schoolyard is cold and damp on this October morning. Oblivious to the rain, a group of children play on the outdoor wooden jungle gym.

When a scuffle breaks out in another part of the schoolyard, they head towards the commotion. Some older boys have ganged up on a 11-year boy. A 6-year-old girl soon joins the fray to help her brother fight off the bullies.

But the fight is as phoney as the artificial snow strewn around the schoolyard to dress it up as if it were winter. Just as the young girl tries to tackle one of the boys, a loud voice yells, "Cut!" and the cameras stop rolling.

The scene, shot on location at Blythwood Junior Public School, is from *Jenny and the Queen of Light*, a made-for-TV holiday special that will air on Global television Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.

Jenny and the Queen of Light, by playwright Dennis Foon, is based on the book, *Jenny and the Chanukah Queen*, by Canadian children's author Jean Little.

The story centres around 6-year-old Jenny, played by Cassandra Van Wyck, and her 11-year-old brother Eli (Michael Seater). The two children and their recently widowed mother (Susan Coyne) have just moved to a new town, and they are under a great deal of stress coping with the loss of their father and adjusting to their new home.

With the holiday season approaching, Jenny summons the help of her imaginary hero, the Queen of Light, in the hope of making the upcoming Chanukah celebration a joyful time for her family.

Queen of Light is co-produced by the Toronto-based production companies, Breakthrough Entertainment and Metaphor Enterprises. Co-producer Larry Zack of Metaphor Enterprises spoke to *The CJN* on the set of the film.

He bought the rights to Little's book

Travel, Arts & Business

four years ago, he said, because he felt the story has universal appeal.

"I think everyone responds to difficulties at holiday season. Just about every culture is involved in some sort of celebration."

He said he was drawn to the project because he loved the way the little girl is able to bring her dysfunctional family together at Chanukah.

"Jenny creates a holiday heroine to help her, and she in turn is able to help her own family."

The story is centred around children, he noted. "They're the stars of the show. They're extraordinary. It's not easy work. It's unusual for kids to carry the whole story."

He said he asked Rabbi Larry Pinsker to be a consultant for the film to avoid a religious faux pas in telling the story.

After developing the script with Foon, Zack said he approached Breakthrough, which produces *The Adventures of Dudley the Dragon*, about collaborating on *Queen of Light* because that production company has significant experience with family television.

He added that one of the principals of Breakthrough, Ira Levy, happens to be his cousin. They're both Hamilton natives.

Levy said he was eager to join the project because he thought it offered a wonderful family story with "a beautiful screenplay by Dennis Foon."

He said Breakthrough has "an affinity for this kind of show" because it has "a good story with underlying values that we can share. There's a heart and soul and core to it."

A lot of funding agencies were attracted to the show because the Chanukah theme made it stand out from other holiday specials, he said.

"It was something different... There's a plethora of Christmas shows. We live in a multicultural society. People are more willing to share a diversity of stories. *Jenny* is a perfect example of that."

One of the themes of the story – outsiders becoming part of a larger community – has wide appeal, he said, because there are many immigrants in this country trying to integrate into the greater Canadian society, as well as groups like the Jewish community who still feel a strong connection to their immigrant roots.

Starring in Jenny and the Queen of Light are [from left] Michael Seater, Cassandra Van Wyck as Jenny and Susan Coyne.

"*Queen of Light* is emblematic of the spirit of hope and becoming part of something, part of a family and a community. Those are important stories to tell."

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Dana Rosenblatt

'Dangerous Dana' Rosenblatt wins title

By LENN ZONDER
Special to The CJN

LEDYARD, CT. — Managers and coaches often exhort their athletes to give it their all, to leave "it" on the playing field or in the ring. At Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard, Ct. recently, Dana Rosenblatt did exactly that, almost to his, and his supporters', everlasting regret.

For the second fight in a row, Rosenblatt, 33-1, built up an insurmountable lead over the first nine rounds, and had to hang on in desperation until the final bell to preserve his victory.

Rosenblatt won the vacant IBA Middleweight Championship of The World, outpointing former four-time welterweight and junior middleweight champion "Terrible Terry" Norris in a 12-round unanimous decision. Two of the three judges scored the fight 114-112 and the third widened the margin to 116-112.

For the first eight rounds, the margin between the fighters was much greater than that. If you had been at ringside or watching on television, and left at that point thinking the result was a foregone conclusion, the result would have left you curious.

"Dangerous Dana" carried the fight to Norris from the start. He hit him at will with a cutting right jab that bloodied Norris's nose and mouth, and scored heavily. Frequently, he doubled the jab and followed with punishing rights to the chest and abdomen. Most ringside observers thought they were watching an impressive, lopsided victory for the kid with the blue and white trunks, and a Magen David on the left leg.

But midway through the eighth round, Rosenblatt stopped boxing. His potent left hand went into hibernation and instead of punching, he began clutching and holding.

It was more of the same over the next four rounds. Rosenblatt got in some jabs, but never used his left. Despite repeated warnings from referee Steve Smoger, he kept holding Norris rather than boxing. Even after Smoger ordered the two to break, Rosenblatt held on as long as he could.

Norris's managers protested the bout and demanded an immediate rematch because of Smoger's failure to deduct points from Rosenblatt. Neither claim is likely to be upheld by IBA officials.

At a post-fight news conference, Rosenblatt's manager, Joe Lake, sitting in for his fighter, said Dana had gone to the hospital for a couple of stitches to close a cut above his left eye. The truth was Dana had been rushed to the hospital in an ambulance, suffering from dehydration.

In Rosenblatt's previous fight against Arthur Allen, Dangerous Dana dominated the first nine rounds and then hung on as Allen mounted a desperate offensive. Everybody, including Rosenblatt, thought he let the fight get away from him. His effort, while impressive, left nothing in reserve for the final round. Coupled with his 12-round performance in Connecticut, observers are wondering whether there is something physically wrong with the 26-year old from Malden, Mass.

A *Boston Globe* report expressed concern about Rosenblatt's tendency to fade in a fight's late rounds. It compared Rosenblatt's situation to a similar event in Evander Holyfield's career when the champion inexplicably lost to Michael Moorer. It was first thought that Holyfield may have had an undiscovered heart problem but later it was determined he had so dehydrated himself in training that he lost his stamina during the fight.

Lake said he thought there might be a problem with Rosenblatt's electrolytes.

Rosenblatt, who normally fights at 160, weighed in at 158 for the Norris fight. But weigh-ins are held one to two days before the fight and boxers notoriously add weight in the interim. It is likely that by fight time, Rosenblatt was close to 168.

The IBA title Rosenblatt won is a recognized world title, but not of the first tier. Those titles are held by boxers under promoter Don King's control. King and Top Rank – run by Bob Arum – are more than competitors, they're open enemies, with a great deal of dislike for one another. This enmity makes it unlikely Rosenblatt will get a shot at any of the titles held in higher esteem by boxing mavens.

To get around the problem, there has been some talk of moving Rosenblatt to junior middleweight – 154 pounds – an active division with many quality boxers. But if Rosenblatt dehydrates himself to get down to 160, what would his condition be at 154 or less?

Even before the dehydration problem surfaced, Top Rank began shopping Rosenblatt in Europe and possibly Israel, to fight European champions. Ron Katz, who promotes Rosenblatt for Top Rank, stated openly at the press conference, he is trying to arrange a match with WBA and European Middleweight Champion Laurent Boudouani in France.

But first, Dana must sit down with his doctors, advisers, and his family, to decide his future.

Unlike most boxers, Rosenblatt has some academic credential to fall back on. After high school, Northeastern University offered him a scholarship but he turned it down to enrol at Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) and pursue his boxing career. He completed two years at BHCC, graduating with a 3.75 grade point average. He is currently attending the University of Massachusetts-Boston and majoring in philosophy.

Rosenblatt, 26, is just the fifth Jewish boxing champion since Bantamweight Robert Cohen in 1954, and the first to hold the middleweight title since Solly Krieger took it from Al Hostak in 1938.

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Soccer team holding tryouts

TORONTO — Maccabi Canada is holding tryouts for the 11-man, outdoor soccer team that will represent the Great White North at the Pan American Maccabiah, to be held in Mexico City in July 1999.

Two thousand athletes from 19 countries are expected at the games.

Tryouts in Toronto will be held on Dec. 28 at the Associated Hebrew Schools' Leslie branch, 6100 Leslie St. The morning session runs from 9 a.m. to noon, the afternoon practice from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participants are asked to bring any equipment they may need, including indoor and outdoor shoes.

The upcoming Pan Am Maccabiah marks a departure for the Canadian soccer program, which in previous games has sent only a small, indoor team. This time, Canada will field a complete roster and play outdoor soccer. Players must be of Jewish descent and more than 18 years old, according to head coach Martin Scott.

All players are required to complete an application form. Forms are available on the World Wide Web at [www.total.net/~maccabi] or by calling the coach at 905-771-6465. Those selected will be required to pay their own way to Mexico.

The Inside Back

An evening with Yehuda

By JORDAN MAX

Last Laugh

PBP: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, I'm Ploni ben Ploni, your host of *Living History*. Tonight we have an exclusive interview with Yehuda Hamaccabee, one of the heroes of the Chanukah story. Mr. Hamaccabee, can you tell, in your own words, what led a bunch of simple Jewish townspeople and farmers to take on the Syrian King Antiochus and his army?

YH: It's a long story. My father, Mattityahu, was a brave man who had enough of those assimilated Hellenistic Jews running the local town. Well, one day, they just announced that all residents and all shuls were going to have to go glatt treyf, and moreover, there wouldn't be any more learning Torah, brit milah, yamim tovim, the whole megillah.

My father stood up in the town square and announced that he was not going to tolerate such an infringement on his religious freedom. Then, after a lot of chakking, he got B'nai Brith, the ADL, and the ACLU to lobby and send strongly worded letters to the Syrian authorities.

Meanwhile, my father formed a revolt committee, got a special projects grant from the local federation, held a Rebellion Gala to raise money and corporate sponsorship, and persuaded the local Jewish paper to cover it. It just spread, spontaneously, like wildfire throughout the land.

Naturally, the higher authorities, who weren't invited to the Gala, didn't like such trouble, so they called in the Syrian army to intervene, and well, before you knew it, we were conducting ambush raids on the Syrians. Of course, we did have God as our chief corporate sponsor. As you know, Ploni, I died in battle in the second year of the rebellion. How did it turn out?

PBP: Well, Yehuda, your brothers continued on fighting, defeated the Syrian army, cleaned and rededicated the Beit Hamikdash, then relit the menorah which burned for eight days, with only one day's worth of oil. Our sages named the holiday Chanukah.

YH: You see, when you have a good corporate sponsor, you can't lose. This name Chanukah, it sounds very nice, maybe catchy even. So, you mean people know of our rebellion?

PBP: Yehuda, today, every Jewish child knows of your heroism, the miracle of the few defeating the enemy, the miracle of the oil that lasted for eight days. In fact, it's one of our most popularly observed holidays. Jews celebrate it by lighting a chanukiyah each night with colorful "dripless" candles, eating foods fried in lots of oil, gambling with a dreidel, giving chocolate coins to children, maybe even learning a little Torah. In fact, I even have a few latkes and soofganiyot here . Please, try one...what do you think?

YH: Hmm...not greasy enough, needs more salt. So, what happened after we rededicated the Beit Hamikdash?

PBP: The Macabees got rid of the Syrians, and re-established Jewish sovereignty under the Hasmonean kings until they became corrupt and then the Romans came, destroyed the second Beit Hamikdash and exiled most of the Jews. It took almost 2,000 years, but finally we have a Jewish state again in Eretz Yisrael. Mind you, we're now in the process of handing parts of it over to another people...

YH: Boy, you do miss a lot of news being dead. Do Jews today do anything else to remember our battles and the miracles?

PBP: I'm sorry to tell you this, Yehuda, but modern Jews also buy large gifts for their children, light huge public menorahs with all the local dignitaries, put up chintzy decorations, send greeting cards, and hold huge parties with lots and lots of eating.

YH: Excuse me for saying so, Ploni, but let me tell you from experience, it's all that mimicking the gentiles that got us into the trouble in the first place. You see...

PBP: Well, I'm afraid that's all the time we have for the tonight's interview. Thank you again, Yehuda Hamaccabee for being my guest. Be sure to join us next week on *Living History*, for our exclusive interview with King Antiochus, who will give the other side of this fascinating story. Good night.

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1/4 cup Grand Marnier or kosher orange liqueur

Peel, halve, core and slice pears. Heat butter in large skillet. Add pear slices and turn so both sides are coated. Cook, uncovered, over low heat, stirring often, 15-20 minutes or until soft and some of pears have fallen apart. Continue cooking over medium heat to evaporate some liquid.

Add sugar; cook over medium heat, stirring, until mixture is thick and dry. Remove compote from heat; stir in brandy. Yield: 4-6 servings.

MARTIN & FRAN CAPLAN WISH YOU A JOYOUS CHANUKAH

About Teens

Dear Karilani,

I seem to be always on the defensive with my parents because they are continually interfering with my choice of classes in school. They nag me to take courses that will "get me somewhere in life." I am tired of hearing about it. I find myself avoiding contact with them as much as possible because I don't want confrontations with them. I want to pick stuff that I am interested in, and it certainly isn't math! Now some of my aunts and uncles have started to get on my case too. Do I have an out?

Frazzled and Frustrated Student

Dear Frazzled and Frustrated Student,

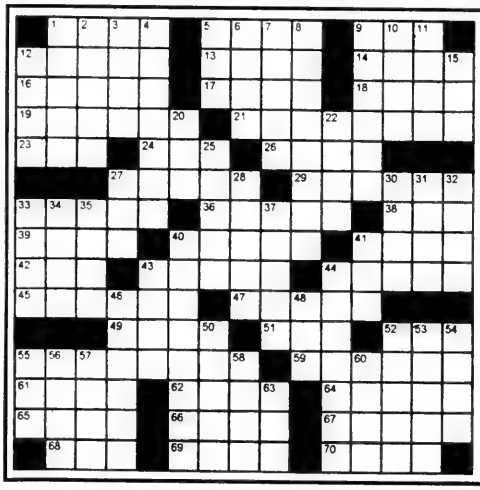
The "somewhere" that you hope to get in life is not your parents' destination, nor your relatives', or your friends' destination. It is yours. Ultimately, you will find that the path to your goals can only be taken by yourself. Taking courses at school is a way of attaining your specific career goal. For example, if you want to be an architect, it would be advisable to take math, physics and art, but if you want to be a journalist, you would possibly take English, and creative writing.

You should explain this to your family and hopefully they will stop pressuring you once they understand your aspirations. Avoiding your parents is not the right way of resolving these issues with them, as it just leads to more conflict. Try to tell your parents that the classes you take are a reflection of your interests and goals. Explain that you want to take courses suited to your needs and strengths.

If you are not sure of your specific career goals yet, but know what subjects you enjoy, then go talk to your school's guidance counsellor, who will be able to objectively look at your strengths and weaknesses and provide some positive direction.

If you do not feel comfortable with a guidance counsellor, then you can speak to a favorite teacher who may also offer you advice on attaining your goals. Do not give up on your dreams so quickly. Other people often expect a lot from you, but it is most important to stay true to yourself and follow your own heart. I am sure that you will excel in the classes that you have chosen and that these classes will direct you towards the career of your choice.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. David's instrument
5. Mishmash (Eng.)
9. Amy Alcott's score
12. Gompers' cause
13. Levaye notice
14. Palestinian
16. Made aliyah
17. Comedian Roseanne
18. Matriarchs
19. Seder segment
21. "Shampoo" actress
23. Gaza to Jerusalem (dir.)
24. Pouch
26. Bloody river
27. Great Ishmaelite archers
29. Antiochus
33. Life and Knowledge
36. Hebrew letter
38. Business degree
39. Effortless
40. "Love Story" writer
41. Eating regimen
42. B'nai B'rith youth org.
43. Pierced as sign of bondsmen
44. Make Aliyah
45. Leah's first
47. Mezuzot sites
49. Yeladim (Eng.)
51. Meshuggeneh (Eng.)
52. Ein Gedi
55. Angels
59. Solomon's legend
61. Ibn Gabirol specialty
62. Paradise
64. Like Mohel's tool
65. Ark
66. Shushan
67. Agadah
68. Title for Golda
69. Bris must
70. Uses his tuches

Down

1. Abram's brother
2. Tent for Abraham
3. Zionist Halprin
4. Makes the wine
5. Org. for Meyer Lansky
6. Israeli Mountain
7. Shofar blast
8. Rebbe's topper
9. Like Noah's animals
10. Richard Tucker specialty
11. Noah's problem
12. Kinneret
15. Bissel (Eng.)
20. Owned
22. Sameach (Eng.)
25. Scout
27. "__ Largo", Bacall film
28. Imitated Pharoah
30. 2,002
31. Ribicoff and Geiger
32. Sharansky to friends
33. Shiva clothes
34. Demolish
35. Jacob's twin
37. Comedian Jackie
40. Songwriter Stephen
41. Hadassah employees
43. Jump
44. Bezaleel workers
46. Shofar sounds
48. "__ Crowd", Birmingham
50. Torah portion
52. Commandment word
53. Shimon
54. Egyptian snakes
55. Kol Nidre sound
56. Esau
57. Tuches (Eng.)
58. Not on Yom Kippur
60. Eighteen
63. Jerusalem to Tiberias (dir.)

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Conneticut. *(Last week's answers are on page 55.)*

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Happy Chanukah

The Canadian Jewish news

SECTION B

The above painting by Reuven Rubin, *The Flute Player*, evokes feelings of happiness and cheerful serenity. Perhaps more than any other holiday in the Jewish calendar, Chanukah elicits in us those very same sentiments. In the following pages of these Chanukah Greetings, we have reproduced the "winning" entries of our fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest along with a sampling of honorable mentions that celebrate the many emotions of Chanukah. *Chag Samayach*.

'The light of the candle'

As in years past, we were deeply gratified and moved by the response of our readers to our fourth annual Chanukah poetry contest. We received a great number of wonderfully-crafted, thoughtful, evocative poems.

When bringing personal judgment to bear on creative works, there is, unavoidably, a large subjective element in declaring some works and not others as "winners." But we had no choice. The "winning" entries appear on the pages that follow along with a selection of some of the other poems we received.

We thank everyone who took the time to write and submit a poem. May you do so again next year.

It is our great pleasure therefore to present the winners of the fourth annual *CJN* Chanukah poetry contest.

Congratulations to:

- Brenda Spigelman Ajzenkopf and I.J. Schecter in the over 18 category,
- Nicole Kallmeyer and Hayah Goldlist in the teen category, and
- Helen Ennok, Hila Huelse, Nina Kagan, Ella Kofman, Leytal Ross and Carly Stone in the 12 and under category.

Reading the poetry, especially the poems of the youngsters, reminds us of the power of the story of this uniquely-celebratory holiday. In their own way, in their own words, in their own rhymes, our children express their connection to their people.

In a certain sense, borrowing the first line of the poem by Brenda Spigelman Aizenkopf, our children, are "the light of the candle" in whose radiant glow we commemorate the holiday, singing praises to them and to God for having brought us to this day.

CHANUKAH PAST

If I were the light of the candle
In the years prior to my living
I'd have known my family's simchah
And the glow that Chanukah was giving.

If I could bring back those olden days
Prior to my people's demise
I would see my grandparents' youth
Their faces with tears in their eyes.

If I were the children's dreidel
My parents would have me to hold
In this Chanukah joy they could love me
And their laughter upon me unfold.

If I were the music and horah
The sound would encircle the room
Right then my world I'd envision
With rainbow and flowers in bloom.

If I could but taste of the moment
Its sweetness and warmth to derive
The festival we call Chanukah
Would sing in my being, alive.

By Brenda Spigelman Ajzenkopf
Montreal

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Happy Chanukah

THE FLAME

Upon the wick, with steady hand
I lay the match, at whose command
My eyes in hushed reflection stare
And quietly imagine there

A peasant, who has stood and warred
So that I may this day afford
Who steals across the temple ground
Amid the kinsmen he has found

Then pauses in his weary stride
Before the flame which should have died
And thinks, here, for our desperate fight
One drop of oil, eight days of light

A breeze creeps past my window still
The candle flickers, then is still
Though he and I have never met
Within my soul, the flame burns yet.

By I.J. Schecter
Toronto

CHANUKAH

For eight days straight the candles are lit
Each tiny flame burning, representing
A union long ago
Where the Maccabees fought, and died in our honor
The brass of our chanukiyot shines, like the metal of their armor
Eight separate days, one nation, one heart

The smell
Of the oil, of wax, of the flame
The taste
Of mama's latkes, special spices of the chag
The legend
Zayde tells, the wisdom in his eyes
The feeling
Of warmth of light

A tiny oil lamp
Who would have thought?
Those eight miraculous days
The menorah glowed in peace
A gift
Perhaps
That tiny oil lamp, that kept hope alive

As we gather round to bless ancient times
And the sevivon spins, round in hypnotic form
We shall never forget
We are one, like the flame
But separated
Like the chanukiyah.

By Nicole Kallmeyer, 13 years old

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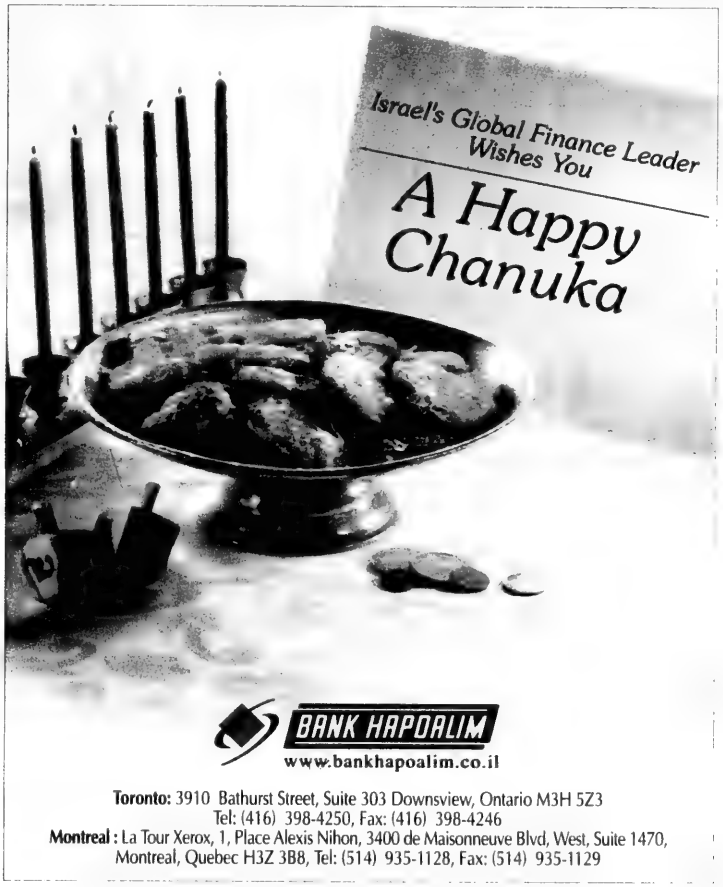
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Happy Chanukah

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On Chanukah Night ...

We remember our people suffering from slavery
We remember how Mattathias fought so bravely
We remember Antiochus said 'bow' and brought statues to us
We remember that the Maccabees made a fuss
We remember hiding so we could learn Torah
We remember finding oil to light the menorah

So we play with our dreidels and have lots of fun
The letters on it stand for ness, gadol, haya, sham
We get presents and Chanukah gelt
We remember how our people felt
With presents and gelt and dreidels to play
Chanukah is definitely my favorite holiday.

By Carly Stone, 9 years old

The Eighth Day of Chanukah

On Chanukah night
I watch the candles
glimmering bright.
Each day I count one by one
And watch them burn
until they're done.
It was the eighth day of Chanukah and
I didn't want it to end.
I wish Chanukah could come
Next week again.
Lighting those candles
Was so much fun
I wish
It had just begun.
I guess I have to enjoy it
While it's here.
I know Chanukah
Will come back next year.

By Nina Kagan, 10 years old

ROOTS

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Chanukah

What does Chanukah mean
to me? They ask
And to this I do reply
Chanukah is a day
to remember,
Remember the Maccabim
who died.

Chanukah are days of joy
In which we do rejoice
Rejoice for the victory
of the people of the man
Who cried: Whoever
is for God, come with me.

Chanukah is the time to show
How proud we are to be Jews.
We light our chanukiot
at the window
To spread our
wonderful news.

Chanukah is one of my
Favorite holidays
Because we remember
and rejoice
In the victory of a past phase.

Hayah Goldlist, 13 years old

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Chanukah

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Happy Chanukah

Chanukah

There are these eight days in a year which bring light to every house.
These days are very tasty, crispy I might add.
We sit very patiently listening to the dreidels spin.

Thinking of "Ness Gadol Haya Sham,"
Families gathering, children saving their tasty gelt.

As we look at the shamash and think how far our Judaism has come,
But the best – ISRAEL – is yet to come.

By Leytal Ross, 10 years old

WHAT BEAUTY

Through the window I see the beauty of the Menorah
It lights up the room so beautifully; what a grand sight
I can see the children making latkes with their mothers
and the dreidels Dancing on the tables,
the happiness of the holiday.
What a sight to see –
Chanukah, Chanukah
What Beauty!

By Hila Huelse, 11 years old

Dreidel! Dreidel!

Dreidel! Dreidel! turn around,
You're the special toy I found.
I will play with you today
And again on Saturday.
On your side it's written that
There was a miracle
That happened there.
I just like to play with you
Because I caught the
dreidel flu.
So every year you turn
and turn,
Until you cannot return.
So dreidel! dreidel! turn around.
Because you're the special toy
I found

By Ella Kofman,
11 years old

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My CHANUKIAH

My Chanukiah
brings great light
From the candles
that are so bright.

I used to put it
in my sight
To see the candles
all the night.

How can I ever
forget that night
When the candles
used to be so bright?

And I didn't
need a thing
To see its shadow
on my ring.

By Helen Ennok,
11 years old

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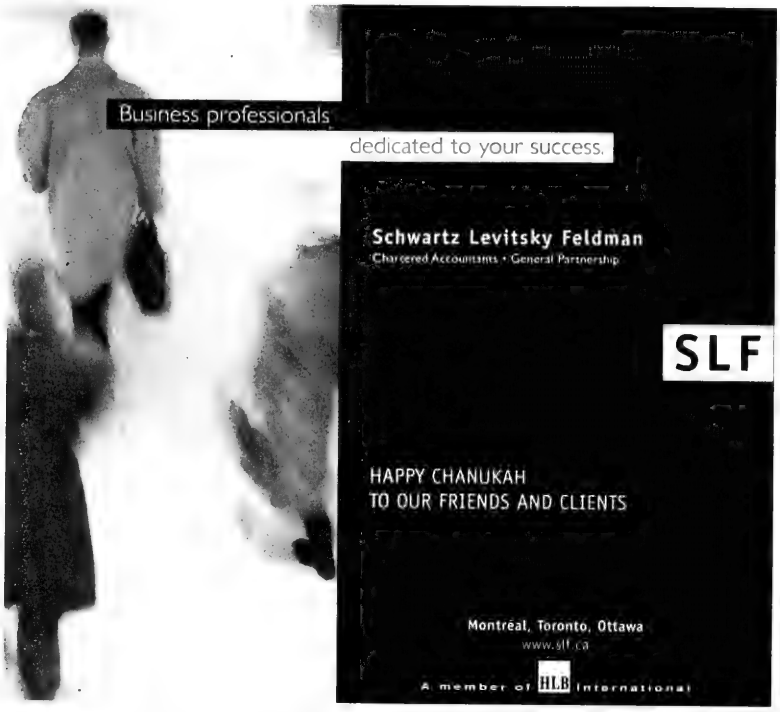

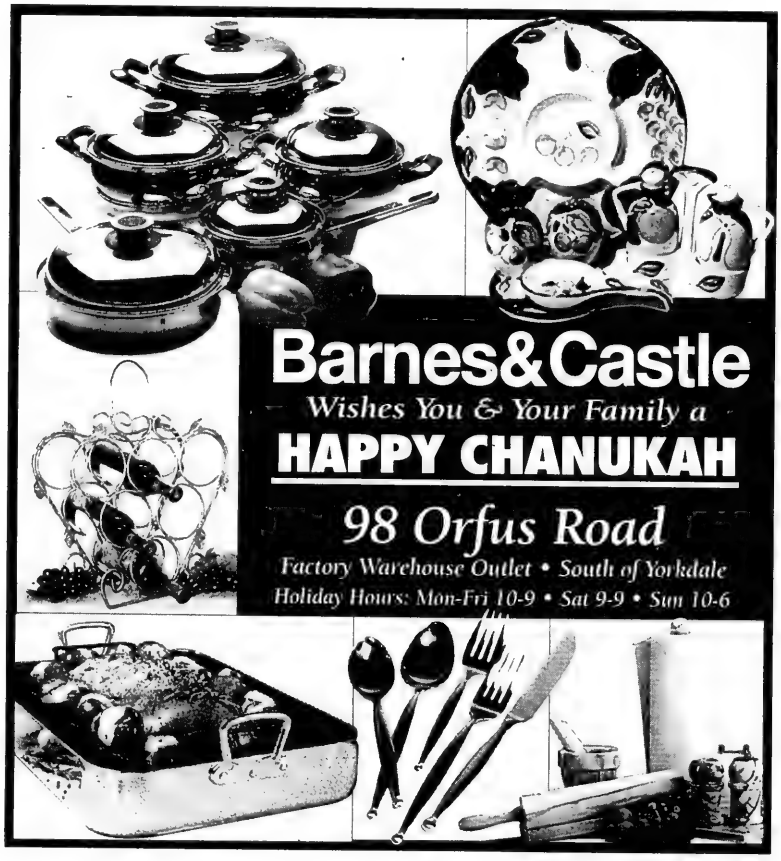
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Eisenberg, Selina
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Goldwater, Dorothy
Gottlieb, Gordon
Julius, Lila
Kastner, Joe
Mandle, Lisa
Podlog, John
Shapiro, Ellen
Silverman, Sima
Spring, Debbie
Wise, Jean

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Ayele, Jacob
Azimov, Leanne
Bacher, Corey
Baruch, Elise
Benhaim, Jessie
Bordman, Zachary
Bronshteyn, Yulia
Budning, Warren
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Best Wishes for a Happy Chanukah

The Chanukah miracle of '36

By LUBA GREENBERG

The month of December approaches, and as the days grow shorter and the nights become longer, I remind myself not to despair, for Chanukah is coming and the Festival of Lights will once more rescue us from the darkness of winter. As we see and feel the warmth of the candles, we will once more experience a renewal of life, a restoration of faith and optimism, and maybe even a miracle.

Many years ago, in 1936, I did experience a miracle during Chanukah. It began in a roundabout fashion.

I was 12 years old and we lived in Kelwood, a small hamlet 200 miles north of Winnipeg. We were the only Jewish family in town. That summer, my father dropped a bombshell – we were moving to Winnipeg, and leaving the place where I had spent my entire life. Our general store was closing and we were going to become city dwellers. Our lifestyle was about to change radically. My mother and older sister were elated at the prospect but I felt overcome with a vague terror and homesickness at the thought of leaving all that was dear and familiar to me.

Our store had been the focus of the main street in town and had provided us with a very good life. Although we visited Winnipeg frequently, I couldn't imagine not coming back to our town.

However, the Great Depression of the 30s had caught up with us, and by 1936 the Prairie had been hit with a vengeance. Young as I was, I was aware of something ominous in the air. From snatches of adult conversation, I heard about the desperation of starving farmers all around us. There was talk of impending war as Hitler raged in Germany, while here in Canada Nazi Bund movements appeared on the prairies, and in Quebec, a man named Adrian convinced people to wear swastikas and to gather in groups to threaten Jews.

A numbing silence seemed to envelop the town. The train no longer dropped visitors at our station – just crowds of men from the cities, so called "Relief Gangs' because relief was all they had to live on. They were on their way to the lumber camps up in the Riding Mountains.

I had often watched, transfixed, as they descended from the train, shivering in clothing inadequate for the fierce Manitoba winter. They huddled together in silence on the open sleds pulled by teams of four horses, on the last leg of the journey into the snow-filled icy mists of the mountains.

Whenever I gave voice to my fears and apprehensions about moving, the family bombarded me with phrases like: "You will soon learn to love living in the city. Grandma and Grandpa are there, and what about your cousins? We can go to the movies and public libraries! You'll meet other Jewish children."

These entreaties fell on deaf ears. All I wanted was continuity and familiarity. However, the wheels had been set in motion. September, the month set for our departure, arrived in all its fall glory. The mountains, now tinted in watercolor hues of purple and blue, looked more beautiful than ever. But nature's poignant beauty only served to accentuate my own despair at this upheaval.

How I would miss the skating carnival held on a rink lit by the lights of the Aurora Borealis; and our store at Christmas, lit up like fairyland with tinsel and toys. Every year, the school held a Christmas Cantata. The previous year, I had played the part of a Japanese princess.

Although everyone knew that, as Jews, we did not celebrate Christmas, we were invited to view the tableaux at the Anglican church, and when Santa Claus handed out presents to all the school children at the town hall, there was always a gift for me, too. I knew, of course,

Continued on page B9

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Councillor Rob Davis

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For the children that have
never seen light.

Light one candle
For the joy to remember.
For the feeling that's
lighter than bright.

Light one candle
For the wartime survivors,
That still have hope
and might.

Light one candle
For the people of Israel
Who can always
win a fight.

Light one candle
For yourself,
To remember the passion
on this Chanukah night.

By Kaylee Silver, 10 years old

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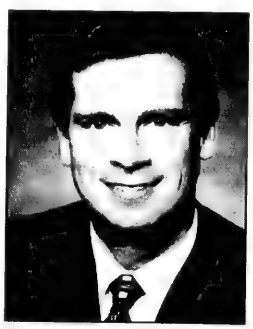

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Happy Chanukah

When Chanukah candles are lit, miracles can happen

Continued from page B8

that it came from my father's store, and that there was no such thing as Santa Claus.

I had always gazed wistfully at the Christmas trees and decorations around us, but never asked nor expected that we would have our own. I was well aware that we were not really a part of this holiday or any other Christian holiday. We were "foreigners," tolerated by politeness and kindness by our British immigrant neighbors. It seemed to me, that in my short life, we always were sitting on the outside – on the periphery of happenings – wherever we were, be it here in town with our Christian friends or in Winnipeg with our Jewish family. At times it was a lonely place to be. But the thought of the city held worse terrors. In Kelwood, we had space, streets, gardens, cats, dogs, and the privilege of knowing every single person in town. The city was unknown quantity – overwhelmingly large and impersonal.

The fateful moving day arrived and we departed in our huge green Nash to conquer new frontiers. This was not like any other visit we had ever made; now there would be no coming back. There were no words to comfort me. Nor did I believe any of the admonitions that I would learn to love the city. Depression enveloped me like a cloud and it would not lift for sometime to come.

The landscape of the city struck me as being dreary and noisy after the quietness of country living. The houses seemed small and crammed together. My father, totally immersed in starting a new business, was seldom home and even then was preoccupied. My mother, too, was busier and home less often, as she was now living in the bosom of her own family. My sister was involved with her new peer group and cousins her own age. The cousins my age were the wrong sex – boys who were off playing hockey.

It was soon December, and Chanukah was approaching. It had never been a significant holiday for us as it had always been the busiest time of the year in our store and we were never in the city at that time. My grandparents and great aunts and uncles who lived in Winnipeg would light the candles and dispense Chanukah gelt to visiting children.

Jewish scholars today describe the history of Chanukah as a confused and convoluted story, but the one theme that has emerged, and has been passed on to our own children, is the triumph of the Maccabees in restoring the temple and the miracle of the lights, where one night's oil magically burned for eight.

It was during this period that a school friend, a particularly sweet-faced and pleasant girl named Annie, handed me an invitation to a Chanukah birthday party. Annie had, in many ways, appointed herself my mentor in learning city ways, and although filled with trepidation, I began to anticipate the party.

I arrived at Annie's door on the day of the party to be greeted by a room filled with Jewish children who happily gathered me into their midst as if I were one of them. Annie's mother lit the chanukiyah, and to me, the lights seemed to glow with a very special brilliance. Here, one was not allowed to sit on the fence. We played games, sang songs that I did not know, but managed to pick up here and there. We dined on latkes with sour cream and apple sauce and birthday cake topped by 12 candles for Annie. Annie made a wish and blew out the candles, but the Chanukah lights shone on with a dream-like radiance.

That evening, as I walked the short distance home after the party, it seemed to me that the street had taken on a special glow. In many windows there were chanukiyot with candles burning to commemorate the start of the Chanukah holiday. With a sense of elation, I now knew that they shone for me, too. I had found a new community. I knew that a kind of miracle had occurred. The city would become my new home.

The depression and fear I had experienced since moving vanished and I was free to perceive Winnipeg with fresh eyes.

My friend Annie did not live to see another birthday or Chanukah. She succumbed to leukemia. But the Chanukah candles continued to shine in the window of her home as a tribute to her for many years to come.

Every Chanukah I think of the Herculean task it took to restore the temple, and the courage and faith that is sometimes necessary to go on living. When the candles are lit, I know that miracles can happen.

CHANUKAH

The days of dreams have
come with lots and lots of joy
Spinning dreidels everywhere
and latkes flipping in the air
That's the Holiday I like

The lit flame of the shamash
was high in the air and eight
other candles shining right over there
That's the Holiday I like!

When the dreidel spins all day
and the children like to play
and many presents coming our way
That's the Holiday I like!

It's Chanukah!

By Alexandra Rubinov, 9 years old

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Richard "Mickey" Goldberg (centre) at the Chanukah celebrations, as candles are being lit.

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Chanukah party in postwar Germany

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

The glow of Chanukah candles often rekindles memories of past celebrations, both joyous and poignant.

For Richard Goldberg, or Mickey as he is known to family and friends, the festival of lights, evokes memories of postwar Germany and the Chanukah party he and other Canadian Jewish servicemen organized in 1945 for a very young group of Holocaust survivors.

Along with vintage pictures and letters laid out neatly on the coffee table of his Toronto condominium, were newspaper clippings, yellowed with age. Accounts of the servicemen's efforts to help the child survivors were reported in the *Gazette* and the *Montreal Star* in 1946.

Goldberg, a former Montrealer, recounted this story to *The CJN*, describing in vivid detail, events that took place more than half a century ago.

The story begins in June 1945, several weeks after VE-Day. Goldberg, a corporal in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and a member of the 126 Wing, the all-Canadian Spitfire unit, was stationed with his unit in "luxurious" German officers' quarters some 10 km outside of Hamburg.

Continued on page B11

Happy Chanukah

The children getting ready to celebrate before the candles are lit.

Airmen came across tiny wooden shul

Continued from page B10

One day, he and fellow unit member, the late Sam Kirshner, ventured out to see Hamburg. The city had been bombed very heavily by the Allies, and the mass physical destruction was very evident.

The two airmen wandered through the city, and much to their astonishment, they came across a tiny wooden synagogue completely intact, he said. "We couldn't believe this little place had been spared from the bombings. Around it was all kinds of devastation, and this place had survived."

He and Kirshner entered the shul and found an elderly gabbai; neither serviceman spoke German, but Goldberg, fluent in Yiddish, was able to communicate with the older man.

Upon enquiring about Jewish survivors, they learned that of the 1,000 survivors in the city – many were non-German former concentration camp inmates – some 20 to 25 children from mixed marriages had survived the war in Hamburg. "Their [non-Jewish] relatives had managed to hide these kids."

Despite the risk of being court-martialled for fraternizing with the Germans, the two servicemen arranged to see the children, a rarity in Europe since most Jewish children did not survive the war; the following week they all congregated at the home of a Mrs. Shultz, Goldberg said.

"We met these children and we saw that they were desperate for food. We decided we had to help these kids."

All the servicemen were getting regular parcels of food, sent to them from their families in Canada, and so Goldberg and Kirshner determined that they would collect parcels from the 20 "Jewish boys" stationed with them and distribute them to the child survivors in Hamburg, Goldberg said.

He had Jewish contacts at the post office who would let them know when the other Jewish men got their packages from home, he said. "When Joe Blow got a parcel and he went to pick it up at the postal section I had been notified ahead of time. I was standing there waiting for him."

None of his fellow servicemen turned him down, Goldberg said, recalling that he and Kirshner had urged the men to ask their families, friends and community agencies to send more bundles of food and clothing.

Their appeals for food, particularly in Montreal, were eventually so successful, servicemen who had been sent two or three packages a months began receiving up to 30 parcels a week, Goldberg noted.

When they had gathered enough food bundles for 17 children – their ages ranged from 2 to 11 – Goldberg said he devised a plan to skirt the issue of fraternizing with the Germans: he asked the Protestant chaplain attached to the air unit to come along on the first delivery.

Describing the padre as a compassionate man "who knew how the Jews had suffered," Goldberg produced a letter, written by Chaplain

Continued on page B12

THE HOLIDAY CHANUKAH

Chanukah is lots of fun, inside the house or in the sun.
Spinning dreidels with my friends, the Chanukah fun just never ends.
Opening presents is so exciting, lighting the menorah watching it brightly.
Eating lots of Chanukah gelt. Eat it up before it melts.
Latkes always taste so good, just the way they always should.
Play with all my cousins and friends, because Chanukah is almost at its end.
Then we open a few presents more. The guests leave and behind them we shut the door.

By Lauren (Shira) Weinberg, 8 years old

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Party held for 'adopted' kids

Continued from page B11

Frank Harback in 1945, outlining the charitable activities of the unit's "Hebrew personnel."

With this letter of authorization in their possession, Goldberg said he and Kirshner felt they were protected from being court martialled, and thus free to carry on with their food distribution.

The letter even emboldened them to slip into Denmark from time to time to purchase – on the black market – milk and butter for the children, when those commodities were unavailable in Germany.

With Chanukah approaching, Kirshner and Goldberg decided to throw a Chanukah party for their "adopted children."

Mrs Shultz offered her home as the venue, and she also volunteered to do baking, but there was a problem; she had no ingredients for the cakes. So Goldberg and Kirshner turned to their Jewish contacts in the mess hall to get what they needed, and then smuggled these supplies off the airbase.

"And we did something very, very funny. To this day, I still laugh when I think of it," Goldberg said with a chuckle.

"The battle dress tunics were bulgy all round...We had eggs, sugar and flour inside our tunics, and here we were travelling in the back of a truck going to Hamburg, and standing with our arms wide-spread, our elbows up so we would not bump into each other and break the eggs."

He said despite the bumpy ride and their primitive packing methods, and Kirshner did not break a single egg.

The children's Chanukah party, which drew some 40 people – in addition to 20 children, were some of their parents, a few other Jewish servicemen, and the gabbai– "was the first party many of these kids ever experienced," Goldberg said. "the younger ones did know what a party meant."

He said that Mrs Shultz had a menorah and so they were able to light Chanukah candles, and one of the parents, a violinist, provided the entertainment.

Goldberg said the memories of that Chanukah celebration will remain with him forever. Weeks later, he was repatriated back to Canada. Kirshner, the last of the occupational unit to leave Germany, continued the food distribution for another six months until his return to Canada.

Goldberg said he often wonders what became of those children in Hamburg. "I wish I had kept in touch with them."

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Dreidels spin

Dreidels Dreidels
spin so fast
Who knows where it
will stop last?
Gimmel, Shin, nun or hey.
Who will be the
winner today?
Dreidels Dreidels
fun to play.
Who will win the
Chanukah gelt today?
Spin Spin round and
round which will be
the next letter to be found?
No one wants nun
because it means none.
But if you get gimmel
you'll have all the fun.
You can spin it
round and round
Sometimes even
upside down.

By Lauren Chad,
9 years old

Chanukah

Hurray! I shouted out loud
Today is Chanukah the day
To be proud.
I put on my clothes and got in
The van, I saw cousin Ron
and Aunti Pam.
We asked grandma to tell us a tale
Of the Jews who fought
and didn't fail.
"Alright," she said as she
gave out the gifts,
I got a yo-yo David got a ship.
"Time for dinner," mother said,
"We will have latkes and soup
and bread."
"Time for dreidels," round
and round,
They'll spin and spin and
never fall down.
Jelly doughnuts, sweet as can be,
I'll eat them all, 1, 2, 3!
"Time to go home, but don't
be upset
more fun tomorrow, ready
get set!"

By Emily Rubin, 8 years old

Happy Chanukah

CHANUKAH

A dreidel, a dreidel – a little one on my knee
That's what Chanukah means to me
Little ones – friends – family get together
Greetings – loving which couldn't be better
Lots of goodies, sweet for the sweet,
Acts of kindness – a special treat!
Loving and caring, a thought for others,
The whole world becomes our sisters and brothers
Bitterness and strife throughout the year
In the glow of Chanukah soon disappear
Candles brighten – troubles lighten
Happy laughter, ever after!
Chanukah – a time for joy
Let us celebrate – "Utazoy!"

A festival of lights – you say?
We need those lights to light our way
From early age to where we are,
At any age, – they're our bright stars
Which lead and guide us through our years;
Through joy, gladness, strife and fears.
This shining holiday comes to mind
As we reflect on good deeds we find
And also good things that come about
While we pursue our daily route
And celebrate life's wondrous dreams
Of family, friends; of loving scenes.
A toast to all who celebrate
Chanukah! Chanukah! – I can hardly wait!

By Sylvia Glicksman
North York

TO LIGHTEN OUR LIVES

You've stood in wait
all seasons long,
Menorah now resplendent.
Eight colored candles,
wick's afire,
reflect brilliance
in children's eyes,
as each in turn brought
flame to flare.

Joyful songs, tradition aged,
praise tales of
steadfast Maccabees.
Of Ner Tamid's constant glow,
which guards the Ark
where wisdom dwells.
The Torah which
designs our lives.

Chanukah gelt and
dreidels spin
delight young Jews
who celebrate
this festival of constancy.
The undefeated
strength of faith.
The power of resourcefulness.

Slowly rainbow
without its arch
sheds tears of wax
that it must wait
the twelve long months
to re-ignite,
its tale determination breeds.
That everlasting peace arrives.

By Leslie Fine
North York

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Happy Chanukah

Architect helps to restore famed Krakow shul

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

The first time Sam Gruber stepped inside the Tempel Synagogue in Krakow, Poland, he was "incredibly moved" by what he saw.

A consultant on Jewish heritage for the New York-based World Monuments Fund (WMF), Gruber had seen the Tempel from the outside in 1990, but had not been permitted to enter. Even so, judging only by the elegant but dilapidated facade, he had considered it one of the most impressive buildings in the famed historic district of Krakow-Kazimierz—a UNESCO world heritage site.

Considered the lone surviving example of the great 19th-century synagogues of Poland, the sumptuously decorated Moorish-Gothic structure had been built by a Reform congregation in 1862. Used by the Germans as a stable during World War II, it had been closed almost continuously since 1945.

Hearing in 1991 that the Tempel would be opened for a gala concert, Gruber rushed back to Krakow to attend. Stepping inside, he was awed by the elaborate wall paintings, the curtained ark, the Hebrew inscriptions, the women's balcony, the perfect symmetry of stone columns and Romanesque arches. All these elements seemed resplendent, albeit badly in need of repair and restoration after so many decades of neglect.

"I was amazed," he recalls. "The acoustics were wonderful. It was so moving to be in this place which had been closed and locked and empty for so many years. Now to see it suddenly filled with people and springing to life...I was overwhelmed."

The next day, he met with local Jewish communal representatives, who urged him to restore the building through the WMF's Jewish heritage program.

Since such a task has more to do with raising funds than raising scaffolds, Gruber began searching for donors. It took two years before a Houston philanthropist offered $30,000 (US) for a new roof. While only a fraction of the roughly $850,000 that the project was estimated to require, the gift nonetheless established a momentum that has attracted more substantial grants from the J. Paul Getty Trust, the European Union and others.

About 60 percent complete

The restoration is presently about 60 percent complete and continues on a phased basis, with another $150,000 required for completion. In November, scaffolding came down in the building's interior, revealing the newly cleaned ceiling; work is scheduled to begin soon in the apse, behind the lavish ark wall.

Beyond its importance to the local community, the Tempel is expected to provide a fitting prayer setting for Jewish groups that stop in Krakow enroute to Auschwitz and elsewhere.

More than anyone, it is Gruber, 42, an architectural historian living in Syracuse, N.Y., who is credited with turning around the fate of this project – and numerous others of Jewish provenance.

"Sam has worked tirelessly and against tremendous odds to advance the goals of the Jewish heritage project," says WMF vice-president John Stubbs. "He had to battle tremendous skepticism. People felt it was too massive a task, that it couldn't be done. They would ask, 'Where are you going to start?' and 'How are you going to do it?' Most of the likely supporters were more interested in the living culture than in restoring the old buildings. Sam has been able to show by doing, not just by talking and research. He's been able to show the doubters that it's possible to accomplish great things."

▪▪▪

Besides the WMF, Gruber is a key player in the privately funded International Survey of Jewish Monuments (ISJM) and the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad. These organizations have jointly conducted surveys of Jewish sites in Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Belarus, Ukraine, Turkey, Tunisia, Egypt, India and elsewhere. Gruber credits a variety of geopolitical factors, such as the new ease of travel in former Soviet-bloc countries, for making conditions in the 1990s highly favorable for this type of work.

The WMF has scored many outstanding research accomplishments in the 1990s, often in locations that would have seemed improbable in the 1980s. Robert Lyon, a *New York Times* photographer, snapped photos of several synagogues while travelling in Syria in 1995, and later showed the results to Gruber. Excited at seeing images of synagogues that few outsiders had seen before, Gruber commissioned Lyon to go back and shoot more. Lyon

Continued on page B15

The Jewish heritage program of the World Monuments Fund (WMF) relies upon private contributions in order to carry out its important task of restoring endangered Jewish monuments around the world. For its day-to-day operational expenses, the program relies upon an annual $100,000 grant from the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation.

The Lauder Foundation's five-year commitment has allowed the program to concentrate on raising funds on restoration projects such as the Tempel Synagogue in Krakow (described in the first article in this series).

To learn more about the program and to receive the WMF's booklet on *Endangered Historic Jewish Sites*, contact the WMF at 949 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10028. Telephone 212-517-9367, fax 212-517-9494.

Sam Gruber is editor of the *Jewish Heritage Report*, the quarterly publication of the International Survey of Jewish Monuments (ISJM).

For more information, contact the ISJM c/o the Jewish Heritage Research Centre, 123 Clarke Street, Syracuse N.Y. 13210. Fax 315-474-2347, e-mail [isjm@best.com]. The ISJM's Web site is [www.isjm.org].

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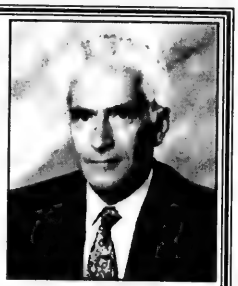
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Team visited 80 cities, towns

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managed to photograph 18 other synagogues before being asked to leave the country.

In Morocco, a WMF research team visited 80 cities and towns, documenting nearly 300 buildings, cemeteries and Jewish quarters. One product of that intensive effort has been an archival-quality set of 600 photographs of Moroccan synagogues that has been deposited in major libraries and institutions in Washington, New York, Jerusalem, Casablanca and other cities. The WMF has also published an abridged report, *The Synagogues of Morocco: An Architectural and Preservation Survey*, by Joel Zack, with photographs by Isaiah Wyner.

Another survey of Jewish cemeteries in Poland has proven invaluable for genealogists and others planning heritage-related trips there. Such a project would have been almost impossible, Gruber says, before the collapse of communism in 1989.

"The openness of the former Soviet Union is revealing amazing collections and monuments that weren't destroyed. And new opportunities have also opened up in North Africa and the Middle East, because it's now possible to conduct Jewish-related research projects in places like Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia. We're just beginning to scratch the surface in these places and we're just amazed to see what is still there: not everything was taken to Israel, not everything was destroyed. There's never been a better time to be doing this in the last 50 years."

With Gruber's guidance, the WMF has identified hundreds of endangered Jewish heritage sites around the world, and published a prioritized list of ten synagogues in immediate need of rescue. Besides the Tempel, WMF restorations have commenced at the Etz Hayim Synagogue in Hania, Crete, and the Paradesi Synagogue in Cochin on India's exotic Malabar coast.

Working with groups of local volunteers, Gruber also helped stimulate support for the restoration of the Pfaffenhoffen synagogue in the Alsace region of France, the only extant example of a pre-1800 two-story non-monumental synagogue, a type once common throughout Europe. He also spurred action on the Great Synagogue of the Boskovice Ghetto in the Czech Republic, a neo-Gothic structure whose interior was once covered with richly painted scenes, folk homilies and religious texts; the restoration is now about 75 per cent completed.

The WMF's 10 most-endangered list also includes a 1795 baroque synagogue in Mad, Hungary; the 17th-century synagogue associated with Rabbi Shlomo Ibn Danan in Fez, Morocco; a historic and architecturally significant 400-year-old synagogue in Pinczow, Poland; and the 1902 Subotica Synagogue in Serbia-Montenegro, which reflects a traditional Balkan Byzantine-Turkish design with many Hungarian folk motifs.

Although vitally required, these four restorations have been postponed until interested donors are found.

***

Sam Gruber, Jewish heritage consultant for the World Monuments Fund (WMF) and other organizations involved in conserving endangered Jewish monuments, lives with his family on a tree-lined residential street in Syracuse, N.Y., near the university campus.

Several blocks from his unexceptional white clapboard house, stands the elegant shuttered mansion that once housed the Jewish War Veterans, a building that Gruber is working with local activists to save. Others include the Onondaga County Poor House and the First Presbyterian Church in East Syracuse.

At 42, Gruber is well-known in Syracuse as a force in neighborhood preservation with a self-declared "passionate interest" in preserving heritage buildings of any sort.

Hours by car from any sizeable Jewish community, the attic of Gruber's home is the "mission control" for his ambitious rescue mission. The room is cluttered with books, files, scrolled architectural drawings and boxes of materials. Maps of Western Russia, the Baltics and Eastern Europe are pinned to the sloped dormer ceilings, some bearing stickpins as though a military campaign were under way. The desks and tables are buried beneath paperwork, layered like geological strata.

Gruber's bookshelves reflect the "explosion" of interest in Jewish heritage that has occurred in this decade. One of his favorite books of recent vintage is *Konin: A Quest*, by Theo Richmond. He is also partial to two guidebooks: *Jewish Heritage Travel: A Guide to Central & Eastern Europe* (1990) and *Upon the Doorposts of Thy House: Jewish Life in East-Central Europe, Yesterday and Today* (1994), written by his sister, Ruth Ellen Gruber. Stationed in Rome, Ruth Gruber is a foreign news correspondent and one

Continued on page B16

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Happy Chanukah

Gruber's family has interest in heritage buildings

Continued from page B15

of her brother's most valued researchers in the field.

Gruber comes by his "passionate interest" in heritage buildings honestly. His father, Jacob Gruber, founded the anthropology department of Temple University in Philadelphia, where he is still professor emeritus. His mother, Shirley Moskowitz, is a well-known artist. As children, Sam, Ruth and a third sibling, Frank – now an entertainment lawyer in Santa Monica – often accompanied their parents on trips to Eastern Europe and elsewhere. "When I was 3 years old, I was out in the field, doing archeological work," Sam recalls. "From my father, I learned the type of methodical investigation that involves detailed description and careful analysis, which underlies my working method."

Gruber earned a PhD in architectural history from Columbia University in the mid-1980s, specializing in the Italian medieval period. Part of his studies involved a stint at the American Academy in Rome, where he won the prestigious Rome Prize in art history. He also holds a degree from Princeton. But he admits he knew little then about Jewish architecture. "I had visited every medieval and baroque church in Italy, and I knew papal history backwards and forwards, but synagogues just didn't seem terribly relevant."

In Rome, he met Philipp and Raina Fehl, founders of the International Survey of Jewish Monuments. In conversation, he mentioned that a great-grandfather had founded a synagogue in a small Texas town, and that a grandfather had founded another in southern New Jersey. The Fehls persuaded him to deliver a lecture on the synagogues of rural Texas, then another on those of South Jersey. More lectures followed, each of which required extensive research. Before long, Gruber had developed a growing reputation as an authority on synagogue architecture.

Coincidentally, the WMF had been seeking someone with precisely that expertise. In 1989, having just completed its first "Jewish" restoration, a synagogue in Venice, the organization was besieged with requests to rescue Jewish monuments. "Crazy as it sounds, with all the thousands of Jewish organizations in the world, there wasn't a single one devoted to saving Jewish sites," Gruber recalls.

The WMF hired Gruber to spend a year compiling a report on the status of Jewish monuments around the world. The task was "impossible," Gruber admits, and the report still isn't finished. Gruber also found it next to impossible, back then, to spark any enthusiasm among Jewish audiences for his newly declared mission.

"I'd give a lecture in a synagogue, and there would be a large hostile section of the audience. A lot of the questions would be negative with an accusatory tone. People would say, 'Why would you want to go to Poland?' or 'What is there worth saving?' or 'Jews never created any worthwhile buildings or art,' or 'Why would you want to do anything there where they destroyed us?'

"I would respond with arguments like 'There was a thousand years of Jewish history in Poland' and 'Clearly not all Poles were hostile to the Jews' and 'We have a responsibility to remember our history.' I made these arguments again and again."

Jewish institutions also seemed unwilling to recognize the necessity of preserving the material remnants of the Jewish past in Eastern Europe and elsewhere. "Synagogues would say, 'We can't save old buildings, we have our leaky roof to fix.' People weren't interested in saving Jewish heritage in the late 1980s."

■■■

In determining where to allocate their limited resources, WMF officials generally perform a sort of architectural triage, often fingering a site for restoration from a long list of candidates. The process was different for the Etz Hayim and Paradesi synagogues, however, since each of these buildings is "one of a kind."

Once the centre of Crete's Jewish community, the Etz Hayim Synagogue is the only surviving Jewish monument on the island. Constructed in the 15th century as a church in a modest Venetian-Gothic style, it was converted to Jewish use in the late 17th century. The Nazis deported Hania's roughly 200 Jews by ship in 1944, and then sank the ship. After the war, the synagogue was used as a chicken coop, and suffered considerable damage in a 1994 earthquake.

Until recently it was an abandoned ruin, and in 1996 the WMF declared that "it will probably not survive another ten years without timely intervention." Despite its common architectural style, Etz Hayim was an obvious candidate for restoration. About 60 per cent of the work has been accomplished to date.

The better-known Paradesi Synagogue of Cochin, which still receives worshippers on Shabbat, was erected in 1568 by Sephardic settlers from Europe. It is a square building with a gabled roof, a cupola and a clock tower with numerals in Hebrew, Roman and Malayalam. Inside, one finds white plaster walls, an intricately carved wooden ark, a curved brass bimah, a chamber filled with antique lanterns, and hundreds of distinctive blue-and-white willow-patterned Chinese floor tiles dating from the 1700s. The WMF survey described the synagogue as "one of the most beautiful in the world" but warned that numerous repairs were required "before neglect leads to serious damage."

Thanks to the organization's timely intervention, all but the Paradesi's picturesque bell tower has been restored.

In Poland, by contrast, endangered Jewish structures are plentiful enough that only a relative few can realistically be rescued.

"We can't save a synagogue in every town in Poland, simply because they didn't survive," says Gruber. "But we also can't do it even in towns where synagogues did survive. It's too much money and too much work, and there are too few uses for these structures. So we choose buildings that can be effective surrogates for all the ones that don't get saved."

A fundamental consideration for each restoration is the desired time period. Should the building be restored to the era when it was built, or to how it looked in a more recent era such as before the Holocaust?

"This is a decision that every conservator faces, whether it's a synagogue in Poland or Grand Central Station in New York," Gruber notes. "With Jewish sites the question is particularly acute, because the shadow of the Holocaust never leaves."

For Gruber, delicate esthetic questions like these form the pillars of architectural restoration. By preserving key aspects of our architectural past, he says, we preserve essential elements of our culture and history that might otherwise get eroded or bulldozed into oblivion.

"People ask me 'Why do you care so much about saving old buildings?' It's because architecture is a doorway into the past. Sometimes it's not the building itself that's so important but having something physical in front of you that forces you to confront another age.

"An old building transports you," he says. "It's a time machine. It takes you back into history."

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they become,
because they are
helpless facing fate.

Little Jewish children
stand proud
alongside their heritage
and learn of the
plight many years ago.
The history of the holiday
is of complete contrast
to the candle.
The heated persecution
against the minority was
overthrown.

With faith, reliance, and
trust the outnumbered
were able to fight
Against Evil
Against Weaponry
Against Oppression.
We owe it to ourselves to
memorialize the miracles.
The candles are a small
reminder of the strength
and power of one.

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ONE MENORAH

The night was filled with Christmas lights
On snowy nights
In small town rites,
And yet amidst this shining aura
One Menorah
Fought its way as though enchanted
That those in cities took for granted
One Menorah on Christmas nights
Never forgot the Feast of Lights.

The night was filled with Yuletide sweets
And family meets
In small town streets,
But just one family turned away
From Christmas Day,
And sang the songs of Maccabees
That those in cities sang with ease.
One small prayer on the Feast of Lights
Cracked the air of Christmas Nights.

The eve was filled with prayers from Missal
Dinners formal
Thought as normal,
But one house on its own volition
Kept tradition
From father to sons, to save their existence
That those in cities never knew the difference.
And during those long, cold frosty-nights
A family was blessed by the Feast of Lights.

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Happy Chanukah

How they write us

By MICHAEL GREENSTEIN

Canadian Jewish fiction got off to a late start: Henry Kreisel's *The Rich Man* was published in 1948, a few years before A.M. Klein's *The Second Scroll* (1951) and several years before Mordecai Richler's earliest novels.

All the more remarkable, then, that Gwethalyn Graham's *Earth and High Heaven* (1944) antedated all of these novels and won the Governor-General's Award, considering that it confronted anti-Semitic prejudice in Canada at a time when fascism was widespread and deep-rooted in so many parts of the world.

Graham sets her love story between Marc Reiser, a Jewish lawyer from a small town in Ontario, and Erica Drake, a journalist from a wealthy Protestant family in Montreal, during World War II. Throughout the novel Erica's father objects to his daughter's alliance with a Jew.

Perceptive and empathetic, Graham cuts through stereotypes. Here is how she describes Erica's first view of Marc: "The strange young refugee was tall and very slender except for his shoulders; he had slanting greenish eyes, high cheekbones, a square jaw, and to Erica, looked more Austrian than anything else."

Appearances can be deceiving, for Marc is Canadian-born, not an Austrian refugee, and with his greenish eyes, not "typically" Jewish-looking. Indeed, Graham's open-mindedness questions the very idea of racial identity, and ultimately puts Erica's father in the position of a refugee as his Westmount world collapses around him during the war – the war with his daughter as well as the international conflict.

This novel is about mixing: earth and high heaven, realism and a romantic love story, Christian and Jewish. The novel chronicles the development of Marc and Erica, and by extension, the maturing of Canadian society into acceptance and understanding of minorities.

In part because this is a novel about love at first sight, Erica's awakening to the question of Jewish identity is sudden. As soon as Marc tells her that he was unable to get an apartment on Côte des Neiges because they don't accept Jews in the building, Erica is taken aback by the revelation.

She remembers voices repeating phrases and statements she had heard all her life without paying much attention, because they were so tiresomely unoriginal. "The voices were talking against a background of signs which she had seen in newspaper advertisements, on hotels, beaches, golf courses, apartment houses, clubs and the little restaurants for skiers in the Laurentians, an endless stream of signs which ... until now she had never bothered to read."

Semitic and semiotic, these signs could be found in many countries in the '40s, but with the expansion of liberal democracy during the second half of the 20th century, most of these signs have been removed, at least outwardly.

For Charles Drake, Erica's father, the barriers against Jews will always remain. The anti-Semitic signs are an albatross around his neck, and the novel is as much about his opposition to a particular Jewish lawyer as it is about the love between Marc and Erica.

When it comes to prejudices, inconsistencies are to be expected. Marc explains to Erica that there isn't a single Jewish point of view. "You get Jews like Mr. Aaronson who are British imperialists, Communist Jews who are Russian imperialists, Jews who are Zionists, Jews who are violently anti-Zionist, Jews like me who are just Canadians or Americans or Englishmen."

The reverse side of this pluralistic coin is Erica's vision of how Marc appears to her father. "He always came out as a nightmare figure, a crazy conglomerate of a shyster lawyer, quick, insinuating, and tricky; a fat clothing merchant with a cigar in his mouth, employing sweated labor with one hand and contriving to outsmart both his competitors and the government with the other; a loud-voiced, flashy young man pushing his way up to the head of the queue; a skull-capped figure muttering incantations in a synagogue..."

Multiple stereotypes balance the portraits offered by Marc, as Graham creates realistic Jews alongside stereotypes. What emerges is a three-dimensional picture of the Jew viewed from various perspectives and through realistic lenses.

Erica's sister Miriam eventually meets Marc and has to adjust her

Continued on page B19

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Earth and High Heaven

Continued from page B18

focus from category to individual. When she asks Marc if he is a realist, he replies that he is a "super-realist" – a term that might aptly describe Graham's super-realistic portrait of the Jew as super-realist.

In the final chapter of her novel, Graham enters the Yom Kippur service in Marc's hometown, Manchester, Ont. She intersperses verses from the service with narrative reflection on Marc's innermost thoughts. The resulting contrapuntal rhythm points to the polarities between earth and high heaven, between individual psychology and historic continuity, between particulars and universals.

Graham's narrator probes the religious spirit of Manchester's town hall at the sacred moment of Kol Nidre. "The dusty, commonplace, small town public hall was pervaded with a spirit of unity and faith which went back to the remote beginnings of this people in a country far away, and then returned, steadily broadening out until it had encompassed the world."

The shift in emphasis toward unity carries with it the risk of assimilation, for in the marriage of Marc and Erica, the question of Jewish identity remains unresolved.

With his fellow congregants, Marc recites, "His glory is above the earth and heaven." On the one hand, the title of the novel relates to this prayer; on the other hand, it derives from A.E. Housman's *A Shropshire Lad*: "Earth and high heaven are fixed of old and founded strong," and "high heaven and earth ail from the prime foundation." So the two lines highlight the novel's conflicted identity, oscillating between strength and ailing. The overlap of the Hebrew prayer and Housman's poem once again points to Graham's unitarian agenda.

Marc has warned Erica that marriage to a Jew will mean living in a kind of no man's land, that paradoxical space of a diaspora within a diaspora.

Ultimately what swings Marc in his decision to marry Erica is his older brother's approval. That David Reiser should be the final authority is rather unusual: he is a respected, compassionate and intelligent doctor; however, by remaining a bachelor in Ontario's hinterland, he himself negates the possibility of Jewish continuity.

David's stereotypically Jewish appearance is at odds with his non-Jewish existence; his dark features contrast with his "enlightened" views. David is very un-Jewish. For their discussion during the Day of Atonement, David takes Marc to a Greek restaurant.

For one who has been promoting a sense of unity and diversity, it is fitting that Graham places the crucial decision about the mixed marriage in the hands of someone who looks Jewish but takes an un-Jewish stance.

The resolution of the love story may seem too pat: Charles Drake's son dies in the war; so he finally accepts Marc. In the novel's final scene, Marc runs to Erica, who is standing by the barrier at the train station. That barrier will remain with them, and as often as they lift it, society will be there to remind them of its presence.

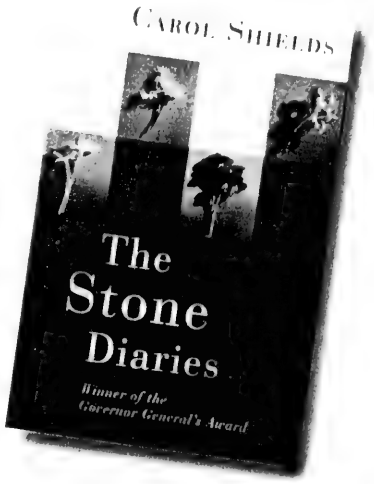
More than half a century has passed since the appearance of this ground-breaking novel. Where Graham was able to say that smaller towns were more liberal and democratic than cities like Montreal with its hierarchy, the situation has altered dramatically as urban space has become more ethnically diverse and many of the older structures have tumbled. The place of the cosmopolitan Jew in a postmodern, postcolonial world has shifted as the barriers have shifted.

Twenty years after *Earth and High Heaven*, Margaret Laurence's *The Stone Angel* was published. Laurence's longstanding friendship with Adele Wiseman colored her portrayal of Jewish characters.

Hagar Shipley, the protagonist of *The Stone Angel*, takes an instant liking to garrulous Mrs. Steiner, an elderly resident in the Manawaka hospital.

Laurence lets Mrs. Steiner speak directly in her own voice with a slight Yiddish inflection and with very little filtering through Hagar's narrative mind. "I was living before with Rita and her husband, and that

Continued on page B20



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Jewish picture fully developed in The Diviners

Continued from page B19

was fine when they had only Moishe, but when the girl was born, where was the space? Here's Moishe and Lynne here – he looks the spitting image of his grandpa, my late husband, the same dark eyes. And smart. The smartest little trick you ever laid eyes on. Look at Lynne. A little doll, isn't she? A real little doll."

Like Hagar, Mrs. Steiner is an elderly female outcast looking for space. Her grandson's name and dark eyes are markers of Jewish identity. Hagar examines the family photographs and sees two ordinary children playing on a teeter-totter. Laurence balances Mrs. Steiner's exaggerated sense of her "real doll" with Hagar's realistic sense of the ordinary; she goes Graham one step further in the process of "normalizing" the Jew in Canadian fiction.

A decade later, Laurence develops her Jewish picture slightly more fully in *The Diviners* (1974), where she writes about her years in Winnipeg and her affection for the Wiseman family.

Morag Gunn meets Ella Gerson in the office of the university's literary journal.

Ella's father had died several years earlier, and Mrs. Gerson runs a bakery to support her three daughters. "Mrs. Gerson is a tall strapping woman whose voice is brisk and bossy but also loving."

Laurence's balanced descriptions are matter of fact and to the point, without elaborate flourishes to take the reader outside of psychological reality. "Mrs. Gerson believes in God and Marx simultaneously, and is not dismayed by her daughters' suggestion of disparity in such a dual faith."

Laurence easily captures the outlook of Winnipeg's Jewish socialists and the warmth of the immigrant family. Mrs. Gerson's dual faith is precisely the reality that Laurence captures and balances to give an accurate picture of Jewish socialist life on the prairies.

A further 20 years separates Carol Shields' *The Stone Diaries* (1993) from *The Diviners*. Also set in Winnipeg, *The Stone Diaries* begins in the early part of this century so that, in contrast to Graham's contemporary context, Shields uses a distanced, double perspective spanning the entire 20th century.

Clarentine Flett wants to invite her neighbor, Mercy Goodwill, over for a pot of tea. Her reverie is suddenly interrupted: "She hears a voice, a man's high-pitched yipping, and looks up to see the old Jew stumbling toward her across the garden."

The narrator pauses to analyze the identity and representation of this character in an act of self-conscious historicism. "It's hard nowadays to talk about the old Jew. It's a tricky business. The brain's got to be folded all the way back to the time when the words 'old Jew' could be said straight out: old Jew; here comes the old Jew."

Shields repeats the phrase five times in as many lines as if to pin down and problematize the designation through confronting historical typing head on. In 1905, "the old Jew" carries the baggage of centuries; in 1993, the narrator, with a century of hindsight, deconstructs the original term, thereby making new our understanding. Not only does the old Jew stumble across the threshold of the prairies, but the new narrator stumbles through the parallels and thickets of the tricky business. Understanding comes from unfolding the brain and blurting out the epithet directly.

"And there he was with his dirty black clothes flapping in the heat, his hair all wild and strange about his head. He wears a hat of some kind, shredded and filthy and pushed to the back of his skull... The long eroded lines of his face are seamed with dirt, either that or it's the foreign taint of his skin."

As old as the representation of Jewishness itself, this dreaded figure at the beginning of the 20th century can only be presented in a politically correct manner at the end of the century by folding the modern brain backward. The true portrait lies between the folds of the narrator's and reader's brain, and the dirty folds of the foreign face. The old Jew is a dirty Jew, foreign yet familiar, dreaded yet welcome.

This wandering Jew is a prairie scarecrow, everything associated with him is tainted, his arrival is everywhere dreaded, he smells of garlic and onions. No one can determine his age, for he is ageless, a carryover from another century. He looks no person in the eye and calls up memories of Old World contagion.

After several paragraphs, a subtle shift begins. "A sore blackens his upper lip. Clarentine Flett, pulling herself away from him, feeling faint with disgust, is unable to take her eyes from that dried scab, which she unaccountably longs to reach out and touch."

This transition from repulsion to attraction seems inexplicable, but in humanizing the Jew, Shields moves from the grotesque to a more realistic mode. After registering his sore lip, Mrs. Flett observes his arm, which is an ordinary man's arm, not so different from her husband's arm. Once the extraordinary is rendered ordinary, the outsider can be incorporated into the

Continued on page B21

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Happy Chanukah

An old Jew at age 34

Continued from page B20

family and body of humankind.

"She wonders – and all these images of hers crowd together in the space of a few seconds – wonders if the old Jew might possibly have relations somewhere in the neighborhood, a roof, a warm stove, a bed of his own to return to. If so, he might also have a woman's body next to his under the bedclothes, and a sack of loose blue flesh between his legs like every other man... And a name, of course he must have a name."

Centuries of stereotyping contract into seconds of insight addressing bed, body, name and a roof of one's own. To domesticate the nomadic figure is to normalize him, to name him is to provide him with some semblance of identity, and to sexualize him is to render him like every other man.

What unfolds is that the old Jew is on a nativity mission to bring Clarentine Flett to Mercy Goodwill, who is giving birth to a daughter. In this absurd annunciation, he serves as a kind of midwife.

The birth of the narrator also signals the birth of the old Jew's identity: "Another witness, wringing his hands most terribly and wailing loudly, is Abram Gozhdë Skutari, aged 34, known locally as the old Jew, a peddler of trinkets, born in the Albanian village of Priznen, the son of a Sephardic maker and trader of nails, who was the son of a professional scribe who was the son of a rabbi who was – the history (compiled by Skutari's Canadian grandson, and later published, McGill University Press, 1969) goes back to the 15th century..."

Shields "problematizes" the Jew's identity: his hand-wringing and wailing voice belong to the Shylock-Fagin tradition; but once named, Abram undermines our previous understanding of him as he is born into an oxymoronic world where the old Jew is only 34.

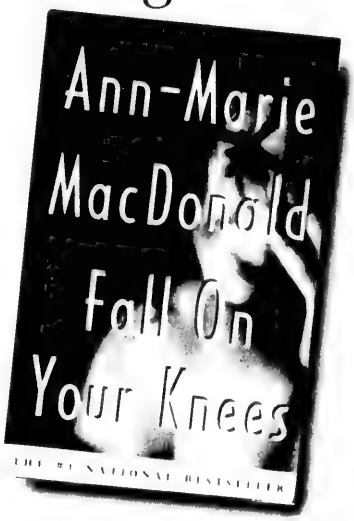
With his exotic name and lineage the old-young Jew spans the centuries in counterpoint to the Christian family tree presented at the outset of the novel.

Identity is further complicated by a 64-year leap into the future, where history is chronicled not by the narrator but by Abram's grandson, an assimilated Canadian.

In Chapter 2, *Childhood, 1916*, Abram reappears. After peddling door-to-door for years in rural Manitoba, he is drummed out of business by Eaton's mail order. He borrows money from the Royal Bank, "the first such loan made to a son of Israel." (Note how the designation has changed from old Jew to son of Israel as part of an ageless representation.)

With the money, he opens his own retail establishment on Selkirk Avenue in Winnipeg. Henceforth his customers will come to his door.

Abram plays an uncanny role in the life and death of the main characters in *The Stone Diaries*. The wandering Jew is both central and peripheral to the fate of the other characters who had misrepresented him.



Ann-Marie MacDonald's *Fall On Your Knees* has much in common with *The Stone Diaries* with its reliance on *Jane Eyre* and gothic regionalism. MacDonald's Jewish lady inhabits Cape Breton Island. Like the old Jew, Mrs. Luvovitz is implicated in a pregnancy, but Mrs. Luvovitz is a neighbor to the central characters, some of whom have Arabic ancestry. Hence the Luvovitz family is rendered far less exotic in comparison with the more Mediterranean Mahmouds and even the Irish Pipers.

"Mrs. Luvovitz had seen the pregnant woman sitting on the cliff's edge... People around here believed in kelpies. Mrs. Luvovitz's imagination had been infected. What could you expect with so many Catholics? They saw omens in everything. Where Mrs. Luvovitz came from they called them golems."

Rather than being the object of any narrative gaze, Mrs. Luvovitz herself does the gazing at a non-Jewish (but Semitic) woman who is far stranger than she is. Her husband, Benny, jokingly suggests that the pregnant woman might be a ghost. If the island is shrouded in superstition, then the Luvovitzes inject an air of realism, humanity and humor into the overwhelming gothicism of *Fall On Your Knees*.

As soon as Mrs Luvovitz spots the pregnant child, she exclaims in Yiddish, "Gott in Himmel," forgets about the ghosts and golems, and in a reversal of the usual determination of Jewish identity, tries to determine the motherless pregnant child's identity: "Was she Eyetal-

Continued on page B22

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Paraphysicians heal themselves

Continued from page B21

ian? A Gypsy? What was the accent?"

Mrs. Luvovitz prepares tea and cookies for Materia Piper (née Mahmoud), her neighbor. The Jewish lady informs the Arabic child that the cookies are ruggalech. "It tasted strange and familiar all at once, cinnamon and raisins." That strange-yet-familiar recipe captures the flavor and essence of the ethnic mix on Cape Breton Island.

Mrs. Luvovitz understands Materia's predicament of being dead while alive, of being rejected completely by her family for marrying out of her faith.

Ultimately, Materia looks forward to her baby because she comes to love two of the Luvovitz children.

In addition to the female perspective, the male exchange between James and Benny is congenial. James approves of his "foreign" neighbors because they wouldn't consider it "strange" for him to be married to Materia. "Nothing really strange about the Jew except his accent, his black beard and curly sideburns and his little cap."

The chapter ends with James' thoughts: "Compared to Materia's family, the Luvovitzes seemed downright white." Through MacDonald's chromatic lens, even the black beard appears white.

With the outbreak of World War I, Mrs. Luvovitz's life changes when two of her sons are killed in battle, fighting the Germans, her own flesh-and-blood ancestry.

By 1929, Ralph Luvovitz with his sticking-out ears is the only surviving son, and Mercedes Piper falls in love with him, which creates a problem for the parents who contemplate the possibility of intermarriage. Instead he goes to Montreal.

By 1936, Mrs. Luvovitz no longer considered herself a German. "Mrs. Luvovitz looks at the sea and thinks, when did this become my home? When I buried Benny here? When the second war came? She cannot discern the moment. She just knows that every time she returns to Cape Breton, she feels in her bones, this is my home."

Canadian fictional representation of the Jew thus moves from outside to inside, from a central moral issue to peripheral characterization which is more atypical and less stereotypical. Coincidentally many of these Jewish characters are healers in an ailing society, but in the fictional process, the paraphysicians heal themselves with their house calls and homecomings.

Michael Greenstein is an author and teacher of English who lives in Toronto.

CHANUKAH: THE FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM FOR MANKIND

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Where evil rules the day
Where people are subjugated
And quietly put away

Each year when Chanukah comes
It reminds us of their fate
And how many years we were slaves
Until Israel came to be, in 1948

Human rights are fundamental
To every man, woman and child
That when the Menorah shines
It brings hope to those exiled

It tells them not to give up
For evildoers come and go
As in the story of Chanukah
Which happened long ago

The miracle of the burning lamp
Shows how the few can overcome
The wickedness of the many
When righteous deeds are done

By Michael Eskin
Winnipeg

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She was naughty, punishment was laid by me.
No allowance for two weeks, no matter her plea.
Her resources were few, a dollar remained from before
To be used more than likely at the corner store.

Each day that passed, her punishment appeared too severe.
How to return, without losing face was my fear.
How much do you have left? I asked one day.
Still one dollar, she said, but not after today.

Why, what are you going to buy? I asked.
A Chanukah lamp, one that will be my task.
To light the candles and say a prayer,
And bless my family for being there.

Let me purchase the lamp. It will be the same.
You keep your allowance, let it remain.
She thought awhile, but shook her head.
No, Dad. I want it. I'll buy it instead.

The lamp in her possession, she entered the car.
I tried to persuade her before we had gone too far.

Last chance to return the money you had,
Buy something else, I said. She answered, no, Dad.

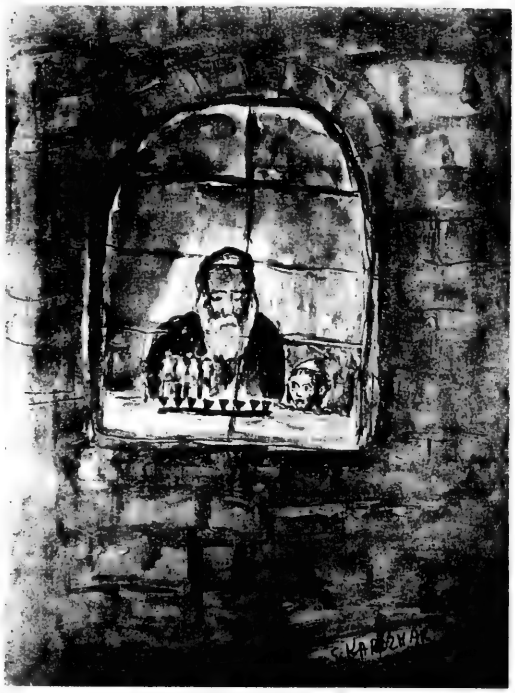
I want the lamp to be mine to keep.
To light, to clean and take with me in sleep.
I shrugged in defeat and said no more,
And drove home confused, but not sore.

Waiting for us at the door was Lori's mother.
Good news, she said. For dinner there will be another.
Your cousin is coming to celebrate with us,
The lighting of the candles, to sing and fuss.

Oh boy, my daughter said showing her pleasure.
I have a Chanukah gift that she will treasure.
A lamp that I just bought for me.
I'll give it to her, she'll love it, you'll see.

What matters not who is right or wrong,
When the wisdom of a child is so strong.
When words are said, as if from He above,
Knowing her *tzedakah* was a gift of love.

By Alvin Abram
Toronto



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This Week

National

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Shabbat Chanukah: Mikketz
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Kislev 29, 5759
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Clinton on rescue mission

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — President Clinton originally planned to visit Israel and the Palestinian self-rule areas to celebrate the accomplishments of the Wye agreement.

But by the time he arrived in Israel on the weekend, it was clear to all the parties that his visit would focus on rescuing the accord from the latest welter of Israeli and Palestinian grievances.

During a joint news conference with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the president got a taste of the difficulties facing him. After the two met privately, Netanyahu vowed he would not cede another inch of West Bank land until the Palestinian Authority (PA) renounces plans to unilaterally declare a Palestinian state next May.

Continued on page 35

U.S. President Bill Clinton had a busy schedule during his brief visit to Israel last weekend. Above, he and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu light the first Chanukah candle. Below, he and Hilary along with Leah Rabin, her daughter and grandaughter visit the grave of former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin. *[GPO photos]*

Chrétien to visit Auschwitz

OTTAWA — Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will visit the site of the Auschwitz death camp during a week-long trip to Europe next month, *The CJN* has learned.

Chrétien will visit Auschwitz Jan. 24. He will become the first sitting Canadian prime minister to go there.

The PM will visit Poland, Ukraine, Germany and Switzerland from Jan. 23 to the 30th.

The trip was supposed to be a Team Canada economic mission, which was scrubbed. Instead, the prime minister will be on state business, a spokesperson said last week.

Cities on his itinerary are Warsaw, Krakow, Bonn, Kiev and Davos.

INSIDE

A tale of living history for Chanukah.
Please see page 9.

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Russian Jewish leaders debate worse **ge 31**

The News in Brief

CANADA

BBYO Addresses Hazing

WINNIPEG — The program director of B'nai Brith Youth Organization's (BBYO) Red River Region says the organization will soon spell out exactly what will be permitted at annual BBYO chapter induction ceremonies. The announcement came after allegations that a 14-year-old boy was "hazed" at a chapter induction last month. The boy's parents charged their son and his friend became sick after being forced to drink a spiked beverage.

Call To Fight Child Poverty

TORONTO — A coalition of social agencies and advocacy groups has called on the federal government to renew its fight against child poverty. Included in the Campaign Against Child Poverty are Jewish Family & Child Service, Mazon Canada and the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism. The groups want Ottawa to invest its budget surplus to help the 1.5 million Canadian children who live in poverty.

ISRAEL

Student Arrested

JERUSALEM — Palestinian police arrested a student who seized the weapon of an Israeli soldier beaten by a mob last week near Ramallah. The Beir Zeit University student turned himself in to Palestinian police and returned the weapon. He was released, but rearrested at the demand of the Israeli army.

Shabbat Court Ruling

JERUSALEM— An Israeli court has ruled that members of a kibbutz near Jerusalem can work on the Sabbath. The court said the day of rest for a collective organization such as a kibbutz could not be determined by outside religious bodies. The decision came in the wake of charges filed last March against six members of Kibbutz Tzora for working in kibbutz stores on Saturdays.

Palestinian Population

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is expected to triple by 2025. The increase, which hinges on the return of 500,000 Palestinians from abroad, would make the Palestinian population in the territories roughly 7.4 million.

WORLD

U.K. To Compensate

LONDON — Britain will soon unveil plans for a $41-million fund aimed at compensating Holocaust victims for assets confiscated by the government during World War II. Thousands of Jews from Germany and eastern Europe transferred their assets to Britain in the 1930s. When war broke out, Britain classified the moneys as property of the enemy and seized the accounts.

VW Makes First Payment

BERLIN — Volkswagen says it will make the first payments later this month from a $12-million fund it established to help slave laborers who worked there during World War II. Company officials have declined to say how large individual payments would be.

Hungarian Jews Protest

BUDAPEST — Hungarian Jewish leaders are protesting a government plan to cut one-time payments to relatives of Holocaust victims. The plan discriminates against Jews, charged Peter Feldmayer, president of Hungary's Jewish community. The plan, part of the government budget for next year, would reduce the payments to about $140 from the approximately $4,600 originally planned.

Soccer Probe Launched

ROME — Italy's soccer federation launched an investigation against two soccer teams after fans unfurled anti-Semitic banners at a recent match here. The two teams could face fines of the equivalent of $30,000. Meanwhile, a senior Italian politician suggested that soccer matches where fans display anti-Semitic or racist banners should be suspended.

Iranian Arrested

BUENOS AIRES — An Argentine anti-terrorist squad last week arrested an Iranian suspect here on suspicion that she was involved in the 1992 bombing of the Israeli embassy and the 1994 bombing of the Jewish community centre. Nasrim Mokhtari is the only suspect currently under arrest for the attacks.

Rescheduling Sought

WASHINGTON — B'nai Brith has asked the governors of eight Rocky Mountain states to reschedule their presidential primary elections, which have been scheduled for Saturday, March 11, 2000. The group said observant Jews would be prevented from voting in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

UN Rips Israel

UNITED NATIONS — Non-Jews in Israel are treated as second-class citizens, a UN human rights panel said recently, adding that Israel's emphasis on being a Jewish state encourages discrimination. The panel was especially critical of the plight of the Jahalin, a Bedouin tribe it says Israel forcibly evicted from its ancestral lands to allow expansion of a Jewish settlement near Jerusalem.

Spielberg to Preserve Modern Yiddish Literature

AMHERST, Mass. — Brittle with age and crumbling, the world's largest collection of Yiddish literature is being given new life. The National Yiddish Book Centre here has announced it will receive $500,000 from Steven Spielberg's Righteous Persons Foundation to create a digital Yiddish library of 20,000 out-of-print, irreplaceable texts.

The project will use digital technology to permanently preserve works of modern Yiddish literature, which was nearly obliterated during the Holocaust. Similar technology was used in Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History project, which videotaped the eyewitness testimonies of 50,000 Holocaust survivors, rescuers and liberators.

Digitized books in The Steven Spielberg Digital Yiddish Library will be reprinted on demand, or alternatively issued as CD-ROMs, and made available via the Internet. Officials at the centre say this is the first time that virtually an entire modern literature will be preserved in digital form.

Spielberg gave $250,000 towards construction of the organization's permanent home in 1995.

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UJA Federation winds up '98 campaign

Finishes with record $41 million in pledges

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — After nearly a year of festivities, celebrations and hard work, UJA Federation is winding up its 1998 fundraising campaign with a record $41 million in pledges – $5 million more than last year.

Buoyed by a strong economy, a public recognition of the impact of government cutbacks on social services and a sales pitch that linked contributions to beneficiaries, the campaign racked up record numbers, UJA Federation spokesperson Howard English said. "We're well on our way" towards reaching a long-term goal of raising $50 million annually by the year 2001, he added.

This year's campaign attempted to clear up public confusion regarding allocation priorities. After consulting with about 250 donors and volunteer fundraisers, UJA Federation moved towards greater accountability to the people giving money while resisting an international trend towards designated giving, English said.

Of the additional $13.5 million expected by 2001 ($50 million less last year's total of $36.5 million), $6.5 million will go towards strengthening Jewish identity, $4.3 million towards assisting the vulnerable and $1.5 million towards the rescue of Jews around the world.

The 1998 record total is slightly more than the $40 million raised in 1989 and the $39 million accumulated in 1994, the campaign's two previous highs. This year's campaign marks the continuation of a trend that has seen Toronto's Jewish community consistently among top givers in North America, in both total numbers and per capita giving.

Los Angeles, with 519,000 Jews, is expected to raise $42 million (US) while Toronto's final total is similar, but based on a population base of only 175,000 Jews. Approximately 30,000 people contribute to the Toronto campaign though 75 percent of the funds come from contributors who give $10,000 or more. The campaign received several multimillion dollar donations spread over three years, English noted.

Although collecting the pledged sums is an ongoing process that takes months, the federation's community planning and allocation committee will meet sometime in the new year to begin the process of determining how the money will be distributed.

Last year, 55 percent of the campaign was directed to national and local agencies while 45 percent went overseas to the Jewish Agency through the United Israel Appeal. Of the funds received by the Jewish Agency, two-thirds went to the rescue of Jews in danger while the remainder was used for absorption of new immigrants to Israel, Jewish education in the Diaspora and helping Israel's needy.

Of local allocations, 15 percent went to national Jewish agencies such as Canadian Jewish Congress and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services. The bulk of the domestic expenditures went to support Jewish education (through family subsidies or day school grants) and to social welfare agencies like Jewish Family and Child Service, Jewish Vocational Services, Circle of Care, Reena and the Bernard Betel Centre. Approximately 9.3 percent to the funds raised go towards administration and overhead.

"For the past three years, we've had a 45-55 split more or less between overseas and domestic allocations," English said. "Our ultimate goal is to get back to a 50-50 split."

In maintaining the current distribution ration, UJA Federation has resisted a North American trend towards greater domestic allocations. "Many federations believe campaigns would be more successful if they stressed local needs," English said. "The proportion we give overseas is among the highest in the world among federations.

"We also spend the highest proportion among all the federations on Jewish education.

"Toronto's community is positively unique in North America," English continued. "It's Israel-positive. It's a more Jewishly-cohesive community and more traditionally Jewish in its world view."

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From the editor's desk

For the sake of Heaven

Last month I attended the 67th General Assembly of the UJA Federations of North America (GA). For the first time ever, it was held in Jerusalem. In the past weeks, I have used this space to reflect on some of my experiences at the GA.

* * *

One of the special pleasures and immensely gratifying benefits of attending the GA is having the opportunity to meet and to hear presentations by some of the great thinkers in the Jewish world.

Every day, each day, during the assembly, in seminar rooms, meeting rooms and lecture halls, there were countless "sessions" led by speakers and thinkers of considerable intellect and diverse backgrounds. Among that large group were a great many speakers with the rare ability to inspire their listeners.

On one of the days of the assembly, the conference planners organized eight concurrent noontime sessions during which participants were able to munch their lunch, study specific texts, and learn with, as the program notes described them, "master teachers."

The program notes were not an exaggeration.

Among the eight topics and sets of teachers were: Women's role in Judaism with Blu Greenberg and Naomi Ragen; The faith of biology and the biology of faith with Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz and Dr. Robert Pollack; Study the Torah and study it some more, for everything is in it with Rabbis Jerome M. Epstein, Haskel Lookstein and Sheldon Zimmerman; Secular and religious Israelis: a cultural war or a social charter with Prof. Avi Ravitzky and Ruth Calderon.

I chose to attend the session entitled Two strategies for Jewish survival: how to deal with their conflicts today. Three teachers were assigned to this session. But the one I wanted to hear was the renowned scholar Rabbi Irving Greenberg, president of Chaverim Kol Yisrael/Jewish Life Network.

Rabbi Greenberg, the author of *The Jewish Way*, is somewhat of a controversial figure in certain Jewish circles, due to his constant efforts to bring about more cooperation among Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist movements within Judaism. He is also the president of National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership (CLAL).

As in all the lunch and learn sessions, rabbinic source references were distributed to the hungry learners. The teachers referred to the materials to focus their presentations and to provide parameters for the discussions that ensued among the participants.

The sources for our session comprised three mishnaic references from the Talmud. I will only reproduce the first one, from Pirkei Avot.

"Any dispute which is for the sake of Heaven will yield positive results in the end; and any which is not for the sake of Heaven will not yield results in the end. What is a dispute that is for the sake of Heaven? This is the sort of dispute between Hillel and Shammai. And what is a dispute that is not for the sake of Heaven? It is the dispute of Korach and all his following."

This rabbinic definition of a dispute for the sake of Heaven became both the jumping-off point and the anchor for the discussions around our table. Rabbi Greenberg offered some guidance in our search for an answer.

"We are living through one of the greatest cultural revolutions of all time," he said. "The arrival of the open society has provided great benefits. And the Jews in particular have been the beneficiaries of this openness.

"We have achieved freedom, relative affluence and power. But in the process, we have lost our *self-evidence*." By that Rabbi Greenberg meant the beliefs that we had always held about Jewish life and that we had regarded as self-evidently truthful and appropriate.

"Is religion self-evident these days? Is even marriage self-evident?

"There no longer are any absolutes. Jews now have the freedom to choose to be Jews or not to be Jews. We must therefore devise strategies to help people deal with that choice," he stated emphatically.

"But how does one pass on religious values in an open society?"

Rabbi Greenberg answered his own question.

"There are two options: Absolutism, a return to fundamentalism, withdrawal from the larger community, segregation; or we can learn how to argue with each other with integrity and with passion but also with respect."

He obviously preferred the second option. "Is it possible," the rabbi asked rhetorically, "to see the other person as an ally even though we disagree?

"In the ancient past, when we received directives directly from God, we could make unequivocal decisions. But as the Talmud suggests, God no longer gives us direct answers; we should therefore try to use our own best efforts to arrive at solutions *for the sake of Heaven*.

"In this century, God has made it clear that human beings must intervene to 'save the situation.' Therefore, the 'other side' has the right to be heard and to be respected for participating," Rabbi Greenberg concluded.

For the sake of heaven, we would all do well to follow his advice.

MBD

Israel's Jubilee 50

from the archives

WAITING, LITERALLY, ON THE TARMAC

Israeli officials are seen here organizing a flight of immigrants from Aden, Yemen, in 1950.

[Keren Hayesod–UIA Communications photo]

* * *

For the latest in *Israel at 50* news, check out the *Israel at 50* Web site: [www.feduja.org] or call the *Israel at 50* hotline 416-636-2883 ext. 706.

Greater Toronto Area

Volunteers, CJC aid victims of Hurricane Mitch

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "If we Jews don't have empathy, then who does?" asks Franci Williams, standing before a pile of clothes, toys and medicines bound for the victims of Hurricane Mitch in Honduras.

Williams and her husband Charles Moses left for the stricken country this past Tuesday on a two-week mission of mercy organized by Ve'ahavta, the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian & Relief Committee.

The volunteer couple took thousands of dollars worth of goods and supplies, including toys for Christmas and Chanukah. They'll spend a good part of their trip with members of the capital's 40-family Jewish community, whose synagogue was wiped off the map by raging floods and mud.

Williams and Moses will be staying at a church-run orphanage in the capital, Tegucigalpa. About 50 toys for the orphans were donated by Leaside United Church, while dreidels and other Judaic items for Jewish children came from Israel's bookstore.

As well, the couple took $5,000 worth of painkillers, anti-fungal creams and other medicines donated by Map International, a Canadian non-profit group. Small toys were donated by Dennis Klein of the A Buck or Two dollar stores.

Hurricane Mitch killed an estimated 11,000 Hondurans and rendered some 1.6 million homeless.

Earlier this year, members of the capital's only synagogue, the Comunidad Hebrea de Tegucigalpa, made the final payment on the small shul, and installed a bimah.

Last month, Mitch destroyed the building and everything in it, save for a sefer Torah that was found beneath some mud. Although soiled, it was in good shape.

According to reports, synagogue members have been working to help fellow Hondurans find food, water, shelter and kerosene. Congregants have also been collecting mattress pads for displaced Hondurans to sleep on.

Williams, a volunteer for Ve'ahavta, said she was motivated by Jewish social values.

"I believe that to be a Jew is to be involved in *tikkun olam*," she told *The CJN* prior to leaving. "It's the definition of being Jewish, and of being human."

Williams and Moses are paying a part of their travel expenses, with the rest picked up by Ve'ahavta. The organization was established a year ago to help victims of disease and disaster the world over, and to re-awaken the traditional Jewish commitment to alleviating suffering.

Also last week, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) seized on a news story which said that more than 3,000 boxes of boots, sleeping bags, used clothes and toys destined for disaster victims in Central America were piled up in a Montreal warehouse because there was no money to transport them.

CJC used $13,000 from its Hurricane Mitch fund, which has raised $19,000, to transport the supplies to Honduras.

Last Thursday, CJC president Moshe Ronen traveled to Ottawa to present a cheque to Honduran consul general Sophia Cerna. The 50,000 pounds of supplies are scheduled to arrive within the next week or two.

Ve'ahavta volunteers Charles Moses and wife Franci Williams with medicines, clothes and holiday toys bound for Honduras. [Ron Csillag photo]

Ontario passes Holocaust bill

TORONTO — Ontario's legislature has unanimously passed third and final reading of Bill 66, the Holocaust Memorial Day – Yom Hashoah Act.

When it becomes law, after receiving royal assent, the bill will establish Ontario as the first jurisdiction in North America to have an official day on which to commemorate the Holocaust and genocide.

The day will take place on Yom Hashoah, in accordance with the Jewish calendar.

The bill was introduced earlier this year by Ted Chudleigh, the Tory MPP for Halton North.

It is also expected to enhance Holocaust education and awareness in Ontario.

The bill was passed last Thursday, on the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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McGuinty expresses support for school funding

TORONTO — Opposition leader Dalton McGuinty told Ontario's Jewish leadership that he has no ideological opposition to ensuring public funds support Jewish day schools. It is believed that this is the first time any provincial party leader has made such a declaration.

Speaking to an executive meeting of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC), McGuinty did point out that his first priority would be to re-inspire confidence in public education.

"When we talk about schools in the Jewish community, we cannot do that in a vacuum," he told the meeting in the Lipa Green Building. "There are many other groups. We are talking about a substantive change in the way that we fund public education in Ontario. I cannot do that until we first inspire confidence in public education."

He was the second provincial party leader to address the CJC executive on public policy issues. Premier Mike Harris is scheduled to speak to Congress on Jan. 21.

McGuinty discussed public funding of Jewish education in response to a question from Rabbi Jerry Unterman, executive director of the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation. The rabbi said that the Opposition leader had spoken "movingly and ethically about education, yet government after succeeding government in this province has treated the Jews as second class citizens despite the fact that we pay taxes like everyone else does, and we support the public school system.

Ontario Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty (centre) with CJC, Ontario region, chair Keith Landy (right) and executive diector Bernie Farber prior to McGuinty's address to the CJC's executive meeting.

"We do not have one penny from the government in terms of the Jewish day school system in which 11,000 of our children are being educated – a system of benefit to not only the Jewish community, but the entire community," said Rabbi Unterman. "Are you going to support the end of this discrimination and this immoral behavior, and the giving of government subsidies to Jewish day schools?"

In response to a question regarding the decline of anti-racism education in the province, McGuinty asserted that the Liberals are firmly committed to a curriculum that, in part, is designed to control racism, and that "the Holocaust is a powerful, tragic experience that is important to all humanity. It would be a terrible mistake for us not to ensure that our children learn from that experience."

McGuinty was accompanied to the meeting by Greater Toronto Area Liberal MPPs Monte Kwinter, Mike Colle and David Caplan.

"The government does not owe people a living or a job, but I do believe the government owes each and every Ontarian an opportunity," he said. "Opportunity in its most important form is education… We're going to have to re-establish a good working relationship between governments, school boards, teachers, and parents."

He stressed the need for more junior kindergartens, and the availability of adult education in the province.

Neal Goldstein, co-chair of Congress's political liaison committee, expressed CJC's appreciation for McGuinty's remarks, and his support of Bill 66 declaring an official Yom HaShoah Day in the province.

In his report to the meeting, CJC chair Keith Landy spoke of the first-ever regional officers' meeting outside of the Greater Toronto Area, in Kitchener. "There was a commitment I made that Congress would spread its wings and be more inclusive – more understanding that Ontario does not end at the borders of Toronto."

Regional executive director Bernie Farber reported that the region sent a letter of complaint to the Ontario Press Council following protracted discussions with the *Globe & Mail* regarding a memorial notice printed on June 6, 1997 indicating that Rev. Dr. Solomon J. Mattar, "a gentle man and Christian Martyr was 'executed' by Israeli soldiers on June 6, 1967."

"We have done an intensive investigation, and have found no proof that Dr. Mattar was executed by Israeli soldiers on that date, nor have we uncovered any evidence as to his death," said Farber.

CJC's hoped-for conclusion to its complaint is that the *Globe & Mail* undertakes an intensive investigation into who placed this notice. If they are unable to substantiate it, a proper retraction must be printed, said Farber.

"A significant system to appropriately safeguard against such future manipulative items would also be necessary to maintain the integrity of this venerable publication," he said.

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on the loss of his father

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Jews for Judaism

Greater Toronto Area

Israeli researchers work to ensure water supply

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel is running out of water due to the twin pressures of population growth and industrialization, an Israeli scientist warns.

And, he adds, Israel's thirst for water will double within about 40 years.

Despite these stark scenarios, Israel stands "a good chance" of meeting its increasing needs, provided research funds are available, said Charles Linder, a water management expert from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Here to inform the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University about advances in water management techniques, Linder broadly described the projects he and his colleagues are currently working on to head off disastrous water shortages in Israel.

• They are adapting current technology to minimize waste generated by desalination and water recycling.

• They are improving membrane filtration processes, a system of reverse osmosis.

The overall objective is to improve water quality and lower its price, he explained in an interview.

"Many of these systems are now going into the pilot stage and are being taken to the field for testing," disclosed Linder, a polymer chemist who specializes in water purification, desalination, waste management and membrane filtration methods.

Still other projects are in the development phase in the laboratory.

Linder said that the research being carried out at the university's Centre for Water Science and Technology, of which he is a member, can be applied to extracting brackish water from the Negev, and desalinating water from the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

Citing statistics released by Israel's Water Commissioner's Office, Linder said that Israel currently has access to 1.9 billion cubic metres of water per year from natural sources, but in fact uses 2.1 billion cubic metres.

The shortfall is made by up recycling waste water.

But in the next century, Israel will require far more water for human consumption, agriculture and industry.

At present, Israel pumps most of its water from the Sea of Galilee, wells and aquifers. The rest is acquired from reservoirs of brackish water and through desalination, an expensive process.

Linder, a graduate of Brooklyn's Polytechnic Institute, said that Israel is way ahead of Arab countries in terms of water management because of its much larger pool of scientific and technical personnel.

However, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states, assisted by American and European companies, are the region's leaders in desalination.

"The price of desalinated water there is not a concern," he said. "Israel is not in that position."

Linder predicted that water shortages in the Arab world, notably in Jordan and Syria, will worsen in the years ahead.

This could fuel calls for a holy war against Israel, he said.

Water scarcities in the arid Middle East could therefore sow instability and touch off so-called water wars.

"Without water, neither Israel nor the Arabs can develop economically."

Prior to the 1967 Six Day War, the competition for the waters of the Jordan River aggravated tension between Israel and Syria.

In the future, Israel and the Palestinians may also be at loggerheads over water supplies, since two of the three main aquifers on which Israel depends lie largely under the West Bank, coveted by both sides.

Concerned by potential water shortfalls, Israel and the Palestinians have discussed the issue in bilateral and multilateral talks.

Linder, who was previously associated with the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, advised Israel not to rely on fresh water from its current ally, Turkey.

"No one knows what the political situation in Turkey will be like in 10 years."

While here, Linder met with local officials responsible for Toronto's water resources and waste water management.

They reached an agreement to continue ongoing cooperation and maintain an exchange of information and technology.

Metro wants to eradicate its annual summer problem of foul smelling and distasteful water. Linder promised to help Toronto deal with it.

Plaut honored

TORONTO — Rabbi Gunther Plaut is one of five recipients of the Ontario Award for Outstanding Achievement in Human Rights, provincial Citizenship, Culture and Recreation Minister Isabel Bassett announced last week.

The special award was created to mark the 50th anniversary of the signing of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The other recipients are Lincoln Alexander, a former lieutenant-governor of Ontario; Brian Dickson, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada from 1984 to 1990; Nancy Ruth, a longtime women's rights advocate; and the Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County.

Rabbi Plaut, senior scholar at Holy Blossom Temple, helped found the Urban Alliance on Race Relations and the North York Committee on Community Race and Ethnic Relations. He also served as vice-chair of the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

An awards ceremony is planned for early next year.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Are there more miracles?

These words are being written on the first night of Chanukah. We lit the candles and sang the traditional songs recounting the great heroism and the many mysterious miracles that took place at this time so very long ago in and near Jerusalem.

Are there any miracles left for today?

The question is hardly rhetorical.

As of this writing, President Bill Clinton is on his way to Gaza to take part in a special meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC), where, it is hoped, he will preside over the revocation of the odious provisions of the PNC charter mandating Israel's destruction. Even now, merely hours before the meeting, it is still not known how, or whether, the members of the PNC will be voting on the matter.

What should have been an entirely celebratory occasion has now become yet another tense and caustic flashpoint between the Palestinians and Israeli leadership, neither side trusting the other, both sides making sharp declaratory statements further feeding an overstuffed sense of distrust and disbelief.

The Wye River accord of seven weeks ago is increasingly slipping into nothing more than a fading memory of a successful photo opportunity. The lofty words and noble sentiments expressed by all the leaders there before the world's network cameras have crashed against the rocks of Palestinian duplicity and disregard of contractual commitments.

Dissatisfied with the first set of prisoners released from custody by Israel under the terms of the Wye Accord, the Palestinians resorted to their favorite formula of registering protest: rioting and stone-throwing. They are tired Palestinian tactics, but still dangerous nevertheless, the primitive, uncivil, tribal stimulus to the predictably punitive response.

Into this violent vortex of the crumbled Wye, the troubled American president brings his good office and friendly counsel.

Are there any miracles left?

Iran's new recruits

Reports surfaced in the mainstream international media last week that Iran has been attempting to recruit scientists from the former Soviet Union to help it develop its own biological germ warfare capabilities. The intelligence community has long known of this unique Iranian job creation program. That the story found its way into the general media is probably an indication that the government in Tehran is redoubling its efforts to find and buy willing scientists.

According to a report that appeared in the *National Post* last week, "Iranian officials who report directly to the country's leaders have approached dozens of Russian scientists" expert in assembling germ weapons, offering them up to $5,000 a month for their expertise and loyalty.

Given the state of the current economic chaos in Russia, it is not surprising that the Iranian rulers would post their help-wanted ads in Moscow. For most Russians, $5,000 far exceeds their annual salary, let alone their monthly stipend. The monetary offer, therefore, is a temptation, to which one assumes most would succumb.

If reports are to be believed, however, most of the scientists are resisting the promise of Iranian wealth. Only five Russian scientists could be confirmed as having gone over to the Iranian laboratories.

This Iranian mischief warrants close watching. Germ warfare capability is not acquired for defensive purposes. It is, rather, offensive in the deepest sense of the word.

So too is the Iranian behavior.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"We saw the anguish in his soul when he pleaded with us, but we did not hear." *Parshat Miketz*

Dry Bones
RABBI... FOR MONTHS WE'VE BEEN RECITING THE JEWISH PRAYERS FOR RAIN!
AND STILL THE SKIES OVER ISRAEL ARE CLEAR AND THE LAND IS DRY!
TELL US RABBI... WHAT SHALL WE DO?
IT IS OBVIOUS!
START PRAYING FOR SUNNY WEATHER.

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No Shoah survivors in Canada's delegation

Are Holocaust survivors the only people to find it strange that 53 years after the end of World War II, and with many energetic survivors still contributing to society, Canada and the Canadian Jewish leadership still found ways to send a delegation to the Nov. 30 to Dec. 3 Washington conference on Holocaust restitution without appointing even one single Shoah survivor as a member? (*CJN*, Dec. 4)

It's as if a lawyer or notary would invite everybody to the reading of a will, except family members of the deceased.

Holocaust survivors are not going to be around forever. There is no time like the present for Canada to take off its blinkers.

Dr. Marcel P. Tenenbaum
Child Survivors/Hidden Children of Montreal
Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust

Ezekiel Hart did not take seat

I want to correct an error in your article concerning my new book with Desmond Morton, *Who Speaks for Canada?* (*CJN*, Dec. 3).

Though Ezekiel Hart died in 1843, the act passed in 1832 by the Lower Canada Assembly allowing Jews to hold office was not passed to enable Hart to take his seat, won twice earlier in the century. After he was rebuffed again by the Assembly in 1809, Hart did not run a third time.

Morton Weinfeld
Montreal

Up to men to stop violence against women

The letter by Nathan Garnick on spousal abuse (*CJN*, Dec. 3) glossed over a very serious situation. The writer stated that male muscle can *become* life threatening and that a woman's sharp tongue-lashing can be as castrating as a surgeon's knife, concluding that "a blow may sometimes be less wounding than a verbal diatribe."

Allow me to share a few points regarding violence against women: According to the Canadian Panel on Violence Against Women established by the Federal government in 1991: 51 percent of women have been the victim of rape or attempted rape; 27 percent of women have experienced a physical assault in an intimate relationship; 81 percent of sexual assault cases at the level of rape or attempted rape reported by women were perpetuated by men who were known to the woman.

In Quebec, close to 300 women were killed by men between 1990 and 1995.

Male violence against women must be recognized and dealt with. It is far too easy to criticize a sharp-tongued woman rather than recognizing the oppression and violence that the male gender regularly inflicts upon the female gender.

Every male must accept responsibility and look within himself to stop the violence against women. Quoting Yiddish, as Garnick has done, can be enjoyable and make us feel better, but it won't alleviate the situation of women.

Mr. Leslie Lutsky
Montreal

Are tears for herself or grandson?

My husband and I were invited to dinner by a Chinese Canadian family who had been our neighbors for over a decade and had moved away to a different area. The guests were all known to us except one person. When the subject of grandchildren came up, this person asked questions of both families. He asked me how many grandchildren I had.

I dread this question, but answered honestly, "Two, we did have three. Shane was killed by a drinking driver five years ago." He was 17 at the time of his tragic death. This is hardly dinner conversation, so the subject was dropped.

Our hosts and their entire family knew the story and had supported us in many ways. I have tried to analyse my feelings in regard to this question. Are my tears for myself, perhaps because I feel I should have been taken and Shane spared? There are no answers for me, but nearing 80, I should be much wiser than I am.

S. Green
Toronto

Note: The writer and her husband are volunteers for the Toronto chapter of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers).

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

A tale of living history

By FRED NARVEY

"Grandfather, is it true that you fought alongside the Maccabees?"

"Yes, Alexander," I answered. I looked at the child. *He will soon be bar mitzvah. Why does my daughter have to dress him in a short tunic with his legs showing and with a band around his head? One can't tell a Jew from a Greek anymore!*

The child sat down on the ground beside me.

"Why do you sit out here instead of in the house, grandfather?"

"Because I am not used to the houses in Jerusalem. I find them too cold for my 70-year-old bones. It was different in the town of Modin where I came from."

"Why did you come to Jerusalem?"

"Because the war is over. Simon, the only Maccabee to survive the war, has become the governor of Judea, and he might need me."

Judah Maccabee, as envisioned by a 15th century French painter.

"Were you there when Matityahu, the father of the Maccabees, killed the Jew for kneeling to the invaders' false God?"

"No, little one," I answered, "I was tending my father's sheep."

"When Matityahu's sons attacked the invaders and fled to the hills, was that the beginning of the revolt?"

"No. The trouble started much earlier than that. When Antiochus Epiphanes IV became king of the Syrian segment of the Greek empire and governor of Judea, he tried to impose the Greek culture on the Jewish people. The aristocracy, the rich merchants, and the priesthood in Jerusalem were beginning to adopt these new ideas: Hellenization, they called it. But the village priests and the peasants like me wanted to maintain our old traditions. First, we Jews argued with one another, then we came to blows."

My daughter, Naomi, came into the courtyard as I was talking. *My daughter, my daughter, how she has changed!* I thought. Her hair was piled high in Grecian fashion. She wore a long silk gown and her shoulders were bare. *Was this the Jewish girl I raised in the little village of Modin? But her olive colored skin and fiery black eyes are as beautiful as ever. How could I help but love her?*

"Alexander, please go into the house. I want to speak to grandfather," she said in Greek. Alexander obeyed.

"What have you been telling your grandson?" Naomi asked.

"Speak to me in our language, Aramaic!" I muttered.

She granted my request. "Alexander must not be set against his father. You are aware that I am married to a modern thinker. You can call Paul a Sadducee if you will, but he admires the Greek language, their art, philosophy and architecture."

"This is something that developed with affluence," I replied. "I seem to recall that Paul's name was Saul before he became a rich corn merchant trading with the Greeks, and Alexander's name was Amos."

Naomi ignored my remark. "My husband is a good Jew. He brings sacrifices to the Temple and helps to support the High Priest."

"Bringing sacrifices to the Temple and supporting the High Priest is cult worship!" I retorted. "What we need are rabbis (teachers) and synagogues where we can study, learn and worship God."

"Spoken like a Pharisee!" my daughter answered sarcastically. "You may worship as you please, but don't fill Alexander's head with your notions of resurrection of the dead, of a world hereafter, and of a Messiah!"

"I am proud to be a Pharisee," I answered.

"Don't forget that it was I, Efraim ben Kasriel, and men like me who fought on the side of the Maccabees and made it possible for people like you to determine your own way of life."

Naomi went back into the house without another word. I turned my eyes to heaven. *Rebecca, my wife, thank God you have been spared this anguish!*

Alexander came out of the house munching on a falafel and sat down on the ground beside me again. "Tell me about the Maccabees," he pleaded.

I waited for the pounding in my heart to subside. "They were five brothers," I began. "John, Simon, Judah, Eleazar and Jonathan. The first four were big, strong men like their father, Matityahu, the village priest of Modin. But the youngest, Jonathan, was quite delicate. We were neighbors in the village, and their mother, Sarah, was a good friend of my mother's. Sarah told my mother that Judah was a fighter even as a child. Matityahu gave him many a licking for throwing rocks. Jonathan, the youngest, was extremely clever and was his mother's pride and joy.

"When the revolt broke out against the Syrian tyrant, Antiochus Epiphanes IV, it was Judah who became the guerrilla leader. He was credited with delivering many hammer blows against the enemy. Eventually, Judah and his followers became known as the Maccabees, from the Hebrew word for hammer.

"Though Judah was known as the Hammer, Jonathan was known as the Fox. After fighting the enemy for 3½ years, Jonathan sent agents around the country to spread the rumor that uprisings were taking place in other parts of the Syrian/Greek empire (called the Seleucid Empire), and that Antiochus' throne was in jeopardy.

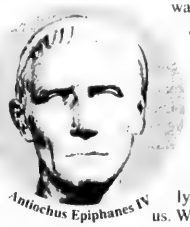
"Antiochus Epiphanes IV withdrew his harassed mercenary army from Judea, and Judah and his troops marched into Jerusalem."

"And that's when the miracle took place!" my grandson shouted.

"What miracle?" I asked.

"The one about the lamp in the Temple which only had enough oil for one day and burned for eight days!"

I patted his curly head. "Yes, little one, it is good to believe in miracles, but not to depend on them."


Antiochus Epiphanes IV

"And that was the beginning of the Chanukah festival!" Alexander shouted triumphantly.

"Yes, dear, but within a year, Antiochus' son, Antiochus V, returned to Judea with a vast army, including a troop of elephants. Judah suffered his first defeat, and the Maccabees had to flee to the hills once more. The struggle persisted for 25 years.

"Judah won many battles, but the war was won by Jonathan, the Fox. He pitted various pretenders to Antiochus' throne against one another, thus weakening them all. At last, the great powers of Greece and Rome, reluctantly recognized the State of Judea.

"But by the time the Jewish state was established, four of the five Maccabee brothers were dead. Simon, who is now our governor, was the only one to survive the war. Thank God he has ruled wisely for these seven years."

My son-in-law, Paul, suddenly entered the courtyard. He is a good man, I must admit. He loves his wife and son dearly. True, he is a Sadducee and has adopted much of the Greek culture, but he doesn't deny the great role that the Maccabees played as freedom fighters against the invaders. Unlike the Pharisees who are bearded and wear the traditional long robe, his face is clean-shaven and he wears a Greek short tunic, exposing his muscular, bare legs. *Immodest, immodest,* I thought.

His face was stern as he approached us. "Ephraim ben Kasriel," he addressed me, "I have sad news to relate." He hesitated as he studied my face. "Our governor, Simon, has been assassinated."

I must have paled, because Paul shouted to Alexander to bring me a cup of water. *Twenty-five years of struggle,* I was thinking, *25 years! What will happen now? Will we be invaded again by the Syrian/Greek Empire, or will it be the Romans this time?*

Paul cleared his throat. "Be of stout heart, father-in-law," he said sympathetically. "Come into the house with us. We should put aside our differences at a time like this. I know why you have refused to enter our home for the last few years. I assure you that the Greek columns on either side of our door will not fall on you as you pass through them, and Naomi's dinner will be strictly kosher."

I was too shaken by the news of Simon's death to argue, and I didn't object as Paul and Alexander helped me to my feet and escorted me into the house.

As we sipped our wine after I had made the blessing, Paul said, "Ephraim ben Kasriel, my father, I know that your heart is heavy, but do not despair. The Maccabees' struggle will never be forgotten by the Jewish people. The Maccabees fought for our right of self-determination and the right to worship as we please. Given that right, our people can appreciate what is beautiful and universal in other people's cultures, but we will never forsake our own."

Postscript: The Roman general, Pompey, marched into Judea in 63 BCE and turned Judea into a Roman colony. The independent Jewish state in Palestine was finished, not to rise again until 1948.

Fred Narvey lives in Winnipeg.

This Chanukiah, probably from Germany, dates from the mid 15th century. It features the prayer recited during the candlelighting.

Opinions

Public officials must be accoúntable

The other day, while driving my children to school, I was passing through an intersection and suddenly a car, having ignored a yield sign, almost plowed into the side of my car.

Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

This is not unusual in Israel. At the last second, I swerved away, averting what surely would have been a nasty accident. Moments later, when I asked the driver if street signs mean anything to him, he answered with a dismissive wave of his hand – this is even less unusual in Israel – disavowing any responsibility for the near collision.

"Don't look at me!" or something to that effect is an all-too-familiar refrain of Israelis when asked to own up to their actions. Too often their attitude, in a snide variation of Alfred E. Newman's "What, me worry?" boils down to, "What, me take responsibility?"

The shameless lack of accountability in Israeli life is staggering, pervading every sector of society. It manifests itself when dealing with store managers, tradespeople and civil servants. It manifests itself in the rampant price gouging that makes this country often seem like one big rip-off.

To that end, some of the country's major companies behave with cavalier disregard for their customers. Until recently, Bezek had the overseas phone services market all to itself and acted accordingly – with high prices, dubious service and no recourse for the consumer. After the government finally broke its monopoly, Bezek greatly reduced its long-distance rates. A year later, Bezek still reported huge profits.

Two weeks ago, the Supreme Court rejected a petition from cable TV companies aimed at preventing the Communications Ministry from ending their monopoly over multi-channel television broadcasting. Until now, consumers have had to suffer exorbitant prices, mediocre service and a decreasing number of channels.

Early this month, the Israel Democracy Institute presented findings of its investigation to the Knesset Economics Committee showing that the major supermarket chains imposed unjustifiably steep price increases on dozens of imported and locally made products before the shekel began to fall.

In the political sphere, citizens often feel their elected representatives don't represent them. On the national level, there are no electoral districts. Since Knesset Members don't represent a particular area, they are accountable to no one except their party bosses and maybe their conscience.

In the government, it is extremely rare for a cabinet minister to hold himself or herself accountable and resign.

It's no better on the local level where neighborhoods don't have representatives on city council. You cast your ballot for a party and a mayor and that's it.

Tel Aviv, until last month's municipal elections, was without a functioning mayor for half a year. Since last spring when he announced his intention to run for prime minister in the next general election, Roni Milo had been virtually absent from his elected job. Instead, he spent his time creating a new party and travelling the globe to raise funds.

In Jerusalem, Mayor Ehud Olmert spends almost as much time abroad as he does in the capital. A few weeks ago, Olmert failed to dismiss one of his deputy mayors for highly offensive, racist remarks against Russian immigrants. Several MKs, including some from Olmert's own Likud party, had called on him to suspend Haim Miller, a haredi leader who also triggered a previous controversy when he denounced the Israeli flag as "only a rag."

Last month, representatives of victims of the Maccabiah bridge disaster appealed to the 3,000 delegates at the General Assembly of North American Jewish Federations (GA) in Jerusalem for support in their fight for justice. In July 1997, four Australian athletes were killed and 64 others injured when a footbridge they were crossing collapsed during the opening ceremony of the Maccabi Games near Tel Aviv.

At the GA, Australian Jewish leaders and their supporters (including prominent Canadian human rights lawyer Irwin Cotler) held a press conference during which they stressed the importance of public accountability. As such, one of their demands is that the two top executives of the Israel-based Maccabi World Union (MWU), which organized the games and commissioned the hastily-built bridge, resign, at least until the conclusion of legal proceedings.

Sadly, the Maccabiah bridge affair is only one of a litany of preventable tragedies for which public officials have dodged responsibility. At times, the concept of accountability seems an exotic concept. Tellingly, the word does not exist in Hebrew.

Of course, accountability would be far less of an issue if only people would do their jobs right in the first place, thereby avoiding the disasters that can result from slipshod planning and management. Don't look at me, I only live here.

Who's killing 'the spirit of Oslo'?

Following the continuous and systematic Palestinian violations of its commitments, Israel's patience with this farce finally snapped. By artificially whipping up Palestinians into a frenzy over the demand for the release of terrorists, Arafat has violated every aspect of the Wye agreement and the spirit of the Oslo process.

Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

The language of threat and hatred, and the officially sponsored demonstrations and riots, are incitements to violence, leading to direct attacks against Israelis. When the mobs attacked Israeli cars outside Ramallah, the Palestinian "police," which were created in order to prevent such attacks, were nowhere to be seen.

By attempting to use violence and international pressure to force Israel to free hundreds of terrorists, Arafat is demonstrating that regardless of Israeli concessions and withdrawals, the demands for more will continue.

At the Wye Plantation talks, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not agree to release prisoners "with blood on their hands." How could he, when the terrorists freed by his predecessors are involved in the continuing terror attacks and suicide bombings? This was made clear at Wye, and has not changed. Arafat's old pattern of pocketing Israeli concessions and then attempting to force more, has continued. The conclusion is that regardless of Oslo or Wye, whenever the Palestinians do not get what they want, at any stage, they will resort to violence.

Even while Arafat was in Washington, accepting pledges for billions of dollars from donor states, the incitement and threats of violence continued. From the State Department platform, the PLO leader again declared his intention to end the negotiations by unilaterally declaring a Palestinian state, with Jerusalem as the capital. If the Palestinians are determined to declare independence, why should Israel go through the charade of negotiations and Israeli redeployments?

Indeed, following the mob attacks on the cars, and the beatings, Netanyahu had no alternative other than to suspend the farce. It is now painfully obvious that despite all of the words before, during and after the Wye summit, nothing has changed. The efforts to turn the Palestinian obligations into legal documents and measurable milestones have, as predicted, failed to bring about a change in Arafat's behavior.

The incitement, language of hate, and threat of terrorism continue.

However, the Palestinians also know that they have enjoyed a major advantage in the propaganda war. Following the series of attacks on Israelis, and Netanyahu's response, the journalists and editorial writers again blamed Israel. The agency France Presse, which might as well be an agency of the PLO, declared that Israel had "reneged" in the agreement reached at Wye.

These reports were reprinted around the world.

In the absurd Alice in Wonderland world of reporting on the Middle East, the Palestinians are still seen as the underdogs, while Israel is always at fault. Arafat has immunity, no matter what he does, or rather, what he fails to do. This pattern continues, despite the Palestinian suicide bombing attacks in Gaza a few weeks ago, and the Jerusalem attack. In both cases, Palestinian terrorists sought to kill dozens of Israelis. (In Gaza, the attack was aimed at a school bus, and in Jerusalem, the bombers sought to kill shoppers in the Machane Yehuda marketplace).

When the Palestinian Authority, under Arafat's direct control, began the violent demonstrations on the release of terrorists, they knew that the images that they created and controlled would be transmitted around the world. (Indeed, in the attack on the Israeli car outside Ramallah, television cameras were stationed all around the area, waiting for such an incident). The story was not one of Palestinian attacks against Israelis, but rather the demands of mothers and children for the release of their husbands and fathers, who were in Israeli jails, and held as "political prisoners."

In many cases, the press showed the pictures of the women with the photos, but did not report that the prisoners were terrorists, held for killing or attempting to kill Israelis. In dozens of interviews, Palestinian spokespersons naturally blamed Israel for violating the Wye agreement on prisoner release, and accused Netanyahu of attempting to renege on the withdrawal agreement. At first, even the U.S. government spokesperson, following the lead of the press, joined the chorus in accusing Israel, and only corrected its position after a few days, and not in a clear voice.

Netanyahu is in a bind. If he maintains the freeze on the process, he will be blamed for "killing the spirit of Oslo." If he resumes the Israeli withdrawal without fundamental changes in the nature of the process, the farce will continue.

At some point, this pattern must be reversed, and Israel must hold its ground while stating its case clearly and unequivocally. The longer we wait, the more difficult this will become.

Canada and Israel: Something new has been added

Sixty-three years ago, in April 1935, I found myself in Jerusalem. It was my first visit to the Yishuv, then being governed as a British mandate. I had come in order to participate in the second Maccabi Games, and when they were over I travelled the country.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

In Jerusalem, something special was taking place on Mount Scopus: the 10th anniversary celebration of Israel's first (and then only) university. A lot of famous people attended the anniversary observance, and celebrated the great promise that the fledgling Hebrew University held in store, not only for Jews but for anyone who wanted to get a very special education. Many famous people were there to underscore the importance of the occasion – among them Lord Balfour, the author of the famous declaration of 1917 that had promised the Jewish people their homeland and had helped to raise the profile and promise of the Zionist movement. Chaim Weizmann, later to become Israel's first president, was present, as were all the greats of Zionist history, from founding president of the university, Judah Magnes, and David Ben-Gurion, later Israel's first prime minister, to Martin Buber and a host of movers and shakers of Zionism.

Since then, the Hebrew University has amply fulfilled the great promise that accompanied its establishment and which its visionary founders had enunciated in 1925 and repeated in 1935.

Now, so much later, the university has come up with a brand new scheme that involves people anywhere on the globe, and especially here in Canada. Two Ontario universities, together with the government of the province, have joined the Hebrew University in creating new opportunities. For every dollar that is contributed to the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, the Ontario government will make a matching contribution that is designed to enable students enrolled at the universities of Toronto, York, Western Ontario, Guelph, Waterloo, Ottawa, Queens and McMaster to study in Jerusalem on a special fellowship. Additional matching funds were contributed by the two Toronto universities – so that every dollar given to the Friends of Hebrew University is now worth its triple amount.

A young cousin of mine is now in his third year at Hebrew University and writes the most enthusiastic letters about his experience. Other students have written letters such as these: "Studying here is an opportunity of a lifetime that should not be missed. This year changed me and put real passion and fire in my life for what it is to be Jewish."

This kind of experience potentially affects all of Canadian society: Undergraduate students return home with strengthened Jewish identity, and with a new commitment and understanding of Israel. Graduate students come enriched by their exposure to international, academic and research networks.

If you believe that the upshot of this article is an invitation to contribute to the matching funds scholarship program, you are right. Everything will be welcome, from little to much. There is only one problem: the opportunity ends on March 31, 1999.

The Kirshner File

Netanyahu scrambles to save his government

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's embattled prime minister, was scrambling to save his political skin this week following a stunning bipartisan manoeuvre in the Knesset that almost resulted in new elections.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Thanks to a procedural sleight of hand and the backing of a haredi party, he won a reprieve. Now he has until Dec. 21 to plug the holes in his sinking coalition and thus prolong the life of his government.

No one will be too surprised if he succeeds. Since assuming office against all odds in the summer of 1996, he has confounded observers who've regularly predicted his demise.

Despite his survival skills, Netanyahu will be fortunate to wriggle out of this latest crisis, whose roots are entangled in the Oslo peace process, which he has regularly lambasted.

Netanyahu infuriated members of his shaky coalition, which commands but a one-seat majority in the Knesset, by signing the Wye memorandum on Oct. 23. The agreement broadly calls for an additional 13 percent Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank in exchange for a verifiable Palestinian crackdown on terrorism.

Netanyahu had trouble even convincing his own cabinet to ratify Wye. The accord won the support of just six of 17 ministers, including Ariel Sharon, the newly appointed foreign minister, who had previously blasted Oslo. Five voted against, three abstained and two were not present.

In the Knesset, Wye was passed by a comfortable 75-19 margin, with 19 abstentions, only because the Labor party, among others in the peace camp, backed it to the hilt.

Israel carried out the first of three withdrawals last month, ceding two percent of the West Bank and permitting the Palestinian Authority to open an airport in the Gaza Strip (about two-thirds of which is now controlled by the Palestinians).

But in implementing Wye's first phase, Netanyahu touched off a firestorm of protest in his constituency, whose attachment to the West Bank is based on religious, messianic and security grounds.

After Wye, the Land of Israel Front, a far-right Knesset group fiercely opposed to territorial concessions, went into battle mode, threatening yet again to topple Netanyahu.

The National Religious Party, meanwhile, was thrown into turmoil. A wing led by Education Minister Yitzhak Levy and Rabbi Haim Druckman, a disciple of former chief rabbis Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliahu, recommended early general elections. The central committee quashed the motion, 430-312, but failed to crush the dissidents.

And there was disaffection within the rank and file of the Lubavitch movement, which helped catapult Netanyahu to victory 2½ years ago. In a statement which spoke volumes, Rabbi Mordechai Ashkenazi, a Lubavitch activist, described Netanyahu as a "crook and a swindler" for having reneged on a promise to freeze withdrawals.

Rabbi Ashkenazi's ad-hominem attack on Netanyahu's personal integrity was in keeping with the rough and tumble norms of Israeli politics. So was Uzi Landau's blistering volley questioning Netanyahu's character. The hard-line Likudnik, who heads the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee, said, "The prime minister cheats all of the time."

These bitter denunciations, as well as the rising level of discontent within his coalition, prompted Netanyahu to try to shore up his government. In a desperate move, he turned to David Levy, who, in a characteristically petulant huff, resigned as foreign minister last January. Netanyahu, thirsting after Levy's five Gesher Knesset seats, invited him back to the cabinet. Levy bit at the bait, but the putative deal – an exercise in naked cynicism – collapsed amid a flurry of accusations and counter accusations when Netanyahu denied him the finance portfolio.

As his negotiations with Levy teetered, Netanyahu dropped a bombshell. In the wake of the random beating of an Israeli soldier by a band of Palestinian rock throwers near Nablus, part of a pattern of renewed Palestinian rioting throughout the territories, he suspended the Wye agreement, blaming the Palestinian Authority for encouraging street protests.

No further withdrawals would take place, he declared, unless the Palestinian Authority pledged not to declare statehood next May, stopped demanding the release of Palestinian prisoners with "blood on their hands," and halted its campaign of incitement. The Palestinians rejected the demands as "completely unacceptable." The United States, which brokered Wye, advised Israel to implement the pact as signed.

The suspension of the second redeployment, which had been scheduled for Dec. 18, is a mixed blessing for Netanyahu.

Ehud Barak, leader of the Labor party, abruptly yanked the "safety net" from under Netanyahu's feet. Asserting he would no longer prop up his government in the face of far-right pressure to scuttle it, Barak sponsored a bill for early elections.

However, Rafael Eitan, leader of the hawkish Tsomet party, reversed course and announced that he would vote against the legislation. Much to Netanyahu's relief, the National Religious Party reiterated its opposition to early elections. Even flaming radicals like Druckman, Hanan Porat, Zvi Hendel and Nissim Slomiansky, all of whom are deeply disenchanted with Netanyahu, held their fire.

By way of gratitude, Netanyahu promoted Yitzhak Levy, a staunch adversary of territorial compromise, to the inner cabinet, composed of Ariel Sharon, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky.

Benjamin Netanyahu

Last week, in an overture that suggests that his priority is sheer political survival rather than the perpetuation of the peace process, Netanyahu offered Moledet – a far-right party which has demonized Oslo – a seat in the cabinet. Moledet's Rechavam Ze'evi rebuffed Netanyahu, wary of his sincerity.

Netanyahu, too, requested a helping hand from the Arab Democratic party, whose leader, Abdel Wahab Darawshe, is a keen advocate of Oslo. Netanyahu told him that the suspension of the Wye redeployments was merely a temporary measure. But he reacted coldly to Netanyahu's cry of distress.

Netanyahu has offended the right *and* the left, given his propensity for making conflicting promises as the need arises. His natural allies on the right, notably Benny Begin and Dan Meridor, have already bolted, and more Likud loyalists may yet desert him. His days as prime minister may finally be numbered.

If all else fails, Netanyahu could have a trump card up his sleeve – the formation of a national unity government. Eleven members of his cabinet, from Sharon to Sharansky, as well as prominent Likudniks like Meir Shitreet and Reuven Rivlin, like the idea. However, Mordechai, a relative moderate, is chary, fearing that he could lose his position in such a realignment.

As usual, Netanyahu – who has discussed the subject with Barak – has been cagey, having come out for and against it, depending on the circumstances.

Barak is hardly enthusiastic. Last month, he virtually ruled out the possibility. As he put it: "We will not be a part of this terrible government." In the past, Barak gravitated toward this scenario, as long as Netanyahu was prepared to change his policies. But now, Barak strongly believes that Netanyahu is finished and that new elections are inevitable within six months.

He may be correct.

Israelis may be going to polls sooner rather than later.

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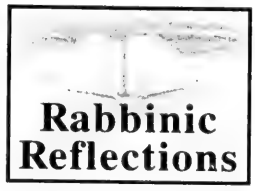

Rabbinic Reflections

By RABBI LEIGH LERNER

Understanding Chanukah

When do you need a Catholic Bible to understand more about a Jewish holiday? When it's Chanukah. Here's why.

Two thousand one hundred years ago, the Bible was translated into Greek by 72 sages in 72 days, in Alexandria. Called the Septuagint, the "70," legend says that all the translators worked separately, but arrived at precisely the same translation. Certain books in Hebrew were valued more highly in Alexandria than in Israel. Among these scrolls, now called outside books in Hebrew, and the Apocrypha in English, were the Books of the Maccabees.

When our Tanach was "canonized" about 1,900 years ago by rabbis of the mishnaic period, they did not include the Books of the Maccabees. But the Septuagint became the standard translation for Greek-speaking Jews, as well as for the Greek Orthodox Church, and it is also the basis of the Catholic scriptures. If you want to read Maccabees, you need a copy of the Apocrypha, or you can open a Catholic Bible.

When we turn to the First and Second Book of Maccabees, we find an exciting, grisly compendium of history and woe, legend and triumph. The basis for the midrash of Hannah and her seven sons may be found in Maccabees II, chapter 7, but the midrash doesn't quite match the Apocrypha's explicitness about the horrors that befell the children of the unfortunate mother. The bravery of her family, and her own indomitable devotion to Judaism transferred to rabbinic lore.

Maccabees makes clear the fact that the Chanukah revolt of Mattathias and his sons against the Hellenistic Syrians led by Antiochus Epiphanes, was a two-pronged attack. Antiochus, whose last name means "good manifest on earth", desired to unify his lands with Greek paganism, and toward that end, he erected statues and altars where he demanded obeisance or death.

On the 25th day of every month, Antiochus' troops conducted pogroms against unyielding Jews. Rejecting paganism, Mattathias took his sword, and ran through a Jew who bowed to the idol in Modi'in, then called his people to arms against the Hellenists.

But the Apocrypha shows a second aspect of the revolt. Onias, a Jew, paid money to Antiochus and became a Friend of the King, a title like count or baron, and in exchange for favors rendered, Antiochus gave Onias the high priesthood. In Jewish tradition, the high priesthood cannot be bought, so the people were infuriated.

A certain Menelaus then paid more, and became a Friend of the King. Antiochus took the high priesthood from Onias, and gave it to Menelaus. Then Menelaus sacrificed swine's flesh upon the altar of the Temple in Jerusalem. This filled the people with enough rage against the Jewish Hellenizers to ignite, not only a war against foreign invaders, but a civil war against Jews who had gone over to the other side. So the Chanukah revolt was both a defensive action and a civil uprising.

When the dust cleared, with the Syrian Greeks pushed back and the Jewish Hellenizers defeated, the Temple was re-dedicated on the 25th of Kislev. The 25th, the monthly day of Jewish martyrdom, became the day of re-dedication.

Maccabees I traces the eight-day celebration to an imitation of Solomon's dedication; Maccabees II claims the Maccabees missed Sukkot, and made it up in Kislev. The Talmud tells the story of the oil, which speaks so profoundly of God's providence and inspiration.

With Jewish Hellenizers defeated, was Judaism unified? Many historians believe that during the Maccabeean revolt, two major religio-political groups, the Sadducees and the Pharisees, emerged.

While Chanukah allowed us to practise our ancestral faith without threat of pagan intervention, it also legitimated alternative responses within Judaism itself, thus creating more light for Jews everywhere.

These days of Chanukah, *ma'alim bakodesh*, let us go up in holiness as the lights mount in brightness.

Rabbi Lerner is the spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom in Montreal.

The Jewish Highway

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Chronology of Israeli money

You don't have to be a coin collector – or even an Israeli– to appreciate Israeli money. Israel's modern currency actually pre-dates the foundation of the state, and tells the story of the evolution of the country by depicting its heroes and its symbols, old and new. And since the country and its money are always changing, you can keep up on the latest developments on the Jewish Highway.

The Bank of Israel **[http://www.bankisrael.gov.il]** has put together an extremely impressive site, particularly in the area devoted to Israel Notes and Coins **[http://www.bankisrael.gov.il/catal/catal.htm]**. You get a concise, illustrated history of the evolution of money this century, from the Palestine pound and *prutot*, to Israeli pounds and *agarot*, to the hyper-inflation which ushered in shekalim and finally new shekalim.

Along the way, there are some fascinating anecdotes **[http://www.bankisrael.gov.il/catal/ angl.htm]**. On the eve of the establishment of the country, banknotes could not be printed locally since the British mandate had not yet expired and because of the lack of local expertise. At the same time, foreign firms did not want to print money for a non-existent state. Eventually, the American Banknote Company of New York was persuaded to help. But in order to get approval from the U.S. State Department to print foreign banknotes, the notes could give no indication that they were legal tender. That phrase had to be printed on later.

Palestine Pound used on notes

In addition, when the notes were printed, the name of the new country hadn't yet been decided, so the phrase Palestine Pound was used on the notes (as it had been during the mandate.) The banknotes reached the country secretly in July 1948, and went into circulation the following month. It wasn't until the country was four years old that it had its own Israel pounds.

Did you return from your last trip to Israel with a wallet full of bills you didn't have time to exchange? They're probably OK, but you may want to read up on counterfeit Israeli bills in circulation **[http://www.bankisrael. gov.il/press/msgs/879411012/971111.htm]**. This Hebrew-only Web site has several tips on how not to get stuck with a forgery. One example: on the current 100 new sheqel note, look inside a faint rectangle and you will see a menorah. On the counterfeit note, only the rectangle is visible.

And what of the future? The Bank of Israel has announced that at the beginning of 1999 the Bank will begin the gradual process of replacing the existing series of banknotes with a new one **[http://www.bankisrael.gov.il/press/msgs/909577434/SHTAR3.HTM]**. It points out that new technological advances in the area of security would protect the notes from counterfeiters who are also improving their methods.

And for the first time, the country will have a 500 new shekel bill. The personality to be honored: Yitzhak Rabin.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

Jewish Life

***Kaddish*, by Leon Wieseltier (Random House, $38.50).**
***Saying Kaddish*, by Anita Diamant (Random House, $32)**

An astonishing work

Books
Bernard Baskin

Next to Shema, the Mourner's Kaddish is the most familiar and widely recited prayer in Judaism. Kaddish means holy, and this prayer is a brief declaration in praise of God, who is termed "Blessed, praised and honored, extolled and glorified, adored and exalted." This doxology, strangely, contains no reference to death.

Jews who seldom or ever pray are moved to recite the Kaddish for their loved ones. For many mourners, it becomes a mantra, a source of meditation, its few rhythmic sounds and syllables build a kind of incantation.

Written largely in Aramaic, parts of the Kaddish date from the first century BCE. It was added to in later centuries and by the Middle Ages it became part of the liturgy, and adopted by Jews everywhere.

Leon Wieseltier is literary editor of the *New Republic* magazine. During the year following the death of his father in 1996, he attended a small Orthodox shul near Washington D.C., or elsewhere when travelling, and recited the Kaddish three times a day. Reared in a traditional home, the son of Holocaust survivors, he had for many years, however, forsaken ritual and observance.

Kaddish is a rambling record of the author's impressions, reflections, questions, doubts and scholarly investigations during his year of mourning. The book's 16 chapters delve into arcane and often convoluted discussions on all matters relating to the history and many-sided meaning of the Kaddish. The author describes his immersion into a world of medieval texts, and what they taught him about the father-son relationship, the need for community, life after death, the role of women in prayer, the dilemmas of Jewish learning and survival, and a host of related matters.

Often dense and difficult entries alternate with lighter comments about the small group with whom he prays, enigmatic aphorisms about religion and the vagaries of Jewish community life. He writes "The shul is losing its strangeness for me. This worries me. In a strange place, solitariness is possible. Sociability poses a threat to spirituality. Now, I'm coming to know my fellow petitioners. They are no longer strangers, they are becoming friends. How do you pray with friends? How do you pray with anybody?... And yet the congregation is one of the conditions of my kaddish."

Kaddish is a book like no other – fervent, illuminating, pedantic, lyrical, searching — an astonishing fusion of learning and psychic intensity. It must be studied as well as read. In the end, the tenacious and sensitive reader relates to the author when he writes that this was "the year in which I discovered the fine fit of rags, the silk, in the sack cloth."

* * *

Anita Diamant is a popular columnist who has written a series of books about Jewish ritual and observance. *Saying Kaddish* is a useful and informative non-denominational manual on the nature of the Jewish funeral, shivah and yahrzeit, tzedakah and Yizkor – how to make an ethical will, or mourn the loss of a stillborn or miscarried child.

This lucid and helpful guide shows how to transform times of grief into personal sources of comfort. It is warmly recommended.

Guest Voices

By CANTOR AVIV OUANOUNOU

Deep insights into Torah

If you have ever been awake at midnight on Saturday in a small Moroccan synagogue in Israel, you may have experienced the beauty and splendor of the singing of the Shirat Habakashot (poems of the requests), a collection of piyyutim (liturgical songs) from the book called *Shir Yedidout*.

On the Shabbat following Simchat Torah, Jews of Moroccan descent begin their tradition of singing from *Shir Yedidout* (songs of love between the Jewish nation and God) in the synagogue. This collection of piyyutim was published in Marrakech in 1921, and is believed to be the revised edition of an earlier collection of piyyutim titled *Rini Vesimchi* (1890).

Moroccan Jews and other Sephardi communities have the custom of waking up during the night on the Shabbatot between Sukkot and Pesach, and gathering in the synagogue to sing the piyyutim of Shirat Habakashot.

The collection of piyyutim includes works of composers from early Spain, such as Rabbi Yehudah Halevy and Rabbi Shlomo iben Gavirol, as well as piyyutim composed by later paytanim (poets) who lived in Morocco approximately 150 years ago. It is important to note that all of these composers were also talmidim chachamim (learned men), considered to be some of the best Torah scholars of their time.

Although it may seem somewhat unusual to us that such great rabbis were also so devoted to poetry, it was inevitable that these two occupations would go hand in hand, because the poetry written in *Shir Yedidout* contained deep insights into the Torah.

Rabbi Chaim Shoshana is an example of a talmid chacham (Torah scholar) who contributed to *Shir Yedidout*. Born in Marrakech at the end of 1912, he was a rabbi in the city of Dimnat, and in 1956, he was elected to serve as a dayan (judge) in the chief rabbinical court of Casablanca.

There were many grammatical errors in both *Rini Vesimchi* and *Shir Yedidout*, and Rabbi Shoshana took it upon himself to correct the mistakes. After completing this difficult task, which took almost five years, Rabbi Shoshana produced the new edition of *Shir Yedidout* and called it *Aeira Sachar*, which in Hebrew means "awaken the dawn" – exactly what Shirat Habakashot is all about. In the three volumes of *Aeira Sachar*, Rabbi Shoshana not only corrected the grammatical faults and punctuated the piyyutim, he also added commentaries about the songs.

Shir Yedidout has approximately 550 piyyutim, organized into chapters according to the weekly Torah portions. Preceding each chapter of the piyyutim is the Tikun Chatzot, a prayer that is recited in memory of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Shirat Habakashot originated in Safed and was brought to Morocco via many different messengers. At the outset, these messengers transmitted the poetry to the congregation to which they belonged, with the result that each community had its own individual piyyutim, which their members recited.

The collections of piyyutim from the different congregations and communities grew, as a result of the spiritual growth in the community of Morocco. The works of *Rini Vesimchi* (and later of *Shir Yedidout*) were probably developed in order to create a unified nusach (style) of Shirat Habakashot, a nusach that would be accepted by all the Jewish communities of Morocco.

Although the topics dealt with in the piyyutim vary greatly, probably the most common is the exile and the final redemption of the Jewish nation. It is important to remember that during various periods in the history of the Jewish nation, the Jews were prohibited by their governing nations to study the Torah.

It is for this reason that excerpts from the Zohar, Kabbalah, Torah, Talmud and Halachah were incorporated into the piyyutim. The Jews, who could not openly study the Torah and Jewish tradition, still continued to learn them secretly through the piyyutim.

Aviv Ouanounou is the chazzan of Magen David Sephardic Congregation in Toronto.

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HAPPY CHANUKAH! NEED WE SAY MORE?

A year to remember

By JEHUDI KINAR

When this article appears, it will be a year since we started our 50th anniversary celebrations. What a year this was!

Why did I dedicate so much space in my columns to these celebrations, when so many other events have also happened this year? It is because the independence of Israel after nearly two millennia cannot be celebrated enough. Clearly, others feel the same way, to judge by the number of people in the community who put such time and effort into making each of the Israel at 50 events so memorable.

Diplomatically Speaking
Jehudi Kinar

In our desire to be together in marking the 50th anniversary of Israeli statehood, there was no difference between left and right, between Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jews, or between young and old. Differences were laid aside during this happy period, and in fact, from what I've heard, these events have contributed to a greater sense of unity in the Jewish community.

Over the past year, we have had three film festivals in Toronto alone where Israeli films were feted, and the Israeli community in Toronto hosted a film event. Festivals of Israeli films were also held in Edmonton and Vancouver. All this points to an impressive maturing of Israeli filmmakers and the film industry. Other aspects of Jewish and Israeli culture were also abundant at these events, which included art exhibits, and many fine singers and musicians.

The consulate worked hard to help with the events wherever possible, but their success was a result, not only of the contributions of many hardworking volunteers from the community, but also of the hundreds of thousands of people who attended.

The events were an impressive demonstration of the close connection between Canadian Jews and Israel. The State of Israel has always been extremely important to Canadian Jewry and will continue to be so in the future. As a result of the fantastic response to this past year's events, members of the Canadian Jewish community, on their own initiative, have already approached the consulate to discuss cooperating on plans for celebrations of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) in 1999.

All in all, it was a year to remember, a year of which the Canadian Jewish community should be very proud.

The Train of Life

*L*ife is like a speeding passenger train;
With every second moving ever forward;
Carrying its passengers with it;
On to new bright sights, sounds and experiences.

*D*eath occurs when a passenger falls from the train;
Carrying not only the departed family member;
But all those who loved and cherished them.

*T*ime now stops for all parties;
Colors dull and become muted;
The scenery remains the same for all time;
As those still in the land of the living watch the train continue its journey.

*T*he choice now for the living is often painful;
Do they forever remain at that point along the tracks;
Never changing until their lives too come to an end;
Or do they say a final farewell;
Make the necessary adjustments;
And rejoin the Train of Life?

Jeffrey Rosen
November 28, 1998

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF DECEMBER 18-24/'98

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	----------	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	4:25 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:15, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:30	Mon.-Wed. Maariv 8:45-9:00PM
Anshei Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St. (416) 595-5723	4:35 PM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	Mon.-Thurs. 4:30 PM
Beth HaMinyan (C)	70 Ridge Hill Dr. (416) 785-3655	----------	9:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	4:30 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 & 9:00 AM	4:30 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave. (416) 229-2600	4:25 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Lodzer Centre (C)	12 Heaton St. (416) 636-6665	5:30 PM	9:00 AM	----------	9:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre [Abir Yaacob] (O)	7026 Bathurst St. (905) 669-7654	4:15 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 AM	4:25 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	8:30 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Prutschi returning to CJC

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Manuel Prutschi, a longtime Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) professional who left the organization last year to serve as executive vice-president of the World Sephardic Educational Centre and the Sephardic Kehila Centre, is returning to CJC.

He will become the organization's national director of community relations, effective Jan 4, 1999.

The national community relations committee deals primarily with anti-Semitism and discrimination, human rights advocacy, interaction between the Jewish community and other groups, and relations with government and media.

A native of Ecuador, Prutschi says he was made to feel very much at home by the Sephardi community. While he's not renouncing his Ashkenazi roots, he considers himself "very much a part" of Toronto's Sephardi community and plans to remain involved on a volunteer basis, he said.

He is stepping down by mutual agreement, he told *The CJN*, because the part of his position involving the World Sephardic Educational Centre, which was to have a significant international component, did not pan out as anticipated. (The Toronto chapter of the WSEC is still active, however.)

"It essentially became a localized, administrative position," said Prutschi. "Certainly it's an important job, but it's not one I'm most inclined to do, nor is my expertise focused in those areas."

In his career with CJC, where he worked for over 16 years, he headed the community relations department nationally, and prior to that regionally in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario. Most recently he was executive director for the Ontario region.

"I really did miss the intellectual challenge and the contact with the various communities that make up Canada," Prutschi said of the past year.

"Overseeing the community relations agenda was always a passion of mine," he stated in a CJC news release.

Prutschi has extensive experience in intergroup relations, multiculturalism, human rights advocacy and international affairs. He has played a major role in Canadian court cases and human right tribunals dealing with anti-Semitism and racist extremists.

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Community Matters

A Tribute to Decades of Leadership

UJA Federation recently celebrated past and present successes at a tribute to Past Women's Campaign Chairs. Carol Kassel, one of 20 former Women's Campaign leaders in attendance, emphasized the "strong connection and commitment" UJA Federation engenders within its volunteers, recounting to the honourees and their families more than 50 years of campaign highlights.

Sarena Koschitzky, who co-chaired the luncheon gathering along with Kassel, Julie Albert and Nyla Ahmad, applauded the tributees, representing five decades of pioneering leadership, for helping the UJA Federation campaign grow from $50,000 to over $41million this year.

Judy Engel, the current Women's Campaign Chair, recognized several leading donors whose significant gift increases have helped the Campaign for Fifty raise an additional $5.5 million this year.

"You have strengthened the foundation of this campaign for the past 50 years, allowing a new generation of leaders to carry us forward," said Engel.

UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel with husband David and children (l-r) Paul, Tina and Daniel.

Carol Kassel ('90), Chair of Past Women's Chairs.

(l-r) Julie Albert, Sarena Koschitzky, Nyla Ahmad, Tribute Co-Chairs.

(above photos l-r) Past Chairs Edith Eason ('72), Shoshana Cole ('71), Mirial Small ('69) and Cecily Peters ('70)

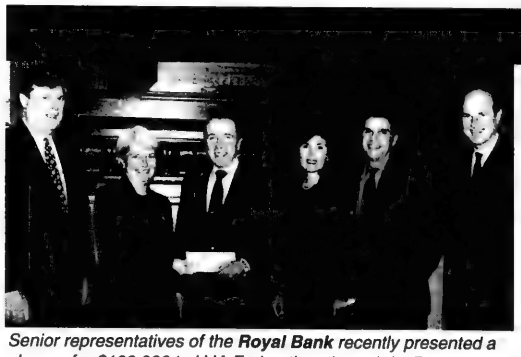
Former Women's Campaign Director Sylvia Newman flanked by Past Chairs Debbie Kimel ('94) (l) and Marlene Axmith ('96).

(l-r) Campaign for Fifty Vice Chair Glennie Lindenberg and Jewish Women's Federation President Janice Langer.

Past Jewish Women's Federation President (l) Jill Reitman and Past Chair Lorraine Sandler ('93).

Photos: Stephen Epstein/Big Dipper Communications

JEWISH toronto



*Senior representatives of the **Royal Bank** recently presented a cheque for $100,000 to UJA Federation, through its **Partners** corporate sponsorship program. The Royal Bank sponsored a recent dinner honouring UJA Federation's leading contributors. (l-r) **Dwight Hitchins**, Manager, Business Banking Centre, **Barbara Haire**, Regional Vice President North York/North Toronto, **Larry Tanenbaum**, UJA Federation Campaign Co-Chair, **Lorri Kushnir**, Chair, Partners, **Howard Sokolowski**, Past Chair, Partners, **Brent Belzberg**, Campaign Co-Chair.*

Caring Corps

More than 50 **JF&CS Chaplaincy Services** volunteers are sharing the holiday spirit on visits to over 1,100 community members residing in more than 50 Ontario hospitals, nursing homes, detention centres, prisons and other institutions. The group, which includes several local synagogue organizations, is bringing candle-lighting and latkes to people as far north as Muskoka. Chaplaincy Services is funded by UJA Federation.

A HOT Chanukah

UJA Federation ***Hands On Toronto*** volunteers helped some Big Brothers and Sisters make Chanukah a little brighter for a number of JF&CS's youngest clients. ***HOT*** volunteers supplied plenty of latkes and helped the kids create colourful crafts before escorting the "bigs" and "littles" to the Bathurst Jewish Centre's Jewish Discovery Children's Museum. To find out about all of ***HOT***'s community involvement opportunities for young adults, call **(416) 631-5736.**

Thank You

UJA Federation thanks **nearly 1,500 dedicated campaigners** who contacted over 25,000 donors during the historic **Campaign for Fifty**, which is projected to raise over $41 million for 1999 **Yasher Koach!**

Watch for the next, bigger and better issue of* Community Matters *in February.

It's on the Web!
For complete information on the latest news about ***Jewish Toronto***, its organizations, activities and special events take a tour of our Website.
www.feduja.org

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

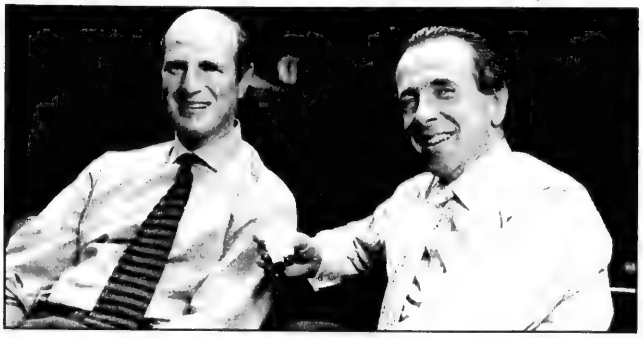
Community Matters

Record-Breaking UJA Campaign

A year to remember...

With a projected, record-breaking $41.5 million total for 1999, UJA Federation took fundraising to new heights this year.

In September, an unprecedented display of community support for Super Sunday, UJA Federation's single largest fundraising event, secured another record-breaking $2.1 million to the campaign, with an additional $400,000 from Super Week telethons.



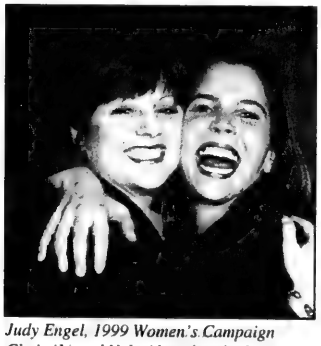
Campaign for Fifty Co-Chairs Brent Belzberg (l) and Larry Tanenbaum.

Hundreds celebrated this bright beginning of a three-year drive to raise $50 million by 2001 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts on Monday night. The event, chaired by Leslie Gales and Bram Granovsky, featured volunteer recognition presentations and performances by Israeli musician Yehuda Elyas.

The additional funds raised will be used to support programs to assist the vulnerable, strengthen Jewish identity and rescue Jews from danger around the world.

A Great Start!

On August 31, with a $3 million lead over last year's start, the campaign enjoyed early success, fueled by large gift increases among UJA Federation's top donors.



Judy Engel, 1999 Women's Campaign Chair (L) and Nyla Ahmad at the Past Women's Campaign Chairs Tribute.

By the fifth week, close to 1,500 volunteers propelled the campaign passed the $22 million mark, with donor increases averaging 20%. In mid-November, just as a specially appointed team of top campaigners embarked on the final push to contact contributors, the $41 million mark was well in sight.

"The true success of the campaign is the level of community involvement," noted Brent Belzberg, who co-chaired the Campaign for Fifty with Larry Tanenbaum. "It's the buy-in from so many new young members of the community and their willingness to ensure that we continue to build on this year's growth."

The Yovel Singers performing at the Campaign for Fifty launch rallied hundreds of community members in support of UJA Federation.

"We live in an extraordinary community with an unsurpassed sense of collective responsibility to care for those who can't care for themselves," said Tanenbaum. "That's why I am so proud to be involved."

Past UJA Federation Campaign Chairs David Goldstein (l) and Al Green were among dozens of former Chairs honoured this year.

People Power

"UJA Federation's commitment to educating the community, strong leadership from Brent and Larry, and a reaffirmed commitment to Israel through year-long 50th anniversary celebrations, were key factors in the campaign's success," said Glennie Lindenberg, who served as Campaign Vice-Chair with Howard Price and Abe Glowinsky.

"Our volunteers and supporters should be proud of the inroads we have made in responding to the needs of UJA Federation beneficiary agencies which require our help," added Glowinsky.

"The community really rose to the challenge of securing our collective future".

"I feel privleged to have worked with the incredebly dedicated volunteers whose resolution to get the job done never let up," added Price.

Future Looks Bright

"We are confident that we will see the same growth moving forward and that each and every member of the community will make UJA Federation their preeminent gift," concluded Belzberg.

Over 600 volunteer campaigners joined Super Sunday Chairs Maura Cooperberg (l) and Leo Goldhar in raising $2.1 million in just one day!

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Greater Toronto Area

German community takes hard look at its history

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two years ago, the north German town of Lubeck made headlines around the world – and not for anything for which the townspeople could take pride.

The world took notice when local neo-Nazis set fire to a residence occupied by immigrant workers, killing 10 people. The tragedy came to symbolize the resurgence of xenophobic race hatred that Germany had been trying to eliminate since the end of World War II.

Last month the people of Lubeck worked hard to show another side of their community as they hosted an academic conference titled, Time to Remember, 60 years after Kristallnacht.

Fifty scholars from around the world attended the conference, including historian Frank Bialystok, the only Canadian to participate.

The commemorations themselves were intensely moving, particularly because one took place in the beautifully restored turn-of-the-century synagogue in the town centre, he said. But more impressive was the attitude of the people and the large turnout of young Germans who were struggling to come to terms with Germany's past and with current manifestations of hatred.

"I think they were coming out for themselves and saying, 'This isn't the way we feel about things,'" Bialystok, who co-authored a Canadian curriculum on teaching about the Holocaust, said.

Most segments of the local German population were represented at the conference, including the local bishop, the president of the state government of Schleswig-Holstein and the local burgermeister (mayor), Bialystok said. The media covered the event extensively and the workshops and plenary sessions "were jammed" with local people who took an interest in the proceedings.

The synagogue was the venue for the opening of the conference, which coincided with the anniversary of Kristallnacht, the night 60 years ago when Jews were attacked, shops destroyed and synagogues burned by rampaging Germans.

The synagogue survived Kristallnacht unscathed because the Nazis feared a fire set there would spread to a museum next door. Instead, Nazis broke into the house of worship and desecrated it, tearing down the holy Ark to get at the Torah scrolls, Bialystok said.

The shul was used as a storage facility during World War II. In 1994, it was the subject of an attempted arson that led to the arrest of four young neo-Nazis. A 1995 arson attack is still unsolved. A local pastor who spoke out against the attacks received death threats from extremists, Bialystok added.

The Kristallnacht commemoration in the shul was respectful and moving, he said. "I was quite taken by the fact the synagogue was full with several hundred people, including some young German kids."

Lubeck's restored synagogue

From there, the commemoration moved to the town's medieval cathedral, which was jammed with about 1,000 people. The town's bishop, mayor and the president of Schleswig-Holstein addressed the crowd in an attempt to come to terms with the legacy of the Third Reich, he said.

Much of the conference focused on education issues, such as teaching German history. One panel focused specifically on education about "the sites of destruction," like the Majdanek and Buchenwald concentration camps, he said.

Bialystok, who's travelled to Germany five times in the last few years, said "there really is an attempt in certain circles to deal with this history. There are so many reactions to it, from neo-Nazis to those who don't want to talk about it anymore to those who say, 'It's our history and we have to confront it.'"

One particularly gratifying aspect of the conference occurred after a workshop that was attended by many young people, Bialystok said. They brought a personal perspective to the issue.

"One youngster said he had one grandfather who served in the SS, the other in the Wehrmacht (army) and even today, one is more anti-Semitic than the other, so 'I don't have any respect for them'" Bialystok related. Surprisingly, it was the army veteran who was more anti-Semitic than the SS man.

Another young person told how his grandfather explained there was so much pressure to conform in the Nazi era, the people had no choice. "Then he would put down the Russians and the Turks, who, he said, were taking over the country. That youth said, 'How can I talk to him about anything?'" Bialystok related.

"They had no qualms talking about these heavy issues," he added.

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Greater Toronto Area

Architects discuss structures that commemorate Shoah

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Are there esthetic solutions to mass murder?

Judging by the museums and memorials which have sprung up to commemorate the Holocaust, the answer seems clear.

Last week, three internationally renowned architects ruminated about their work in light of this question. Their topic was Remembering the Holocaust in North America, Germany and Israel.

At a forum sponsored by the Goethe-Institut and the Design Exchange, Moshe Safdie discussed the wholesale reorganization of Yad Vashem; Daniel Libeskind talked about the Jewish Museum in Berlin, and other projects in Germany; and James Ingo Freed spoke of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

All three illustrated their presentations with slides.

Safdie, an Israeli who designed Yad Vashem's children's memorial, said the $45 million renovation and expansion of Yad Vashem will be finished within several years.

He estimated that two to three million visitors would soon visit Yad Vashem annually, up from several hundred thousand not too long ago.

Safdie, who achieved fame with the avant garde Habitat housing project at Expo 67, disclosed that a new historical museum and a Hall of Names, commemorating the victims of the Holocaust, will be built.

Plans also call for the construction of a wall to separate the "sacred" part of the complex from the parking lots and arrival area.

The projected structures, he explained, will blend in with Jerusalem's mountainous terrain.

Describing his relationship with the Holocaust, Safdie said his first wife was a survivor, and his second wife's mother passed through the Auschwitz concentration camp.

As an architect, his involvement with Yad Vashem began in 1976, when he designed the now much-acclaimed children's memorial.

Libeskind, the son of Polish survivors, said that Berlin's Jewish museum is expected to open in January 2000.

It will celebrate the history of Berlin Jewry. The design, he said, incorporates a stylized Star of David, and "dead" spaces for introspection and voids to recall the darker side of Germany's past, including pogroms.

Libeskind suggested that the museum will leave the impression that there was always an "impenetrable wall" between Jews and Germans, the integration of Jews into German society notwithstanding.

Speaking of the art museum in Osnabruck, Lower Saxony he created in honor of the late painter Felix Nussbaum, Libeskind said its design suggests abrupt transitions, and therefore mirrors Nussbaum's own life. He was placed aboard the last transport from Brussels to Auschwitz.

Since the opening of the museum recently, 40 of Nussbaum's paintings thought to have been lost have turned up, he reported.

As well, Libeskind described a commission he received for a massive housing project in Oranienberg, a town next to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp.

Freed, born in Germany, called the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum a building which speaks to visitors.

In designing this landmark, he said he was thinking of memory rather than history.

Every space, every nook and cranny, has a meaning, but nothing is what it seems, he observed.

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Greater Toronto Area

Teens chosen for prestigious international MIT forum

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Gil Hagi and Tsipora Mankovsky, both 16-year-old Grade 11 students in the gifted program at William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute, were among a select group of 100 teens chosen to take part in a recent international forum hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Media Lab in Cambridge, Mass.

Tsipora Mankovsky, left, and Gil Hagi, together with their counterparts from 139 countries, have been using technology to discuss issues affecting youth around the world. [Frances Kraft photo]

Prior to the Junior Summit, as the six-day meeting was called, some 3,000 teens from 139 countries used their computers for online discussions of issues like child poverty, education, child labor, and how technology can be used to improve the world. Major sponsors of the project included Citibank, the LEGO Group and Swatch, and students presented their ideas to business leaders and politicians.

Participants created a cybercountry, Nation1, to unite children around the world on line. Leaders plan to apply for United Nations representation.

Hagi, a native of Israel who moved here just before his ninth birthday, has "a little more hope for the future" and "a little more faith" in his generation following the summit.

The summit participants represented over 50 countries, including Israel.

It began with an invitation to youngsters to describe their current world, and to suggest ways technology might be used to improve that world.

Mankovsky approached Hagi to suggest trying out for the program as a team. She's worked as a graphic designer since the age of 14; he admits to "dabbling" in computers, and hopes to study computer science at MIT. Mankovsky says Hagi is an "amazing" programmer and 3-D animator.

Their entry, which they uploaded to MIT by computer, featured a "walk-through science lab."

Mankovsky, an alumna of Bialik Hebrew Day School, saw the summit as "a great opportunity to reach out to kids across the world and make some change."

Hagi feels the experience has broadened his empathy for world situations – like the hurricane that passed through Jamaica, where one of the members of their online group was.

"It kind of makes the world smaller," said Hagi. "You're made more aware of other cultures."

To facilitate exchange of ideas, the students – whom Mankovsky describes as brilliant, with a passion for changing things – were divided into topic groups. Translation technology was used to bridge language barriers.

Technology is a big part of the answer to problems in the education system, believes Mankovsky.

"It's the ultimate communication tool," said Hagi.

"But we have to remember it is a tool, and that minds are behind it," said Mankovsky. "We lead the computers, the computers don't lead us."

The students "all want the same things," said Mankovsky. "We all want to be happy. We all want our lives to be rich and our families to be safe."

Having taken an active leadership role organizing committees at the summit, Mankovsky learned a lot about leadership, trust and compassion, she said.

Locally, she has joined her school's environmental club – a small but significant step, she believes.

"I learned that changing the world doesn't mean making it perfect. It means helping one person at a time and setting an example."

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.

For rates or to place an ad, call:

Tanya at (416) 391-1836

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sun. Dec. 20, 7:30pm** Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook. ***BRIDGE, Trivial Pursuit, etc.** $5. 88 couples have already met! Mollie, 733-3634.

Darren, Mark & Ari Present Two Great Parties:
The Matzo Ball at Whiskey Saigon, 250 Richmond St. W. at Duncan. Thurs., Dec. 24, at 9pm. $12 - adv., $15 - door.

The New Years Bash at Joe Badali's 156 Front St. W. Thurs., Dec. 31, at 10pm. $25 - adv., $35 - door. *Dress Code In Effect.*
DM&A Hotline: 416-713-0024
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Jewish Singles Week: Club Med, Cancun, Mexico, Jan. 17 - 24, 1999. Call the JSR 416-483-4151 for info.

Latka & Dreidl Bash. Metro Toronto Singles presents our 15th annual Chanukah Party at **Berlin Night Club,** 2335 Yonge St. (1 1/2 blocks North of Eglinton), **Thurs., Dec. 24** (X-mas Eve). 7pm - 2am. Cover - $10. Hors d'oeuvres, grand door prize. **Come meet someone special at our largest party of the year!** For info call 416-222-7111.

Single Scene 35-55 Chanukah Party, Sat., Dec. 19 at 8pm. Music, latkas & hors d'eourves. $10. Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda. 416-633-3838.

Singles Scene, 35-55 New Years Bash, Thurs., Dec. 31 at 8pm. Buffet dinner, music & fun. $35. Call Rhonda at 905-731-9441.

www.jmatch.com Free to register, free profile page, free to browse.

"Laughing to Keep from Crying: The Jewish Joke & Jewish Humour" Jewish Singles: 20's - 40's, Shabbat dinner and evening with Alan Gould at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Avenue. $30 includes Shabbat dinner, by pre registration only. For more info and to **register call 905-709-1900 ext. 222.** Sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

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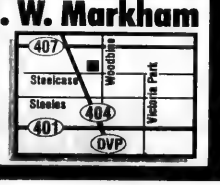

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Please note that there is no issue Dec. 31.

Monday, Dec. 21, is deadline for Jan. 7 issue, and Monday, Jan. 4, is deadline for Jan. 14. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Dec. 17

MENORAH LIGHTING

A giant Menorah will be lit at 6:30 p.m. at John's No Frills in Thornhill, 1054 Centre St., co-sponsored by Chabad @ Flamingi – the new Ernest Manson Lubavitch Centre in Thornhill and John's No Frills. Free latkes and entertainment for children. For information, **Rabbi Mendel Kaplan** 905-763-1331 or 905-731-7000, ext. 60.

Sunday, Dec. 20

CUMMER LODGE

The Mitzvah Volunteers of Kehilat Beit Avot of Cummer Lodge annual Chanukah celebration for residents and next of kin, 2:30 p.m. In addition to latkes and applesauce, there's a concert featuring **Cantor Yigal Altschuler** of Temple Sinai and pianist **Ruth Ellen Shapiro**.

KINDERTRANSPORT

Kindertransport Association Chanukah brunch, 11 a.m. 497-7086 for details.

SINGLES SOCIAL EVENING

A fun social evening for Jewish singles, Group A ages 21-39 and Group B ages 40-69, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. $5. Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah, Scrabble, Rummicube. Early Bird Bingo 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

Monday, Dec. 21

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

And What Else Is New

HOLOCAUST RESPONSES

Jewish Studies Program, University of Toronto's Ray D. Wolfe Fellow for 1998-99, **Oona Ajzenstat** is offering a course, RLG 2205, Philosophical Responses to the Holocaust: Religious and Secular starting Jan. 5. Deadline for registration is Jan. 15. 978-5301.

JEWISH SINGLES

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning invites Jewish singles 20s-40s to a Shabbat dinner and evening with author **Allan Gould** on Laughing to Keep from Crying: The Jewish Joke and Jewish Humor, Friday, Dec. 25, at Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. $30 includes dinner, by pre-registration only. 905-709-1900, ext. 222. Co-sponsored with Bloor JCC.

HEBREW CLASSES

Registration now open for Hebrew classes with **Chana Sargon**, day and evening, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced (Chug Ivrit) levels, 10 easy lessons (Ulpan method) beginning Jan. 4. Classes are held at 3995 Bathurst St. Suite 300. For information/registration, Canadian Zionist Federation, 633-3988.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

Jews for Judaism Centre, 800 Steeles Ave. W. 905-761-0040.

One-day version of the popular Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, Sunday, Dec. 20, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Jews for Judaism Centre. $36 registration includes lunch.

Back to the Source 5 – A Former Jew for Jesus Speaks Out with **Larry Levey,** an attorney from Baltimore, Md. Sunday, Dec. 20, 8 p.m., Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave. $5.

Mommy, Why Don't We Have a Tree?, a public lecture clarifying the Jewish views on Christmas and Christianity, with **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz** of Ohr Somayach.

Continued on page 23

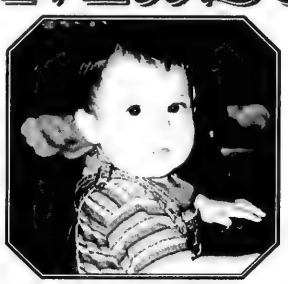
Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Happy eighth birthday on Oct. 14 to Jordan Brudner. Love and kisses from brother Ryan and Bubbie Bettie and Zayde Sol Raibmon.



Happy first birthday Benjamin, son of Renee & Ori Raubvogel. Love, Nana & Papa, Bubbie & Bobo, your aunts and uncles.

Happy 10th birthday on Oct. 4 to Amanda Taylor. Love and kisses from sister Jessica and Bubbie Bettie and Zayde Sol Raibmon.

Happy fourth birthday Justin Michael Rotman. Love, parents Cheryl & Gary, sister Alexa, grandparents Irene & Marty Aidelman and Rifka & Harold Rotman.

Mazel tov to David & Ruth Segal on your 30th wedding anniversary. Love from Henry & Ilana, Debbie, Len, Ari, Ezra and Noam.

Lori, daughter of Myrna & Hy Schwartz, and Perry, son of Adele & William Zosky, were recently married at Adath Israel Synagogue.

Reeva & Robert Selesnick and Elaine & Edward Piltz announce the engagement of Beverley to Ira. Grandparents Cissie Selesnick, Jillian & Jules Rothschild.

Mazel tov to Rose & Sam Pacht on your 50th wedding anniversary. Love from your children and grandchildren.

What's New

Continued from page 22

Tuesday, Dec. 22, 8 p.m., Jews for Judaism Centre.

HEBREW ULPAN

Conversational Hebrew made easy with **Yael Lev** (Ulpan method), daytime or evenings, Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced. Special classes for parents with children in Hebrew schools. Winter session starts the week of Jan. 4 at various locations. Register with Yael 225-6151.

ST. JOHN'S COURSES

Spaces still available for CPR. January date to be announced.

Infant/child CPR, call now for next date (new parents, caretakers).

Babysitting course 11+. Call now to reserve.

Contact **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 regarding these courses.

JAZZ AND JAVA

Aish HaTorah Thornhill presents Jazz and Java monthly programs for singles 30-45. **Laura Moll** 736-1947.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting: 1,2,3 Magic! – effective discipline techniques including 1,2,3 Magic technique, **Barbara Coloroso's** technique and others, starts Thursday, Jan. 28.

Today's Women: Making It Happen – self-esteem, effective interpersonal skills, stress management, begins Jan. 7.

Adolescent Social Skills Group – social skills and appropriate ways of expressing themselves with peers, begins Jan. 11.

Do Your Children Have Trouble Making Friends? – social skills groups for children 7-12 years, begins February.

SINGLES SCENE

Exclusive Chanukah party with Latin flair for 35-55 group, Saturday, Dec. 19. $10 in advance. 633-3838.

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda and Beth Tikvah singles group Skate Day for ages 35-55, Sunday, Dec. 27, 2:30-4:30 at Irv Chapley Arena. Hot chocolate afterwards.

Upcoming events for 25-35 group – Ski Day (cross-country-downhill), for details 905-731-9441; Whirley Bowl, Skate day.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors special Chanukah get-together, Thursday, Dec. 17, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Bialik Hebrew School Children's Choir will entertain, back by popular demand. Everyone welcome. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Chanukah and holiday show, Richmond Hill Country Club, Dec. 17; dance Dec. 20; Casino Rama Dec. 21, Jan. 13 and 27, Feb. 10 and 24; New Year's eve dinner and dance, Dec. 31; Thornhill Mall Jan. 4. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 17 is bingo; Dec. 19, Chanukah dance, reserve by calling **Malka Colla** 630-5771; Dec. 31, party for members; Jan. 7, bingo; Jan. 14, lecture by **Noam Raz**, envoy for Hashomer Hatzair. General information, **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Israel trip postponed to Purim. Chanukah entertainment with **Lenka Lichtenberg**, Monday, Dec. 21, 12:30 p.m., light lunch. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club has a few rooms left for the Miami Trip 1999, four, six and eight weeks. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Healthy Cooking with dietician/nutritionist **Andrea Sturk** Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Dec. 22 is a movie. **Anna**.

Movie, *Fried Green Tomatoes* Sunday, Dec. 20, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Registration is now underway for winter programs for preschoolers, children, teens and adults. Classes start the week of Monday, Jan. 4.

Seniors Club Chanukah party featuring songs of **Arnie Wiskin** accompanied on the piano by **Paul Matthew**, light lunch, Thursday, Dec. 17, 1 p.m. Members Bloor JCC and Seniors Club $4, others $6.

ABOUT PEOPLE

PEACE MEDALLION AWARD

Fredelle Brief, an executive member of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, has been awarded a YMCA peace medallion in recognition of her contribution to the common good. She is one of nine recipients of the award, presented recently at the YMCA Bayview-Sheppard location. A member of the region's community relations committee, Brief has been involved in activities for Jewish and multi-faith causes. She is now director of mosaic programming at Vision TV.

COUNCIL OF HAZZANIM

Toronto Council of Hazzanim new executive: President/treasurer, **Chazzan A. Martin Steinhouse,** Temple Har Zion; Secretary **Chazzan David Nemtzoff**; Immediate Past President **Chazzan Efraim Sapir**, Beth Tikvah; Chair, Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund **Chazzan A. Eliezer Kirshblum**, Adath Israel.

The installation took place at the Gala Cantorial Concert at Holy Blossom Temple earlier this month. Proceeds of the concert are to go to Mazon Canada and the Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

Chazzan A. Martin Steinhouse

ANNIVERSARY GIFT

Rochelle and Philip Feldberg recently celebrated their 30th anniversary. They requested that all gifts be directed to Dr. Abraham Shore Academy, She'arim Hebrew Day School where they are both active board members.

TORAH FUND HONOREES

Canadian Seaway branch (CS) of Womens League for Conservative Judaism honored nine Women of Distinction at the annual Torah Fund Dinner held recently at Shaar Shalom Synagogue. Nine sisterhoods paid tribute to their honorees. Pictured above, standing, from left: Trudy Sassoon, CS branch Torah Fund chair; Roz Chaim, Shaar Shalom Sisterhood; Deenie Reiken, Beth Tzedec; Sharon Deutsh, Beit Rayim; Viki Rumack, Adath Sholom; Laraine Hurwitz, president, Canadian Seaway branch. Seated, from left: Ida Holtzkener, Or Shalom, London, Ont.; Gert Markson, Beth Sholom; Esther Charney, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda; Helen Gold, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am; Gert Wainberg, Adath Israel. [Mollie Rothman photo]

SUPPORTERS OF ZAHAL

At a recent luncheon given by the Association for Soldiers of Israel (ASI) honoring the organizations that support Zahal and some special individual supporters, a State of Israel Bond was presented to the association by the Apter Ladies. Pictured above from left: Max Moneta, ASI chair for organizations, accepting the Bond, and Pola Starkman, Helen Gold, Frida Kandel and Frida Szainwald of the Apter Ladies.

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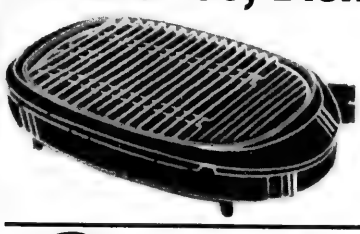

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From coast to coast

BGU campaign launched for women's health centre

By CYNTHIA NYMAN ENGEL
Special to The CJN

OTTAWA — With the recent opening of its Centre for Women's Health Studies and Promotion, Ben-Gurion University (BGU) is poised to make major contributions to Israeli women's health issues.

Speaking recently before a group of BGU supporters in Ottawa, Dr. Julie Cwikel, the centre's founding chair and co-director said, "BGU is the first Israeli university to address women's health issues."

Ottawa was chosen as the venue to spearhead a cross-country campaign to raise funds in support of the new centre.

"The focus used to be on reproductive care but there is far more involved in women's health," Cwikel said. "If we deal only with reproductive issues, we're dealing only with half a life.

"Women have unique health problems over the life cycle, before and after the reproductive years. Many of the problems women experience in their teens are carried throughout their lives.

"The women who live in the Negev offer a marvellously diverse group in which to conduct our research. Given this diversity, the challenge of delivering health services is much greater than it would be in Israel's major cities," she said.

The 150,000 women who populate the Negev comprise veteran Israelis, Bedouins, new immigrants, residents of kibbutzim, moshavim and development towns and, Cwikel noted, each group has its unique problems and issues.

"For example, among immigrants from the former Soviet Union, there is a high rate of breast cancer," she said. To counter the growing problem, the centre will train women to run breast cancer support.

"Unique health problems abound among the 40,000 to 50,000 Bedouin women aged 12-55 scattered throughout the Negev," she said. "With 7.7 children per woman of reproductive age, they have the highest birth rate in the world. This high birth rate runs the risk of exhausting the women's physical and psychological resources.

"In addition, Bedouin women also suffer a high rate of respiratory problems due to dust and fire smoke in their environment," Cwikel said. "Interestingly, the Bedouin men do not have these problems to the same extent because it is the women who do the cleaning and cooking."

The impetus for the centre came from people outside the university, who realized that while the university has a unique hospital setup, the Negev suffers from a scarcity of widely available services such as family planning, a women's counselling centre or a central place from which to disseminate information on women's health.

"There's a long list of proposed projects," Dr. Cwikel said. A priority among these is an in-depth look at heart disease, which is typically thought to be a man's disease, but which is the number one killer of women as well."

Cwikel earned two degrees in social work in Israel, and studied public health and gerontology at the University of Michigan. Her co-director, epidemiologist Dr. Ilana Shoham-Vardi, has run para-professional training courses in public health for Bedouin women.

For further information on the centre, call Claire Horwitz, BGU executive director, 665-8054.

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Sports dinner held

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The first Community Sports Dinner, held recently at the Ottawa Athletic Club, raised more than $30,000, a portion of which will go towards the children's charity, the Snowsuit Fund.

The dinner, co-sponsored by the Soloway Jewish Community Centre and the Snowsuit Fund, attracted more than 350 sports fans and such sports celebrities as Ottawa Senators coach Jacques Martin, Ottawa 67s head coach and general manager Brian Kilrea, and Frank Mahovlich.

Former JCC president, Lawrence Greenspon, who conceived the idea for a sports dinner about seven years ago, agreed to co-chair the event with Dave Smith, he said, "on the condition that a portion of the proceeds go to the Snowsuit Fund."

Hamilton JNF launches Negev Dinner campaign

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Hamilton Jewish National Fund (JNF) kicked off its campaign with a reception in honor of the 1999 Negev Tribute Dinner honorees, and with the introduction of the new JNF shaliach.

The honorees are the Loewith family: Minna Loewith and her sons and their wives, Harry and Liz, Carl and Verna and David and Bonnie. Missing will be Minna's husband, Joe, who died just a few weeks after learning that his family had been named honorees.

This is the first time in Hamilton's JNF Negev Dinner history that the tribute will be in honor of an entire family.

The Loewiths are the award-winning dairy farmers of Lynden, Ont., who came to Canada 60 years ago as refugees from Czechoslovakia. Members of Temple Anshe Sholom throughout these years, all are supporters of Israel and the local Jewish community.

Carl is a past president of Temple Anshe Sholom and current president of Shalom Village; Verna has been active in Temple Anshe Sholom sisterhood; David is a former Jewish Community Centre president, now serving as second vice-president of Temple Anshe Sholom, and Bonnie was 1996-98 United Jewish Appeal (UJA) women's division co-chair.

The new JNF shaliach is Effie (Ephraim) Sussman. A lawyer and former pilot with the Israel Air Force, Sussman studied aeronautical law at McGill University in the early '70s. He was director of legal affairs for El Al, and also served in diplomatic posts with the Israeli ministry of foreign affairs. He is a member of the Israeli bar, and in 1986, was admitted to the New York State bar.

While Sussman, who is here with his wife, Tiki, will be based in Hamilton, he will also serve the smaller Ontario communities outside of Toronto and Ottawa.

Sussman stressed the importance of developing the desert in Israel, and the need for continued support for the JNF's Action Plan Negev.

The dinner will take place June 2, 1999, at Adas Israel Synagogue. Proceeds will go towards the establishment of a Loewith "twin" dairy farm on Kibbutz Neve Harif in the Arava, said Hilda Rosen JNF president. The project was chosen, she said, by David and Bonnie on their recent trip to Israel.

Yiddish Corner

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זלמן ראָזענטאל. דער לעצטער טרובאַדאָר

פון אריעל קאָפראָוו

א גרויסער טייל פון יידיש פּערמענטשן, געבוירענע אין בעסאַראַבער יידישע שטעטלעך בימים אַהרויב פון דער מאַדערנער יידישער ליטעראַטור אין 19־טן יאָרהונדערט, האָבן מיט זיך גע־שאָפן א פֿלעיאַדע פון יונגע שרייבערס. וועגן זיי האָבן איינצוזען, אז זיי האָבן דאָ נישט קיין פּראָדוקטיווע באָזע פאַר זייערע שאַפונגען, האָבן זיי זיך געלאָזט אין די גרעסערע שטעט פון לאַנד. איינע פון די שטעט איז געווען אָדעס — א גייסטיקער צענטער פאַר יידיש אין העברייאיש. דאָרטן האָבן זיי אַריינגעבראַכט דעם בעסאַראַבער ראַמאַנטישן נוסח, מיט זיין ספּעציפישן דיאַלעקט.

איינער פון יענעם דור יונגע ליטעראַטן איז געווען זלמן ראָזע־טאַל, געבוירן אין 1892 אין קליינעם שטעטל טעלענעשט, בעסא־ראַביע. זיין פאָטער און זיין ברודער, דער שרייבער אליעזר דוד ראָזענטאַל, האָבן געזוכט פּרנסה פון לאָנדוודעסשאַפט, ווייגערט־נער און האָדעווען שאַף און רינדער. אין עלטער פון 13 יאָר האָט זלמן אַנגעהויבן שרייבן וועגן זיין פאָטער׳ס באַשעפטיקונג און האָט באַשריבן די רייכע נאַטור פון דער פּרוכטבאַרער בעסאַראַביע.

שפּעטער האָט זלמן ראָזענטאַל געלעבט אין אָדעס. דאָרט האָט ער אָנגעשריבן א הומאָריסטישן מאַנאַלאָג מיט דער שוויגער: „גוט מאָרגן, משה טייטש" און עס געדרוקט אין „אונדזער לעבן". אין זיין שרייבן האָט ער נאָכגעפאָלגט די רעאַליסטישע ליניע פון ש. בן־ציון. אונטער דער השפּעה פון יצחק מאיר וויסענבערג׳ס בא־שרייבונגען וועגן פערד־גבים און פעל־שינדערס, מאָלט ראָזענטאַל די מענטשן פון דער אָדעסער אונטערוועלט.

נאָך אין יונגן עלטער פון 25 יאָר גיט זלמן אַרויס א זאַמלונג עסיין אין עברית וועגן „יידיש אין יידישקייט אין בעסאַראַביע", רעדאַגירט פון שלמה צמח. זיין האַרץ און געפילן האָבן אים געצויגן צום יידישן פאָלקלאָר, צו יידישע לידער און גזאָנג. ער איז פאַר־כאַפט געוואָרן פון מאָרק ווארשאַווסקי׳ס לידער און פון זיין סטיל שרייבן. ער האָט אינגעזאַמלט הונדערטער פאָלקסטימלעכע לידער פון אַנדערע דיכטערס און אויך אליין אָנגעהויבן שאַפן לידער פאַרן פאָלק. לויט ליטעראַרישע אַרכיוון, האָט ער אָנגעשריבן אַרום 100 לידער. אין דער ציט, וועגן אין גאַליציע אַן אין רומעניע זיינען די לידער געווען אונטער דער השפּעה פון בעול בראָדער, וועלוול זבאַרשער־ערענקראַנץ און אַנדערע, האָט זלמן ראָזענטאַל אַרויס־געברענגט זיין אייגענעם נוסח, לויטן סטיל פון מאָרק וואַרשאַווסקי.

אין 1919 פאָרט ער פון אָדעס קיין קישינעוו און אין משך פון 30 יאָר שאַפט ער דאָרט וויא שרייבער, פּאָעט, פאָלקלאָריסט און זשורנאַליסט. זיינע לידער און שאַפונגען האָבן געמאַכט א גרויסן רושם אין בעסאַראַביע, ווי אויך זיינע דערציילונגען אין עברית „אנשים ורגבים" („מענטשן און גרודעס"), וואָס זיינען איבערגע־זעצט געוואָרן אין יידיש. זייער געלויבט איז דאָן געווען זיין הומא־רעסקע: „דאָס גרויסע געוויסן אין דער נאַכט פון פּורים".

צוזאַמען מיט מרדכי ספּעקטאָר, גיבן זיי אַרויס אין 1921 די טאָג־צייטונג „דער יד". אין משך פון די יאָרן 1922 ביז 1938 רע־דאַגירט זלמן ראָזענטאַל אין קישינעוו די טאָג־צייטונג „אונדזער צייט", די אינציקע יידישע טאָג־צייטונג אין גאַנץ רומעניע. ער רע־דאַגירט אויך דעם חודש־זשורנאַל „אשכולות" אין העברייאיש און „פּאַרן יידישן קנדר" אין יידיש. נאָכדעם וויא „אונדזער צייט" האָט זיך פאַרמאַכט, ווערט ראָזענטאַל א פידזשקער אקטיוויסט אין „קרן קימת".

אין יוני, 1940, ווען בעסאַראַביע איז צוריק איבערגענאַנגען אונטער דער הערשאַפט פון סאָוועטן־פאַרבאַנד, ווערט זלמן אַרעס־טירט און פאַרמשפט אויף 20 יאָר אין א שווערן אַרבעטס־לאַגער אין טיפן סיביר. דאָרט שמאַכט ער אַפּ 14 יאָר. (דעם איצטיקן רעדאַקטאָר פון „פאַרווערטס", באָריס סאַמדלער, איז געלונגען צו קריגן קאָפּיעס פון די אויספאָרשונג־פראָטאָקאָלן קעגן זלמן ראָזענ־טאַל מיט אַלע פּיקטקלעכקייטן און ער פאַרעפנטלעכט דאָס אין זיין בוך „דער ענין נומער 5390"). ראָזענטאַל קערט זיך צוריק פון סיביר קיין קישענעוו א צעבראָכענער און אין אויסגעשעפטער. ער איז געשטאָרבן אין 1959.

זלמן ראָזענטאַל איז געווען דער לעצטער טרובאַדאָר, א ריזיגן אין דער קייט פון גרויסע בעסאַראַבער יידישע שאַפערס און שרי־בערס, ווי יהודה שטיינבערג, ש. בן־ציון, יעקב פיכמאַן און אַנדערע. ס׳איז באַשטימט געוואָרן פון גורל, אַז דוקא ער, וואָס האָט געזען די בליענדיקע יידישע בעסאַראַביע אין איר אָנטוויקלונג, האָט אויך געזען דעם חורבן פון דער יידישער בעסאַראַביע.

כבוד זיין אָנדענק!

בס"ד

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From coast to coast

CJC region aiming to work closer with communities

KITCHENER — Keith Landy, Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region (CJC) chair, made a recent commitment to make smaller Jewish communities a full working partner of the region.

Following its first officers' meeting outside the Greater Toronto Area, CJC Ontario region is calling on federations to strike a joint committee to address the urgent needs of students on campuses, particularly in communities without Jewish federations.

After hearing from student leaders at the open meeting at Congregation Beth Jacob in Kitchener, Landy promised that Congress would contact the federations about the lack of basic financial assistance and resources for the province's Jewish campus organizations and students, and propose a joint committee to address those needs.

"This is crisis situation," said Landy after listening to Heath Applebaum, chair of Kol Hastudentim, the representative body for Jewish students on 16 Ontario campuses, and leaders of a 20-person delegation from the Waterloo University-Sir Wilfrid Laurier University Jewish Student Association. Landy was especially concerned about the "disturbing" lack of funds and resources for the approximately 500 Jewish students at the Waterloo-area universities.

Most of the students come from Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. The organization operates without staff support.

Applebaum, who is also a CJC regional officer, told the meeting that this group last year received a $5,000 grant from UIA Federation of Canada, which CJC administered on their behalf. There has been no grant forthcoming for this fiscal year. The student-run body, in operation since 1996, functions as a unifying body by promoting, organizing and facilitating province-wide campus programs.

"We can't continue coordinating the entire province alone," said Applebaum. "Investment needs to be made in campus services. We are the future of the Jewish community."

"This is our last chance at Jewishness before we go off into the working world," said Beth Suraski, co-president of Waterloo-Laurier Jewish Student Association.

Michael Soberman, regional director of community services and youth activities, pointed out that "a much higher percentage of Jewish students on smaller campuses participate in Jewish groups, partly because they are away from home. We, who service these students, have to ensure that there is Jewish life on campus. They want it."

Landy said that he is committed to increasing CJC's contribution to servicing and responding to the needs of province's smaller Jewish communities. However, he pointed out that Congress is not a funding body.

The Kitchener meeting focused on CJC programs and services for small communities. Dr. Michael Sobol of Guelph, co-chair of the community services and youth activities committee, gave an overview of the 8,000 Ontario Jews not living in federated communities.

The region plans to hold some future meetings in other small communities including Sudbury, Peterborough and Guelph.

Amend citizenship bill: BBC

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) is calling on the federal government to amend a citizenship bill, to allow for the removal of people who had been involved in persecution before they came to Canada.

Such a step would give prosecutors another arrow in their quivers as they attempt to denaturalize and deport alleged Nazi war criminals, said David Matas, BBC's honorary senior legal counsel.

"It would also more closely go to who we're trying to remove," he said.

Spokespersons for Canadian Jewish Congress and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre endorsed Matas' proposal, saying anything that can be used to bring war criminals to justice is welcome.

Under current Canadian law, alleged Nazi war criminals can be stripped of their citizenship on the grounds that they lied on a material fact when they entered the country, and later when they obtained their citizenship.

The fraud or misrepresentation attributed to the suspects usually concerns their participation in Nazi units involved in genocide. But the presumption that they lied can be rebutted and serves as a gap in the legislation, Matas argues.

"I think it's useful to add a ground to deport someone who participated in persecution," he said. That would bring Canada's legislation closer to American law, which was updated in the late 1970s by the Holtzman amendment and which has allowed U.S. prosecutors to register more deportations of Nazi war criminals than Canada, he said.

"It is imperative that the government take advantage of the current initiative to change the Citizenship Act by introducing an amendment to close this gap in the legislation. Because Canada's Criminal Code has proven to be an ineffective remedy for dealing with war criminals, the government must ensure that the one remaining route, loss of citizenship and deportation, is as effective as possible... Particularly in this year of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we must take serious action to bring to justice the worst violators of human rights," Matas said.

"Any initiative that makes it more difficult for war criminals to remain in this country is an initiative we would support," said Congress legal counsel Jack Silverstone. "Certainly we would urge the [Citizenship] Department to give this proposal serious consideration."

"We certainly support that kind of recommendation," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

"The U.S. experience shows this can be an effective weapon and can be a sévere punishment for those who would prefer not to leave their country of choice," he said.

Littman suggested such a provision could apply as well to modern-day war criminals. "We think people involved in torture, in making people disappear, like in Argentina and Chile, should not be given Canadian citizenship," he added.

Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, declined to say whether the committee that advanced the recent citizenship recommendations considered Matas' proposal. Canada's law remains based on a question of fraud or misrepresentation, he said.

"[Matas' approach] would be a different proposition, of course. The United States has had success based on the allegation of persecution. I don't know if I could say if it would be helpful or not. We have a valid program in effect now," Vickery said.

Matas said B'nai Brith will advance its proposal at the parliamentary committee stage.

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From coast to coast

Symposium examines Jews' Golden Age in Spain

By KITTY HOFFMAN
Special to The CJN

VICTORIA — The Golden Age of Jews in medieval Spain came alive recently at the University of Victoria.

Co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Centre of Victoria and the university, the all-day symposium attracted almost 300 people to an event that included Sephardi poetry, food, music and lectures by world experts on art, language, literature and social history.

Vancouver's Rabbi Yosef Benarroch, a Canadian of Sephardi heritage and the rabbi of Beth Hamidrash, Canada's only Sephardi synagogue west of Toronto, chaired a panel of all four guest lecturers at the close of the day.

Speaking of his own congregants, from homelands as diverse as Iraq, Morocco, Italy, Greece, Syria, Iran, Turkey and Sarajevo, Rabbi Benarroch was delighted that the symposium had brought to life the roots of a culture that, in Canada, is "a minority inside a minority."

Since most Jews in North America, he noted, are of Ashkenazi or eastern European descent, little is known here of the culture of the Sephardi Jews, descended from those who were expelled from Spain in 1492.

While some may know of Maimonides' philosophy and perhaps know of Judah Halevi's poetry, few are aware of the flowering of culture that took place among the Jews of medieval Spain, or why that period is known as the Golden Age of Jewish writing.

Joan C. Ullman, professor emerita of history at the University of Washington, set the social and historical context, and noted that while "not everything was golden in the Golden Age," nevertheless the Islamic laws of the Moorish Empire allowed different cultures to flourish, and it was a time of relative tolerance, diversity and pluralism. The Islamic, Christian and Jewish cultures were able not only to coexist, but actually to mutually influence each other, she said.

Ullman also noted that "a central theme of the formative Middle Ages...was the impact of Jewish mentality on 'the innermost recesses of the Christian mentality.'"

For her, the most interesting aspect of the period was that Jews were able to "acculturate, not assimilate," and she noted that there are striking parallels with and lessons for the current situation of Jews in North America.

Dr. Vivian B. Mann, curator of Judaica at the Jewish Museum in New York, gave an illustrated tour of the art and architecture of Spanish Jews.

She said much of our current knowledge has to be based on extrapolation from documents and written descriptions, and from scholarly tracing of motifs and forms, as so much of the actual art and architecture has been destroyed. Of the 12 synagogues in Toledo, for example, only one remains. The only Jewish structures that do remain are those that were converted to Christian churches.

At the expulsion of 1492, all the Jewish gold and silver was confiscated and melted down for coins and bullion; this included all synagogue items like Torah crowns, pointers and even the thread from Torah covers. Only manuscripts, such as haggadot and prayer books, remain from that era, and are the only source of our knowledge of the Jews' plastic arts of the period.

Mann led the audience on a tour of discovery, tracing ritual and synagogue objects, and decorative motifs through Italy, Turkey, Hungary and even Switzerland. Because textiles were the most portable of the arts, motifs can be traced from mosaic floors in Israeli archeological sites through to rugs in western Europe.

Again, one of the strongest themes was the interconnectedness and mutual influence of Islamic, Christian and Jewish motifs in the art of the period.

The linguistic influences of the Golden Age were traced by Dr. Tracy K. Harris of Bradley University, who discussed the 500-year journey of Judeo-Spanish, one variant of which is known as Ladino.

As the Sephardim settled in the Mediterranean area after the expulsion, they took their language with them. Harris traced a story of linguistic survival and evolution, where it was the women who were instrumental in keeping this distinctly Jewish language alive through lullabies, songs and romances.

The fate of the language was intimately bound up with its public status, Harris said, and at one point, Judeo-Spanish was actually the international language of trade in the eastern Mediterranean.

She painted a picture of life in the former Ottoman Empire, where Judeo-Spanish language and culture played a major role.

Tay-Sachs clinics planned for Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Tay-Sachs clinics, the first to be held in Winnipeg in over 20 years, will take place early in the new year.

The clinics, co-sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women and Jewish Women International, are directed by University of Manitoba geneticist Dr. Cheryl Greenberg.

"I have been concerned that there has been no systematic community-based screening for Tay-Sachs here," Greenberg says. "I have been trying for the past 10 to 15 years to persuade various leaders in the community and organizations of the need for this, but I was unable to get it on anyone's agenda until now. I am pleased to be working with National Council and JWI on this program."

The gene abnormality that causes Tay-Sachs is present in people worldwide, Greenberg explains, but it is particularly common among Ashkenazi Jews. Both parents have to be carriers of the gene before a child is at risk.

Life expectancy for children with Tay-Sachs disease is five to ten years. Greenberg reports that the incidence has dropped dramatically since regular screening programs have been introduced in many communities.

The clinics will run Jan. 3 at the Rosh Pina Synagogue, and Jan. 17, at the Max and Rose Rady Centre.

The family of the late

Esther Shesko ז"ל

would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our dear relatives and friends who comforted us in our time of sorrow. Your warmth and generosity following the death of our wife, mother and grandmother was greatly appreciated.

Philip Shesko and family

Creating the Jewish Future

edited by Michael Brown and Bernard Lightman

Since World War II, Jews have experienced unprecedented acceptance. Now, as outside threats diminish, newer, more complex issues arise. Michael Brown and Bernard Lightman of the York University Centre for Jewish Studies gather writers from Europe, Israel, and North America to consider directions for the Jewish community in the 21st century. Writers from within and without the academy discuss faith, Israel, Diaspora culture, education, gender roles and demography, keeping theory and practice, the past and the present in careful balance. Its timeliness and depth make this book unavoidable reading for all who will shape the Jewish future.

Contributors include: Irving Abella, Robert Eisen, Jane Gerber, Hillel Halkin, Susan Handelman, Paula Hyman, Norma Joseph, Barry Kosmin, Seymour Mayne, W. Gunther Plaut, Aviezer Ravitsky, Michael Rosenak, Alvin Schiff, Michael Stanislawski, and Morton Weinfeld.

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On Campus

D.C. experience boosts student's prospects

By ADAM SHARON

Life can be funny sometimes. Recently, as a press corps member, I attended the Republican National Committee's (RNC) midterm election night party at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Centre.

My primary duty was to report regularly for various radio stations throughout the nation, with news from RNC headquarters. Armed with my bureau chief's cellular phone and wearing a yellow press badge, my colleagues and I spread out among a sea of giddy Republicans who were ready to celebrate a midterm election victory.

Initially, my reports described the euphoric feeling that enveloped the Reagan building. Four hours later, the crowd's mood and the tone of my reports had dramatically changed. The thinning crowd was disappointed. An overwhelming Republican victory had not materialized.

You are probably assuming that I am a veteran beltway reporter, that perhaps this was but another evening of political drama I have observed first hand. In reality, such thoughts are far from the truth. I am a 21-year-old university student studying foreign policy at American University's Washington Semester Program for the current fall semester. Three days a week, I attend lectures given by ambassadors, State Department and congressional officials, academics and non-governmental organization representatives, on such matters as Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan.

For the remaining two days, I intern with Ellen Ratner at Talk Radio News Service. Ratner is my colorful bureau chief who co-hosts *Good Day USA*, a nationally syndicated American morning show broadcast to over 110 radio stations. I book guests for her show, broadcast live news to station affiliates throughout the day and attend various newsworthy events around the city.

I have had my picture taken with Senator Bob Dole, attended a Louis Farrakhan press conference, interviewed pro-Tibetan freedom activists Richard Gere and Goldie Hawn, and from a 10-metre distance, I saw Yasser Arafat and Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House during their pre-Yom Kippur meeting.

Life can indeed be funny sometimes. "Yesterday," I was a McGill University student studying North American history, literature and economics. I traipsed to and from campus, acknowledging the same faces, passing the same buildings and socializing at the same places. In essence, I had a routine. Do not misunderstand; I thoroughly enjoyed this temporary sojourn in Montreal and will be returning in January to continue my undergraduate studies.

Living in Montreal has also been a great experience. I am a Montreal bagel convert, although I have remained loyal to my hometown hockey team, the Toronto Maple Leafs. I have improved my French, and even survived four days without power during a historic ice storm.

If, however, you can detect some cynicism, it would be misleading for me to deny it. Today, I am a reporter and foreign policy student living in a city brimming with vitality yet saturated in scandal. I travel from Capitol Hill to the White House or the State Department without hesitation, and probably now, without appreciation. Twice I have lunched with Charles Lichtenstein, a former U.S. deputy ambassador to the United Nation under Jeane Kirkpatrick, and countless times I have attended press secretary Joe Lockhart's media briefings live from the White House. (Perhaps you have seen me on television; I sit 10 rows behind Wolf Blitzer and Sam Donaldson!)

"Tomorrow," I will return to Montreal, and I expect to complete my BA in May of 2000. Already I have begun developing contacts for possible future employment or schooling opportunities. Perhaps I will work at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, at the United Nations, at the World Bank, or for NATO in Brussels. Perhaps I will proceed directly to a graduate school of international service and diplomacy. Luckily, that is a choice that I will have to make in the future.

Although this Washington experience has, hopefully, brightened my career opportunities, I must stress that it is not the city itself for which I have to be thankful. I came here knowing two people, both fellow McGill students currently enrolled in this program. I will leave, however, knowing many people from a variety of professions.

The phrase, nothing comes on a silver platter, is an overstated, trite cliché, perhaps because it is true. Success will not be conferred upon me. Rather,I will have to seek it out independently. All the while, I remain tickled at how funny life can be sometimes.

Adam Sharon is a CHAT graduate and currently in his third year at McGill University, where his major is North American Studies.

Adam Sharon

Students explore questions of fate

By ADAM SEGAL
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Eighty students from across the city came together for a recent beit midrash to consider such weighty issues as whether or not God intervenes in cases of natural disaster.

The evening learning session, on the question of Who Controls Fate, was sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS), and held at North York City Hall.

Keynote speaker Martin Lockshin, associate director of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies, addressed the students following their chevruta-style study (working with a partner) of Torah, Talmud and other Jewish sources, and subsequent small group discussions.

"What students teach themselves from the text is more important than what they hear from the teacher," said Lokshin.

The event was intended to be "something for everybody, an evening in which the entire spectrum of Jews can come together to...think about issues that have personal relevancy," said Lance Davis of JCS.

Facilitators for the small group discussions also represented a variety of denominational backgrounds.

"I really liked the interaction [with other students]," said Nathaniel Lipkus, a first-year University of Toronto student, "but I enjoyed the lecture as well."

In his keynote address, Lockshin quoted Rabbi Akiva, stating that "God knows everything ahead of time, but human beings have free will.

"We have to watch where we exercise our freedom of choice," he added, "and hopefully do it in a positive way."

JCS' first city-wide beit midrash was held in the spring. A third one is planned for the second half of the school year.

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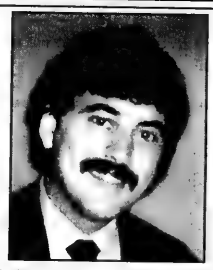
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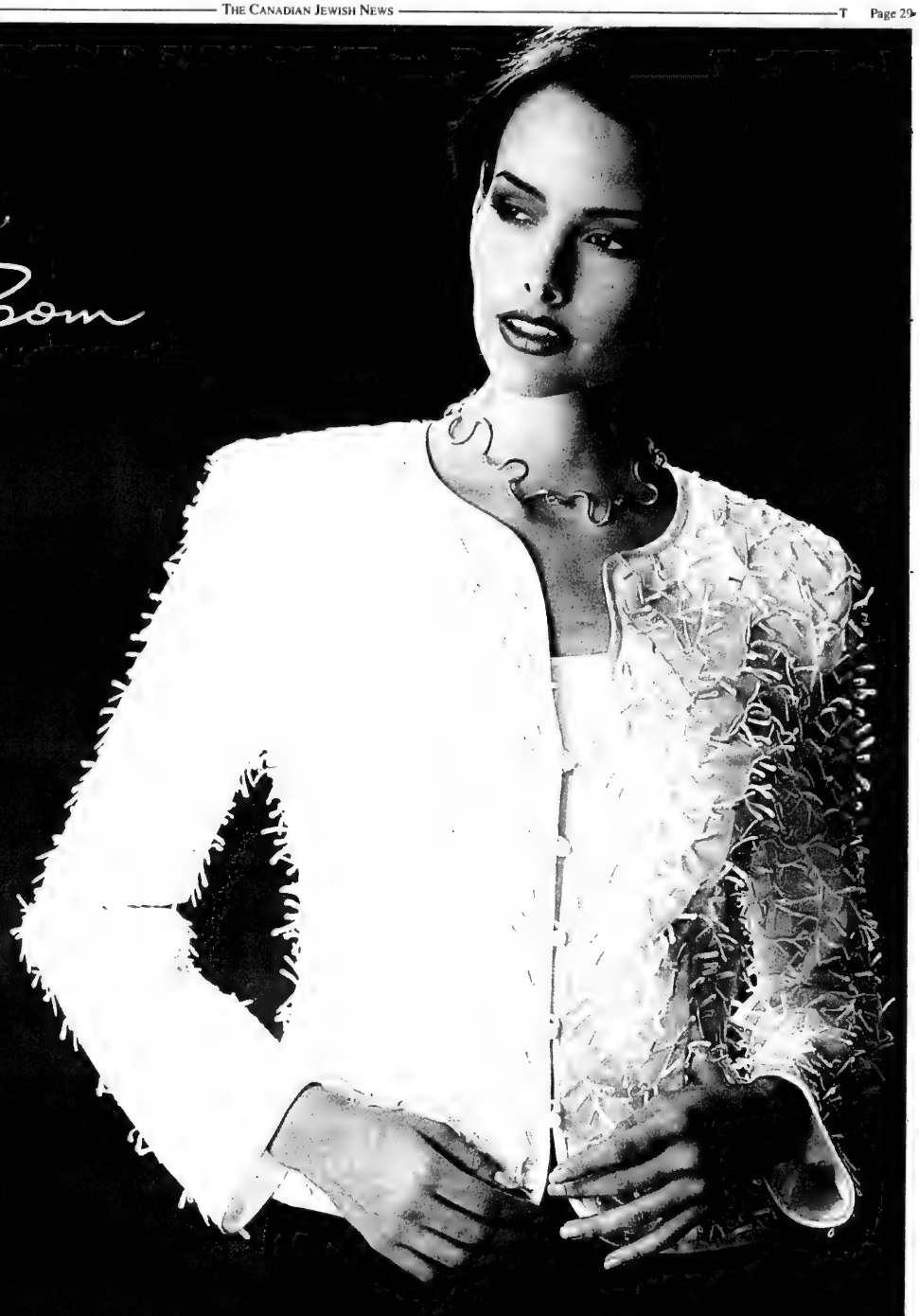

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On Campus

Academia

Penslar explores Jewish history at U of T

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

"The study of Jewish history evokes in me powerful senses of familiarity and strangeness," explains Derek Penslar. "Within a single text – be it a bit of midrash, a memoir of a 17th century Jewish merchant or a Zionist manifesto – I feel empathy with my historical subjects, yet awe at the vast distance that separates us.

"I became a historian in order to bridge that gap – to understand the mental universes within which people have lived in times past," he adds.

Penslar, the first, newly appointed holder of the Samuel J. Zacks chair in Jewish history at the University of Toronto, has broad interests, ranging from Zionism and Israel to modern European Jewry.

He and his wife, Robin, an attorney, and their two children, Joshua and Talia, arrived in Toronto recently, fresh from Indiana University in Bloomington.

"Canada is the kinder, gentler America that George Bush used to talk about," says Penslar, 40, a native of Los Angeles and a graduate of Stanford University and the University of California in Berkeley.

The first college graduate in his family, he was drawn to his speciality after studying German history and literature at the Free University in Berlin and spending a year in Israel steeping himself in Zionist ideology.

For Penslar, Jewish history is infinitely fascinating. Jews, though small in number, form one of the world's great and influential civilizations. And the intellectual energy they have displayed down through the ages is nothing short of astonishing.

"I remember walking the streets of Tel Aviv and wondering how such a small people with so many disadvantages could have created all this. I've spent the past 20 years, perhaps, thinking about these issues."

A prolific scholar, Penslar is a regular contributor to academic journals, such as the *Journal of Contemporary History* and *Jewish Social Studies*, and he has written or is writing several books.

His first book, *Zionism and Technocracy: The Engineering of Jewish Settlement in Palestine, 1870-1918*, was based on his PhD dissertation, and was published in 1991. The central figure in *Zionism and Technocracy*, soon to be published in Hebrew, is Arthur Ruppin, a Zionist from Germany who planned Jewish settlements in Palestine. "If not for Ruppin, there wouldn't have been a state of Israel," he claims.

In 1997, Penslar contributed a chapter about Zionism and Israel to the *Illustrated History of the Jewish People*, a best-selling volume edited by a British historian

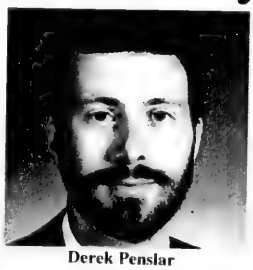
Later this year, Penslar's newest book, *In Search of Jewish Community: Jewish Identity in Germany and Austria, 1918-1933*, will roll off the presses.

And at the end of 1998, Penslar intends to finish *Shylock's Children: The Jews, Economics and Ethnic Identity in Modern Europe*.

In this work, he traces the history of modern Jewish economic thought and its effect on Jewish philanthropy, and analyzes the role of Jews' pride in and unease about their economic performance in the formation of a secular Jewish identity.

"This project has a great deal of contemporary relevance. Whether it's the Nation of Islam's anti-Semitic polemics about Jews and the slave trade, or Jews worrying about 'Jewish names' connected with a major financial scandal, the fact of Jewish economic distinctiveness is unavoidable, and I am interested in how Jews have dealt with this issue throughout history."

Currently, Penslar is working on his latest book, *Imagining Israel: Zionism and the Jewish State, 1882-1967*, a general account of the Zionist movement.



Derek Penslar

To Penslar, a moderately observant Jew who was associate director of Indiana University's Jewish studies program, Jewish studies at the university level are not like the regimen of a yeshiva.

"We teach about tradition, but not from within the tradition. Our approach is sympathetic, yet detached. There definitely is a potential for parochialism, but I have tried very hard to avoid it."

Penslar is delighted to be in the growing field of Israel studies, whose stature at the University of Toronto has been enhanced by the funding of a chair by Montreal businessman Charles Bronfman.

The chair has yet to be filled, and the university is still searching for a suitable candidate.

Penslar considers himself a Zionist, whom he defines as "someone who feels a deep personal attachment to Israel, and whose Jewish identity in good measure depends on that attachment."

When he was younger, he seriously considered living in Israel, but for practical and material reasons he did not go through with aliyah.

A labor Zionist, Penslar believes that secular Zionism, having achieved its goal of creating a strong Jewish state, is on its way out. By his estimation, secular Zionism is being supplanted by religious Zionism, whose mission of settling the Land of Israel is still unfolding.

He is critical not only of Jewish ultra-nationalists and Israeli messianists, but of leftists who disregard and disrespect Jewish tradition.

Although he is concerned by theocratic trends in Israeli society, Penslar strongly doubts whether Israel will metamorphose into a theocracy. "There are just too many forces working against it."

Penslar, who has taught a course on the Arab-Israeli conflict, can see no alternative to the Oslo peace process. Both sides, he feels, have made mistakes in trying to implement it.

He does not admire the current prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, whom he suspects of dragging out negotiations with the Palestinians.

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Russian Jewish leaders debate worsening climate

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Responding to rising concern about the deteriorating climate of anti-Semitism in Russia, Jewish organizational leaders are grappling with how best to ensure the Jewish community's safety.

At a meeting this week, the governing board of the Russian Jewish Congress decided it would lobby the international community to halt contacts with Russia's Communist party because of its failure to censure one of its members of parliament, Albert Makashov, who made several public anti-Semitic statements earlier this fall.

But some members of the umbrella group are saying that the move does not go far enough, while others believe the threat of anti-Semitism has been overstated.

The debate over the extent of anti-Semitism in Russia and what steps to take in response comes against the backdrop of a deteriorating climate for Jews in Russia. In addition to Makashov's remarks and the Duma's failure to censure him, a lawmaker long supportive of Jewish interests, Galina Starovoitova, was assassinated last month.

Most leaders of the congress, which unites leading representatives of the business community, public figures and prominent rabbis, agree that the Russian Jewish leadership should carry out a low-profile political offensive against anti-Semitism.

"Our mission is not about loud public statements, but about pragmatic work inside and outside of Russia," Yevgeny Satanovsky, a member of the group's board, said after the closed meeting.

It was with this goal in mind that a majority of participants at the meeting supported the initiative of Vladimir Goussinsky, the group's president, to ask the U.S. Congress, the European parliament and legislative assemblies of major European nations to halt all contact with the 121 Communist and nationalist lawmakers who rejected the censure resolution, according to Moscow Chief Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt, a board member.

But some board members are questioning what positive impact these moves will have on Russian Jews.

"I don't feel that everything that could have been done was done," said Rabbi Berel Lazar, the chief emissary of the Lubavitch movement in Russia. "All this activity doesn't reassure the Jewish population and doesn't change the minds of the people on the street."

"It isn't enough to rely on support of the international community. Jews should get together and show that they are not afraid to express their opinion," agreed Tankred Golenpolsky, founder of *Evreyskaya Gazeta*, the leading Jewish newspaper in Moscow.

Golenpolsky advocates the idea of staging a mass Jewish rally in Moscow against fascism and anti-Semitism in Russia.

Yosef Kobzon, a popular singer and Jewish lawmaker who walked out of a parliamentary session saying he would not return until Makashov was suitably chastised, supports the idea of a rally – as does Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov. According to sources close to the mayor, Luzhkov said he would personally join in such a demonstration.

But most of the leaders of the congress rejected the proposal, saying it would jeopardize the safety of Russian Jews.

Jewish leaders also decided to approach Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov and Russian Prosecutor General Yuri Skuratov in an attempt to make them express a clear stand on anti-Semitism and take legal measures against Makashov and other ultranationalists.

Primakov has kept silent on the issue so far.

Skuratov announced last month that his agency had found evidence proving that Makashov's statements at several rallies earlier this fall incited ethnic strife – a crime punishable under Russia's criminal code. But the case has apparently stalled in the prosecutor's office.

Last week, Skuratov's deputy, Alexander Rozanov, announced that his agency has appointed an expert commission, consisting of psychologists, linguists and anthropologists, to decide whether Makashov's statements would fall under the code.

Meanwhile, Jewish leaders rejected a request from Communist party leader Gennady Zyuganov to meet with the Russian Jewish Congress leadership.

The board "decided not to meet with him until he takes an unambiguous position on Makashov" Goldschmidt said.

Zyuganov reportedly gave Makashov a mild dressing-down in private, but the Communist lawmaker was not thrown out of the party, as was originally promised.

In an attempt to improve his party's image, Zyuganov has met with Israel's ambassador to Russia and told him that Makashov's views are not those of his party. On a recent visit to Germany, Zyuganov also met with the leader of the Jewish community, Ignatz Bubis.

Most participants at the Jewish congress meeting said the situation for Jews in Russia is cause for concern but is not grave.

"In most places – especially in Moscow – anti-Semitism is not a problem for somebody walking in the street," said Lazar. "It should be understood that a lot of [current anti-Semitism] is politically connected and has to do with elections," he added.

Parliamentary elections are slated for late next year, and the presidential elections are planned for the summer of 2000.

Reports coming from some provincial centres suggest, however, that the economic crisis that hit Russia in August and the wide-ranging public debate over Makashov's remarks have contributed to an increase of anti-Semitism in various parts of the country.

Some residents of the Russian city of Novosibirsk recently found their mailboxes stuffed with anti-Semitic leaflets blaming Jews for Russia's economic hardships.

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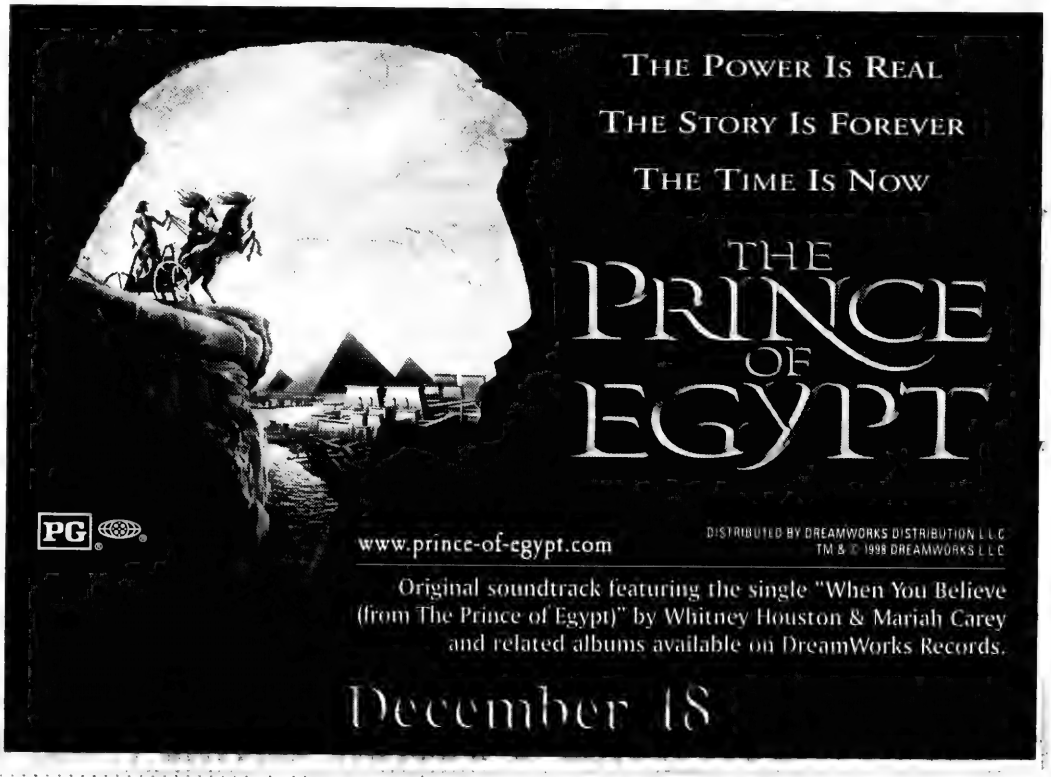
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December 18

Israel & the Jewish World

Pledge on Auschwitz crosses advances talks

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Jewish and Polish officials have moved a step closer to resolving a long-running dispute over religious symbols at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Polish Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek last week pledged to remove 300 new crosses erected during the summer by radical Catholics at the site of the Nazi death camp.

In a letter to Jewish leaders who have been attempting during the last two years to work out a deal with the Polish government on the future of the memorial site, Buzek said the crosses would be removed "as soon as possible."

Polish officials are currently trying to remove the crosses through court action, but if that fails, Buzek said the government would adopt a new law enabling it to do so.

The crosses have stood as the latest stumbling block to efforts to work out a long-term plan to preserve and protect the concentration camps. Last year, a coalition of Jewish groups negotiated the removal of crosses and Stars of David from the area known as the Field of Ashes.

The coalition is still trying to work out an agreement concerning religious symbols just beyond the boundary of the camp, including a church with a 26-foot cross on top, another cross in front and a third large cross alongside the old Carmelite convent.

Jewish groups have long protested the presence of the religious symbols as disrespectful. But some radical Catholic groups consider the crosses – particularly the 26-foot cross that served as a backdrop to a 1979 papal mass – a symbol of the Nazis' Polish victims.

Jewish and Polish officials had discussed replacing the church cross with a less intrusive monument to the Poles who died there, but talks stalled when the 300 new crosses were erected this summer to protest the negotiations.

Jewish groups and Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel said they were encouraged by the Polish prime minister's pledge, which a Polish official conveyed at a meeting of the coalition in Washington earlier this month.

The Jewish groups agreed to give the prime minister time to address the issue through the legislative process but emphasized they will not reopen the negotiations until the 300 crosses are removed.

Poland's pledge came as an outspoken critic of the plan for Auschwitz-Birkenau stepped up his criticism of museum officials involved in the negotiations.

New York Rabbi Avi Weiss, president of AMCHA, the Coalition of Jewish Concerns, leveled a blistering attack at a meeting of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council this week, arguing that no Christian symbols should be tolerated.

He also charged that museum officials have no right to negotiate international agreements and said he would work with Congress to ensure that federal dollars are used solely to fulfil the museum's mandate of education and remembrance.

Beyond the religious symbols, at issue in the negotiations is a plan to physically link Auschwitz and Birkenau with a walking path to induce more visitors to see Birkenau, where the vast majority of Jews were killed.

The talks are also aimed at balancing the commercial and development interests of the two towns – an important concern on the Polish side – against the Jewish imperative, as Miles Lerman, chair of the museum's council, has described it, of preserving "for posterity the sacredness, physical integrity and centrality of Jewish suffering and martyrdom at Auschwitz-Birkenau."

The Week in Israel

Dec. 7

• The speaker of the Knesset said he would boycott all official events for President Bill Clinton during the latter's stay in Israel. Dan Tichon said he was protesting the decision by the president not to visit the Knesset.

Dec. 8

• Calls increased from within Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's governing coalition for him to form a national unity government or to initiate early elections. The calls came amid growing political turmoil surrounding the continuing violent demonstrations in the West Bank. *(Palestinians marked the 11th anniversary of the intifadah by staging further violent demonstrations throughout the week.)*

Dec. 9

• A Knesset committee authorized rabbinical courts to impose sanctions on men who refuse to grant a *get* to their wives. The sanctions include barring such husbands exit from the country, suspending their driver's licence and freezing their bank and credit accounts.

•The Israeli army decided to court-martial a soldier who was beaten by a Palestinian mob last week near Ramallah. Corporal Assaf Miara, 19, is being charged with carrying an unloaded weapon and with leaving his base without permission. The army is not charging him for failing to fire upon his assailants.

Dec. 10

• Netanyahu ordered a crackdown on Palestinian unrest. It is "our duty to activate the army" to deal with the unrest "in the firmest way possible," he said.

• Signs reading "Clinton Go Home" and depicting him in an Arab headdress appeared on billboards and poster boards. Clinton was scheduled to arrive on Saturday night.

Dec. 11

• Netanyahu asked Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein to consider freezing legal proceedings against a number of students indicted for offences committed during their strike.

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UN designates anti-Semitism as form of racism

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

UNITED NATIONS — A recent decision by the United Nations to consider anti-Semitism as a form of racism returns the world body to its roots on the human rights front.

The General Assembly unanimously approved a resolution to list anti-Semitism among other concerns to be investigated by a special UN monitor on racism, including racial incidents and discrimination "against blacks, Arabs and Muslims," xenophobia and "Negrophobia."

The Dec. 9 resolution came on the 50th anniversary of the UN's genocide convention and one day before celebrations of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, both of which were inspired, in large part, by the systematic murders perpetrated by the Nazi regime.

"Yesterday, this assembly reaffirmed that all forms of racism, including anti-Semitism, must be defeated in the struggle for human rights," UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said at the ceremonies commemorating the human rights document.

"To the United Nations, this anniversary is more than a milestone," Annan said. "It is a mirror that reflects how far we have come, and how long we have to go."

Although the issue of specifically listing anti-Semitism was raised in Geneva several years ago, according to Israel's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, Aaron Jacob, the Dec. 9 resolution is the first to specifically mention anti-Semitism.

General Assembly passes resolution unanimously

In November 1975, the General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring that "Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination." The resolution was repealed in 1991, against the opposition of most Arab member-states.

In March, at a meeting in Jerusalem of the World Jewish Congress' (WJC) Israel Council on Foreign Relations, Annan had denounced all forms of anti-Semitism, and called the 1975 resolution on Zionism "lamentable." The resolution's adoption was "the low point in relations whose negative resonance, even today, is difficult to over-estimate," he said.

Jacob called the decision a "welcome development," one that was championed by the "intense efforts" of Jewish organizations in pushing for the resolution.

Turkey also played a role in the decision of the Arab and Muslim member-states to overcome their objections to the inclusion of the term in the resolution, originally put forth at the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

The idea for a UN official to monitor forms of racism, including anti-Semitism, was the brainchild of Morris Abram, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva who now chairs UN Watch, a Geneva-based affiliate of the WJC.

Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, called the General Assembly's action "long overdue." In a statement, Foxman said the move is "particularly significant" in light of the fact that in 1995, the UN omitted "specific mention of the Jewish victims of World War II in a United Nations declaration marking the 50th anniversary" of the war's end.

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide was the first human rights treaty adopted by the United Nations.

Raphael Lemkin, the international lawyer who coined the term "genocide," pressed for the treaty's adoption by the General Assembly in 1948.

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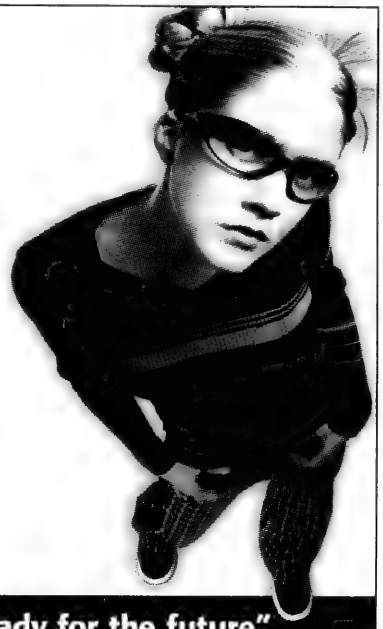

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Israeli court strikes down yeshiva draft deferrals

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — An Israeli court decision striking down the current system of granting army deferrals to yeshiva students could exacerbate the religious-secular divide here and put further strain on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's already tottering coalition.

Israel's High Court of Justice ruled last week that a Defence Ministry deferral program that currently has approximately 30,000 yeshiva students is illegal, and it gave the Knesset a year to pass a new law on the matter.

Ruling on petitions from the secularist Meretz party and the Israeli University Students Association, which sought to put a ceiling on the number of deferrals granted, the panel of 11 justices said that if the Knesset failed to pass legislation in the next 12 months, the current arrangement would be null and void.

The justices said the issue had created a growing sense of inequality in Israeli society.

The deferrals, which date from the status quo agreement that helped to usher in the founding of the State of Israel, have become a lightning rod in recent years.

In a bid to head off the petitions, Netanyahu established a panel in May headed by a retired Supreme Court judge. The panel was to examine the issue and try to come up with a solution acceptable to all parties. But the prime minister abandoned the idea after members of the haredi Agudat Yisrael party threatened to bring down the government if the panel were formed.

Commenting on last week's ruling, Netanyahu pledged that legislation agreeable to all Israelis, from the secular to the Haredim, would be passed within the one-year deadline.

"This must be done to prevent a rift in the people. It won't be easy, but it can be done," he said.

Knesset member Avraham Ravitz of the United Torah Judaism bloc (UTJ), who has been involved in an effort to resolve the issue, also welcomed the ruling.

"I think the Knesset will discuss the matter, and [legislators] will be receptive to each other. We are aware of what everyone's red lines are, and we are trying very hard not to cross them," he said.

Labor party leader Ehud Barak, who drew the ire of some Orthodox lawmakers earlier this year when he authored a bill that would limit the number of deferrals, said there had already been contacts with haredi representatives on the issue.

Israel's chief rabbis also welcomed the ruling, as did President Ezer Weizman, who has spoken out in the past against the deferrals.

But in reactions signaling the tough battle that may lie ahead, some haredi rabbis warned that they would not agree to a decision to draft any yeshiva students and would direct them either to go to jail or to leave Israel, rather than serve in the army.

Knesset member Rabbi Avraham Leizerson of UTJ called the ruling an "inquisition" and said yeshiva students would overcome the latest attempt by the State of Israel to draft the students.

Program affects 30,000 students

In their petition, Chaim Oron and Amnon Rubinstein of Meretz had argued that the arrangement implemented 50 years ago by Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, to exempt "a few thousand" yeshiva students from military service had evolved into a rubber stamp, exploited by tens of thousands of yeshiva students.

The two Knesset members demanded that a ceiling be set on the number of deferrals issued yearly, and that those individuals be closely monitored to ensure they continue their studies and do not go to work.

In 1954, the year the status quo agreement was signed, some 400 yeshiva students were granted deferrals. Today, roughly 2,800 students receive them each year.

Oron said he planned to introduce into the Knesset a law based on the petition, which says there must be a ceiling on deferrals and that the deferrals must be closely monitored.

According to the army, only 55 percent of 18-year-olds in Israel are currently drafted. Of the remaining 45 percent, some 21 percent are Israeli Arabs, who do not serve, and eight percent are yeshiva students.

Jewish woman new Swiss president

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — A Jewish woman is scheduled to record a double first in Switzerland this week.

Ruth Dreifuss is expected to become the first Jew – and the first woman – to be named president of Switzerland, where women only earned the right to vote in 1971.

Dreifuss, who formally becomes head of state on Jan. 1, will inherit a country that is attempting to cope with an anti-Semitic backlash.There has been a stream of embarrassing disclosures in recent years about the financial ties that existed between the country's leading banks and Nazi Germany.

After months of international pressure, two of the banks agreed earlier this year to pay a $1.25 billion settlement of Holocaust-era claims.

Dreifuss, 58, was born in an eastern Swiss canton. As the Nazis approached the Swiss border, she moved with her parents to Geneva.

She spent her early career as a secretary in a hotel and as a journalist with a weekly newspaper in Basel, the site of the First Zionist Congress in 1897. In 1965, she joined the Socialist Party.

In 1970, she graduated from Geneva University with a degree in mathematics, and was then appointed an assistant in the faculty of economic and social Sciences at Geneva University.

She served in the Swiss Development Corporation at the Swiss Foreign Ministry from 1972 to 1981, when she was elected secretary of the Federation of Swiss Trade Unions.

Dreifuss was a member of the Berne Municipal Council from 1989 to 1992, and was appointed home affairs minister in 1993.

She is fluent in French, German, English, Spanish and Italian.

The presidency of Switzerland is a largely ceremonial post. The president is not elected by popular vote. The office rotates among the seven Cabinet ministers of the Swiss federal government.

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Rescue mission

Continued from page 1

Speaking with a somber-faced U.S. president at his side, the prime minister called the plans a "gross violation of the Oslo and Wye accords."

Netanyahu also called on the PA to immediately halt its "propaganda" campaign, that Israel was reneging on the terms of the Wye accord by refusing to release Palestinians jailed for anti-Israel activities.

Clinton struck a theme of reconciliation during his remarks at the news conference. "The promise of Wye cannot be fulfilled by violence or by statements or actions which are inconsistent with the whole peace process," Clinton said. "Both sides should adhere to that."

Underscoring what he called America's "unshakable" commitment to Israeli security, Clinton announced he would submit a request to the U.S. Congress for an additional $1.2 billion in aid to help Israel cover the costs of carrying out the West Bank redeployments called for under the Wye accord.

The president said the PA had taken some steps toward fulfilling their commitments under the accord. But at the same time, he added that they "could be doing better to prevent violent demonstrations in the street."

During the past week, there have been a series of violent clashes in the West Bank between Palestinian demonstrators and Israeli troops over protesters' demands for the release of Palestinian activists held in Israeli jails.

Palestinian officials have maintained that Israel broke a term of the Wye agreement when the majority of those the Jewish state recently released from prison were common criminals. Israel, in turn, claimed it was living up to the agreement – a view echoed by some American officials.

Two Palestinians died last week in clashes near the West Bank town of Kalkilya, bringing the total number of fatalities during the past week to four.

The Palestinian Authority clamped down on the demonstrations prior to Clinton's arrival. But the violence continued Sunday when a 17-year-old Israeli girl was moderately wounded after being stabbed in the back outside the West Bank settlement of Shavei Shomron.

Her assailant, a 15-year-old Palestinian girl, told investigators after she was apprehended that she had acted alone. She added that she decided to attack a Jew after reading from the Koran the previous day.

Prior to Clinton's visit, Israel carried out the first phase of the redeployment under the Wye accord, transferring an additional nine percent of West Bank land to Palestinian control.

But, Israel said it was suspending further implementation of the Wye agreement pending Palestintian fulfilment of its commitments under the accord.

A key Israeli demand called for the Palestine National Council to formally vote, during a meeting that Clinton attended, to nullify the anti-Israel clauses in the Palestinian charter.

Palestinian officials countered that the Wye accord called only for attendees at the meeting to approve by acclamation, a letter that PA Chairman Yasser Arafat sent to Clinton in January, indicating that the clauses were annulled.

Clinton's visit to the Gaza Strip for the meeting has been a source of anger for right-wing Israelis – some Cabinet ministers among them – who claim it will give support to Palestinian aspirations for statehood.

After his talks with Netanyahu, Clinton held a meeting with Israeli President Ezer Weizman.

The president is accompanied on the trip by First Lady Hillary Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea.

On Sunday, the Clintons visited the grave of slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, accompanid by Rabin's widow, Leah.

Chelsea Clinton made visits to the Western Wall, the Temple Mount and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

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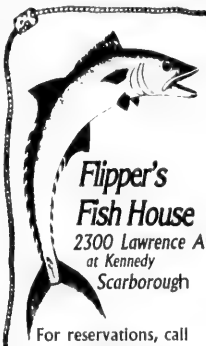

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Senior citizens face unique dental problems

TORONTO — Many dentists are uncomfortable dealing with dental problems uniques to seniors, says Dr. Jonathan Center, who has worked with seniors at Mount Sinai Hospital, the Jewish General Hospital in Montreal and the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

These problems may include complications due to multiple medications, dry mouth and abnormal behavior.

Center and Dr. John Gasner, who has worked at Mount Sinai Hospital and has served as acting head of dentistry at Baycrest Centre, have teamed up to form LifeSmiles, a specialized dental clinic for seniors.

"We established this clinic to address the specialized needs of seniors of all ages," says Center.

"People are keeping their teeth longer and they are recognizing the importance of oral health. There is [also] an awareness of the need to deal with the complicated medical histories of many seniors," he says.

Seniors require dentists, he says, who are versed in medical conditions and medications, and who are prepared to interact with the patient's doctors, pharmacist, family members and care-givers.

The team at LifeSmiles has been active in teaching seniors how to maintain a healthy mouth. It has presented seminars and classes at seniors' facilities including Earl Bales Seniors' Centre, Lifestyles and Pine Villa.

In the presentations, which include slides and demonstrations, the dentists emphasize the reasons for healthy oral care – to maintain good nutrition, detect health problems and maintain self-confidence.

Poor oral health can lead to mouth infections which in turn can lead to infections in other parts of the body, says Center. "Bacteria from the mouth can enter the blood stream and settle in prosthetic joints."

Intra-oral cameras

This can lead to serious medical problems, particularly with seniors who have artificial knees, hip joints, weak heart valves or other orthopedic or medical problems, he says.

"Through extensive interaction with seniors, we have found that many of them do not visit dentists regularly, and we have detected uncared for medical problems," he says.

"A caring relationship is very important in order to gain the trust of senior patients. Taking time to develop this relationship will, in turn, lead to better results in treatment. By using intra-oral cameras, we show our patients, as well as family members and care-givers, the problems."

Patients with cognitive impairments such as dementia, Alzheimer disease or other disabilities, require specialized treatment, and those who manage the patient at home often need in-depth training in how to care for the senior's teeth, he says.

Denture therapy goes beyond laboratory work, says Center. "Along with dental knowledge and a superior denture product, the patient requires ongoing monitoring to avoid future gum problems."

Dry mouth is one of the most common complaints in seniors because there are hundreds of medications that seniors take for heart, nerves or other ailments that reduce the saliva flow.

There are special toothpastes and gels that we prescribe to help combat these problems, says. Center. "Often, just brushing their teeth is a problem for patients who have a loss of manual dexterity or other functions, or just a lack of patience."

In dealing with seniors," says Center, "the dentist must not be rushed with the patient, and he must have the ability to gather information effectively."

CEO takes on new task

TORONTO – Theodore Freedman, president and chief executive officer of Mount Sinai Hospital, has been appointed chair of the Ontario Council of Teaching Hospitals (OCOTH).

OCOTH represents 18 major teaching hospitals in five academic health science centres across Ontario. Its purpose is to advance the role of teaching hospitals as deliverers of health care and leaders in health care-development.

This role encompasses three essential components: the education of health-care providers; the development of research initiatives in cooperation with associated universities; and collectively, the provision of a comprehensive system of health-care services ranging from community outreach to the most sophisticated and technologically advanced services available.

Freedman has been president and CEO of Mount Sinai Hospital since April 1993, and has played an integral role in the hospital's development as a major academic centre of excellence.

He is associate professor in the department of health administration, University of Toronto, and is a Fellow of the American College of

Theodore Freedman

Health-Care Executives. Freedman is currently chair of the external advisory committee to the department of health administration, University of Toronto; and is a member of the editorial board of the *Hospital Quarterly*. He is also on the board of the Change Foundation, chair of its grants committee and chair-elect for 1999.

Freedman is also past chair of the Toronto Academic Health Sciences Council, the organization that represents the Toronto teaching hospitals and the University of Toronto.

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Film producer wrestles with documentary's 'Hit'

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Producer David Ostriker, a principal and vice-president of television at High Road Productions, is not one to rest on his laurels, but these days he's taking time to savor the sweet taste of a success.

His latest project, *Hitman Hart: Wrestling with Shadows*, has been a hit with North American television critics, garnering rave reviews in both the United States and Canada. The documentary about professional wrestling features Canadian wrestler Bret "Hitman" Hart. It debuted on TVOntario this month and will air on the A&E Network Dec. 20 at 9 p.m.

Ostriker, who served as executive producer of the project, is quick to praise Paul Jay for his work as director and co-producer of the film.

Jay is also a principal in High Road – he's the founding president of what Ostriker says is one of the "hottest" documentary film companies in Canada.

Taking me on a tour of High Road, a full-service production house located in a sprawling mansion on Jarvis Street, Ostriker, who is Orthodox, says his office is easily identifiable, because it is the only room in the building with a mezuzah on the door. Jay is Jewish but not observant.

Ostriker, who is in his third year with High Road, was previously a producer at Associated Producers and Stornway Productions. He says that in his 30 years in the film business, *Wrestling with Shadows* is his biggest success. "I never had anything that big. Nothing close."

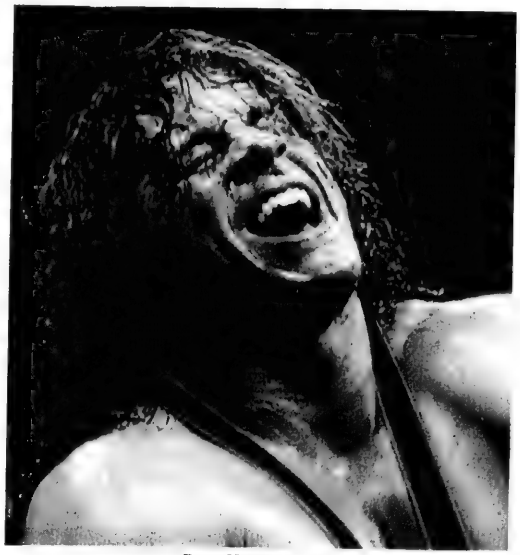
He attributes the appeal of the film to the fact that the story revolves around a compelling protagonist.

Describing Hart as "charismatic" and calling him "the best-known Canadian in the world today," Ostriker notes that more than half a billion people around the world watch wrestling. In cable TV, wrestling has the highest ratings of any show, and this, he explains, is the reason the documentary was eagerly snapped up by broadcasters in most countries across Europe.

But he stresses that the film will also be of interest to people who are not wrestling aficionados, because the story deals with good and evil, and offers new insights into pro-wrestling as a result of the special access Jay had to the sport through his relationship with Hart.

The film has a powerful dramatic climax, which according to Ostriker was pure serendipity. Hart had a disagreement with the World Wrestling Federation (WWF) during their contract negotiations while the film was being shot, and the experience became part of the story.

"Good and evil took on real qualities... HaShem was smiling on us," Ostriker says.



Bret 'Hitman' Hart

Sales of the video have been brisk, Ostriker says. "We're selling 300 to 400 units a day on the Internet, while 20,000 have been distributed to retail stores across Canada."

This sort of commercial success of a documentary video is "unheard of," he says, and he expects sales to increase after the film airs in the United States, where the video has been sold to Walmart's main distributor.

High Road has doubled its production every year for the last three years, Ostriker says.

One of its best-known works, *Never-Endum Referendum*, a documentary about nationalism and personal identity in Quebec, was directed by Jay for CTV in 1997.

There are many projects in the works for various networks, both American and Canadian, Ostriker says, among them, *The Machine Gun*, a three-part series on the history of the machine gun; *Yesterday's Tomorrow* which traces the evolution of modern technology through the world fairs; *Through Thick and Thin* a documentary about eating disorders; and *A Warrant for Genocide*, which examines the history and impact of the ant-Semitic pamphlet, *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

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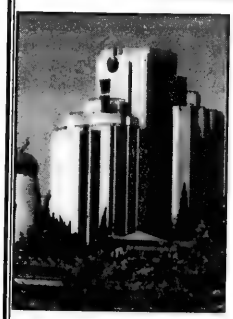

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Video helps young people understand the Holocaust

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The story of two young brothers who survived while two women died of starvation in the same hiding place in the forest, is told in *Goodbye My Shtetl – Rotikna.*

The hour-long video was made by Samuel Levinson, 73, and Alexander (Sasha) Levin (Levinson), 65, to help young people understand the Holocaust.

The hour-long video also recalls the black days in Russia when Jews were not allowed to speak to foreigners, and were grilled by KGB agents if they did.

This happened to Sasha in 1964, when he was in the Russian army, and he was told to go to Moscow to meet his sister-in-law, Chaya Levinson, from Toronto.

"I was afraid to speak to her, and we communicated though a person who knew Yiddish, but the KGB were watching and interrogated me later."

However, the clandestine meeting bore fruit, because 10 years later, in 1974, Sasha came to Canada through his brother's efforts.

The film also tells the story of how the two brothers were separated for 30 years without knowing the other was alive. A third brother, Nathan, also survived, but died a few years ago in Israel.

A fourth brother, Moishe, then 5, and their parents Mordecai and Mindel, were killed by the Nazis in 1942.

"We cooked potatoes but did not eat them until they were cold so they would last longer," says Levin, recalling their wartime experience.

"We had to steal the potatoes because most of the farmers would not even open their doors they were so afraid. We got down on all fours along the rows of potatoes to imitate how the wild boars did it so the farmers would not be suspicious. We also ate berries to keep alive."

Also appearing in the video are two survivors who hid in the same forest excavation as the two brothers – Lowa (Larry) Gamilka of Montreal, who was only seven at the time, and Yona (Taibele) Wasserman of Toronto, then age two. A story about Rotikna in *The CJN*, Oct. 15, 1977, reunited the four after more than 50 years.

The Levins and their companions survived for nearly two years in the forest, returning to Rotikna in 1944, only to find their family had died along with 18,000 other Jews at Sarna.

Sasha became separated from his brothers after he was ordered into the Russian army.

The brothers returned to Rotikna in 1995, along with a group of Israelis. By then, the one-time Jewish population of 1,630 was reduced to two. Only the foundation stones of the Levin house remained. The film they took of their old haunts is part of the video.

Miriam David, daughter of Samuel Levinson, also went to Rotikna. She says in the video that she now understands why her Jewish roots are important, a message underlined as well by Motty Levinson, her brother.

An absorbing scene, shot in G. Ross Lord Park in North York, shows their children, Elise, 9, and Michael, 12, talking about how their grandfather survived.

"I hope the Holocaust never happens again," says Elise.

The video was made by Tokmakov TV Productions Ltd. North York. The brothers hope it will be shown in the coming months on CFMT, Cable 4, and the History and Showcase channels.For information, call Sasha Levin, 905-660-6192.

A Mystic destination

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

MYSTIC, Conn.— Whether one approaches by land or water, visitors to Mystic Seaport, located in this tiny Connecticut town, know they are close to one of New England's most popular travel spots when the towering masts of docked schooners are in sight.

Walking through the entrance, each step brings one further back in time, to an era when men would hoist 1,200 pound sails 100 feet above the decks of whaling, merchant and fishing schooners.

For those interested in maritime history, Mystic Seaport – the Museum of America and the Sea – is the destination of choice.

With more than 480 vessels, Mystic Seaport holds the largest collection of ships and boats in the world. The *Charles W. Morgan*, (considered Mystic Seaport's centrepiece exhibit) is a national historic landmark, and America's last surviving wooden whale ship. Also on site, is the largest single collection of maritime photography in the world.

Wandering the 40-acre site, one explores the wooden wonders of the past, and witnesses the process of wooden ship construction.

Through the main entrance to the left, is the Henry B. duPont Preservation Shipyard, which houses a wide range of trinkets, artifacts and pieces of shipbuilding of years gone by. Its aluminum roof, covering wooden beams, preserves the raw beginnings of ship construction.

Visitors can explore the decks and cabins of the *Charles W. Morgan* (1841), *Joseph Conrad* (1882) and the *L. A. Dunton* (1921). They remain the same as they were when sailors went out to sea for years at a time.

On the *Morgan*, one can examine the captain's quarters from 150 years ago. The modest quarters are luxury compared with the small bunk beds housing the crew. Walking down two decks, the darkness closes in as the natural light remains far above.

Walking down one of the "main" streets on the site, one can visit the nautical instruments store which holds clocks, chronometers and navigational aids of the 1870s. Also worth visiting are the drug store, the bank and the cooperage.

The grounds also house a children's museum which is based around the theme of It's a Sailor's Life for Me. Children seven and under, can swab the deck, move cargo, cook in the galley, dress in sailors' garb and sleep in sailors' bunks.

Steven Spielberg's filming of *Amistad* included the collection of historic buildings at Mystic Seaport as a stand-in for New Haven.

For the next two years, visitors will be able to witness the $3.1 million (US) project to re-create this now-famous 81-foot schooner, *Amistad*, being built in the Museum's Henry B. duPont Preservation Shipyard.

Visitors should take the walk to the upper observation deck of the *Amistad* exhibit to fully observe and appreciate a reconstruction project of this nature. The above deck also has a series of displays of tools and designs.

If the urge to set sail is irresistible, and the pocketbook allows (an extra fee of $3.50 for adults and $2.50 for youths is required) one can tour the local waters on the 57-foot steamboat *Sabino* (1908) which is the last coal-fired, steam-powered passenger ferry operating in the United States, and is a national historic landmark. The cruises run from mid-May to mid-October.

Mystic Seaport is more than a collection of vessels and recreation of the New England shipping industry of 150 years ago. The site also houses diverse collections which include important holdings in many disciplines such as art, artifacts, tools, buildings, imprints and other documents. The art and object collection contains over 153,000 individual items or collections of items, of American and foreign origin.

The site also offers both formal and informal education programs, including programs for visitors, tours, sail education, classes in maritime skills, educational symposia, study tours, overnight programs for youth and schools groups, planetarium programs, and teacher training institutes.

Visitors often spend a day or more at Mystic Seaport. The site is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., April through October. Admission is $16 (US) for adults, $8 for youth ages 6-12 years, and free for children 5 and under.

Mystic Seaport is located one mile south of Interstate 95 in Mystic, Conn.

Schooners docked at Mystic Seaport. [James Pasternak photo]

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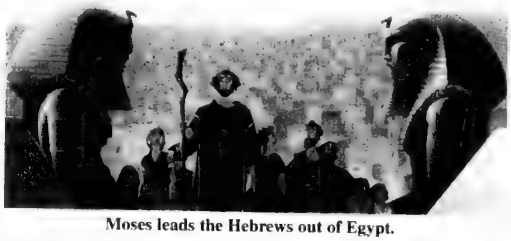
Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone



Moses leads the Hebrews out of Egypt.

MORE THOUGHTS ON THE PRINCE OF EGYPT

As theatres across North America prepare for the Dec. 18 opening of Dreamwork's animated musical feature *The Prince of Egypt*, the studio's three cinematic wizards – **Steven Spielberg**, **Jeffrey Katzenberg** and **David Geffen** – are hoping that their dynamic take on the Exodus saga will generate big magic at the box office.

Given the broad appeal of recent animated musicals such as *Anastasia* and *Aladdin*, *The Prince of Egypt* may very well earn a splendid return on its production cost of $70 million (US). Undeniably, the picture packs a powerful wallop. The story, after all, comes from the Bible. The visual look is stunning, conjuring up the influence of artists like **Gustave Dore** and **Claude Monet**, and cinematographer **David Lean**.

The soundtrack offers the voices of some of our most celebrated dramatic actors (**Val Kilmer**, **Ralph Fiennes**, **Michelle Pfeiffer**). The music, composed by Hollywood's best and brightest, and performed by the likes of **Whitney Houston** and **Boyz II Men**, is equally compelling.

At times, the picture unfolds with the lushness of a dream, weaving an intermittent spell from the moment we see the baby Moses floating perilously down a river in a reed basket.

During the requisite parting-of-the-Red-Sea scene, a whale swims across one of the miraculously suspended curtains of water, inspiring another burst of awe. There are many such moments.

The Queen discovers Moses floating on the Nile.

The Prince of Egypt invites comparisons to **Cecil B. de Mille's** 1956 four-hour epic *The Ten Commandments*, which immortalized **Charlton Heston** as Moses, and **Yul Brynner** as Pharoah. One might say that both productions are extraordinarily ambitious, both succeed strongly on their own terms, and both, to varying degrees, Hollywoodize the character of Moses.

In contrast to the De Millean epic, which cast Moses into an adulterous relationship with Pharoah's wife, *The Prince of Egypt* focuses on the relationship between Moses and Rameses, the Pharoah-in-waiting, who grew up as brothers in the royal court. They are like rambunctious suburban teenagers, borrowing the family chariots and getting into trouble.

While many exciting sequences explode like fireworks upon our senses, don't expect any brilliant flashes of insight into the Exodus story. Despite all the talent behind it, *The Prince of Egypt* presents what is essentially a shallow and cartoonish interpretation of the classic tale of the Jewish liberation from bondage in Egypt.

Too many significant details have been bleached from the narrative, along with too many delicious ironies, mysteries, subtleties and subplots.

In this version, Moses' mother, Jochabed, is not called into service as his wet nurse in Pharoah's palace. Moses murders the Egyptian slave driver only by accident, and in full public view. And since Moses has no speech impediment, Aaron becomes just an extraneous sidekick. Sadly, God fares little better.

The script lacks eloquence, and the characterizations are equally flat; the children of Israel are like cardboard cutouts. The comic talents of **Martin Short** and **Steve Martin** are wasted on two court magicians. When Moses attempts to bedazzle Pharoah by turning his staff into a snake, these court magicians sing *You're Playing With The Big Boys*, a silly Broadwayesque number that reeks of a 1990s corporate mentality.

Another egregious lapse into the contemporary mindset occurs when Moses sings *All I Ever Wanted*. Since when is the Exodus an expression of the prophet's own egotistical ambitions and desires?

Despite its flaws, *The Prince of Egypt* will likely stand as an impressive pyramid in cinematic history. Armies of artists, computer technicians and others poured their utmost into the work, the first major animated musical feature to be made on a Biblical theme. It's worth seeing for all it does right. Youngsters are certain to be enthralled.

***

Passages: Eye on Arts is saddened to report that the Toronto-based author of *No Flowers on the Desert*, **Larry Wiener**, who was spotlighted in this column two week ago, has died of a heart attack at the age of 61.

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Play focuses on Judenrat head

By BEN ROSE
CJN Staff Writer

TORONTO — Was Chaim Rumkowski, head of the Lodz ghetto Judenrat, so deluded that he believed the old, the ill and the children were really being sent by the Germans to farms and factories?

To be credible, *Suffer the Children*, a play by Prof. Maurice Breslow of Queen's University, depends on the acceptance of this delusion.

"If I've failed to convince you that this delusion was legitimate, I've failed as a playwright," he told the audience at the Bathurst Jewish Centre after a reading of his play, which won the Jewish Theatre Committee's award. It was also performed at the Bloor JCC that night.

Aside from this delusion, which many will find hard to swallow, Breslow has written a workmanlike play with believable dialogue, although one survivor in the audience who was at Lodz said Rumkowski was not as cruel as he was depicted in the play.

A native of Boston, Breslow has been teaching drama at Queen's for 25 years. Most of his father's family was wiped out in the Holocaust. With the aid of a translator, he researched Yiddish documents at YIVO in New York.

"For me," said Breslow, "Rumkowski embodied the best and the worst in our confrontation with the Nazis."

The best parts of *Suffer the Children* deal with Rumkowski's adeptness at the tailoring business, how he convinced the Nazis to let the ghetto workers make 200,000 camouflage suits for the Germans. How he negotiated a better price and delivery date is believable.

Not so, however, are the adoring children from the orphanage who sing Rumkowski's praises as Mordechai in the Purim play. The Purim shpiel seems to clutter up the play.

There are veiled references to Rumkowski's first and second marriages and to the fact that he had no children. Why didn't the playwright explore this?

Syd Libman as Rumkowski, Matt Reid as Elman, Jessica Ehrenworth as Mirka the ghetto orphan, Joel Rose as the S.S. commander, and Ralph Wintrob as the ghetto administrator, all did a fine job with their parts.

Perhaps because he had to sit in a chair throughout the play, Libman seemed unable to rise above the tragic overtones of his character and bring humor to the part as the author intended.

Breslow believes that after 4½ years in the Lodz ghetto, Rumkowski was transported to Auschwitz and killed there by Jews, though this is not in the play, which ends with Rumkowski, shorn of all his privileges, being kicked out of his office.

EXPLORING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
Simon Serruya (left) and brother Michael met with Benjamin Netanyahu last month to discuss business investment opportunities in Israel. The owners of Yogen Fruz invited Netanyahu to Toronto's Sephardic Kehilla Centre. [Moshe Ronen photo]

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Travel, Arts & Business

Luminaries celebrate Festival of Lights

By JOYCE SINGER
Special to The CJN

For most of us, the eight days of Chanukah will most likely be spent twirling dreidles, flipping latkes, and lighting our special menorahs. We inquired how four, very diverse luminaries plan to celebrate the Miracle of Lights.

Guidy Mamann

Guidy Mamann is a partner at Mamann & Kranc (immigration lawyers), and the president of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS).

"My wife is expecting! We're getting pretty close to the big day, so we'll be spending the holidays looking for baby furniture. Our three-year-old Hannah, will be spending her first Chanukah at school this year, at Or Haemet."

Mamann insists that doughnuts are his favorite Chanukah treat. "My mom makes special donuts for the holidays, which we eat with sugar and honey. We'll be lighting the candles on Hannah's very own menorah. I doubt we'll let her light it yet, but we got it at our shul auction, where everyone donates wonderful Judaic artifacts."

Al Waxman

"We're mall-rats, we go to every party at every mall. We make sure that we don't miss a single Chanukah party in town."

They are planning to spend next Chanukah at the new cultural centre, at Steeles and Bathurst, that JIAS is building.

Rona Maynard

Rona Maynard, editor of *Chatelaine* magazine will be busy over the holidays. "I will be working feverishly on the re-design of *Chatelaine*, which will be introduced effective with the March issue. We're caught up in it, totally. It's the biggest, and most exciting project undertaken here since the launch of the magazine in 1928!"

Maynard admits that growing up in Durham, N.H., (a small college town), they never observed Chanukah. "No dreidels, no latkes, no nothing. I didn't set foot in a synagogue, since there wasn't one in my town, until I was an adult. I do enjoy certain aspects of Jewish culture. I guess I have a certain feeling about Yiddish sayings, etc."

Maynard is married, with a 27- year-old son, and a 2-year-old grandson. "I didn't expect to be a grandmother this soon, but he's adorable!"

Lisa Cherniak, founder and executive director of Artists Against Racism (AAR) confides that her favorite things about this holiday are being forced not to make business calls, since no one's around; going skiing; playing with her nephew Arin and her niece Lauren; and going to a family Chanukah party, probably at her sister Debbie's.

"I go skiing anywhere it's not too cold," Cherniak says, "and where the hills take me at least 10 minutes to get down, although I haven't gone in seven years. I enjoy going to the movies on Christmas Eve with all the other Jewish people, trying to find an empty theatre! The downer is getting no e-mail that day! But one other good point is adding up the funds raised (for AAR) from our holiday Internet auction."

Since she's also a journalist, she's looking forward to this year's Chanukah present – a broadcast-quality video camera, to enable her to film a documentary next year.

"I'll also use the holidays to design AAR's movie theatre and movie magazine ads."

Renowned director and thespian, **Al Waxman** says "I'll only be here (in Toronto) with my family, for the first day of Chanukah, and happily I'll be having the best potato latkes in the world, provided by my wife." (The secret of his very successful diet? "One latke less!")

"Hopefully the latkes will have lined my stomach and my soul, and warmed me for Winnipeg weather."

He's off to Winnipeg to start rehearsals for a Neil Simon poignant, comedic play called *Proposals*. The play will run at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, in Toronto, in February and March.

For Waxman, cherished memories of Chanukah past, meant Chanukah gelt. In those days it was wonderful. It was a big score if you got a quarter...mostly it was a nickle or a dime.

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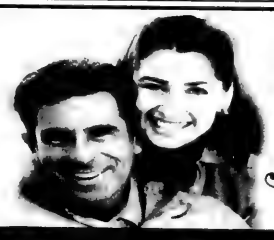

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Women seeking Men

WANTED: SINCERE & HONEST Single Jewish female, non-smoker, good conversationalist, enjoy laughter & movies Seeking a professional, Jewish male, 38-45, who enjoys life, is active, and has a great sense of humour AD#1721

RELAXED Single Jewish female, 39, professional, warm, sincere, with a good sense of humour, non-smoker, like to have fun. Seeking a Jewish male, 47-60, with a good sense of humour, relaxed and likes to have fun AD#1731

BIG, BOLD & BEAUTIFUL Single Jewish female, over 40, professional, optimistic, educated, vibrant, fit, attractive, full figured, big, bold, and beautiful, good sense of humour. Seeking a male, secure, kind, willing to take risks, & live, laugh and love, who enjoys the company of a good woman. AD#1732

CALL ME Widowed mom, 44, professional, slim, attractive, enjoy reading Opra Winfry's recommended books. Seeking a male with similar interests. AD#1811

SOPHISTICATED Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim, blond hair, brown eyes, outgoing, sophisticated. Seeking a male, 36-43, with similar qualities and no children. AD#1699

FRIENDS FIRST Single female, sensitive, intelligent, romantic, slim,, 5'4", brunette, enjoy movies, theater, country and cottage life, good conversation. Seeking a male, 35-44, handsome, intelligent, romantic, sensitive, financially secure, who believes that being friends is the basis for a ling term relationship AD#1705

DOWN TO EARTH Single female, honest, outgoing, friendly, down to earth, enjoy movies, long walks seeking a male, 36-46, for serious relationship AD#1694

WORTH THE WAIT Single female, beautiful, kind, honest, talented, travelled, never married Seeking a male, 35-45, ready for long term Jewish family oriented relationship AD#1695

STYLISH LADY Single Jewish female, 30sh, attractive, good sense of style, dark hair, hazel-green eyes, enjoy travelling, theater, movies, music, bowling, camping, board games. Seeking a Jewish male, with similar interests and qualities, age 32-43. AD#1692

BEST FRIENDS Single Jewish female, 5'4", slim, attractive, intelligent, brunette, sensitive, enjoy camping, reading, theater, movies, dining and dancing, long walks by the ocean. Seeking a male, 35-44, romantic, financially secure, sensitive, handsome, a strong sense of humour AD#1769

FRIEND, LOVER & PARTNER Single Jewish female, auburn hair, bright blue eyes, sparkling smile, 47, 5', non-smoker, romantic, pretty, playful, love to cuddle, family oriented. Seeking a male, Jewish, non-smoker, affectionate, romantic, open with his feelings and ready for commitment. AD#1671

FRIENDS FIRST Single Jewish female, 44, 5'6", slim, non-smoker, professional, enjoy movies, theater, travel, reading, long walks. Seeking a single male, honest, professional, family oriented. AD#1691

SINGLE MOM Single female, 48, 2 kids & 2 cats, fit, non-smoker, enjoy outdoors, jazz, arts. Seeking a male, non-smoker, honest, health oriented, with heart and brains. AD#1688

SEEKING SOULMATE Single Jewish female, professional, 42, one young child, non-smoker, warm, genuine, enjoy dining &dancing, theater, comedy, long romantic, walks. Seeking a professional Jewish male, sensitive, caring, with similar interests and outlooks AD#1674

SUPERMAN NEEDED Single mom, 5'9", thin, have 6 year old child, fit, not open minded, but loves to please. Seeking a male, does not need to have bulging muscles, but should qualify to work at the Daily Planet, Lois Lane has nothing on me. AD# 1680

LET'S EXPLORE LIFE Single female, radiant, smart, compassionate, open, fun-loving, with depth & soul, enjoy good food, good conversation, long walks, & the cultural menu of Toronto Seeking a male, romantic, affectionate, emotionally & financially stable, traditional values & style. AD#1678

ROMANTIC AT HEART Divorced Jewish female, 48, affectionate, romantic, compassionate, mother of 2 sons, age 21 & 23. Seeking a romantic male, financially secure and will show me all the possibilities life has to offer. AD#1660

SEEKING SOULMATE Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, enjoy movies, travel, romantic walks, music, dining & dancing. Seeking a male, 50+, sincere, honest, mature, thoughtful AD#1689

GOOD VALUES Single Jewish female, never married, 38, petite, down to earth, easy going, very laid back, good values. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, 36-42, for best friends and life partner. AD#1734

Questions ???

416-236-6644

Men seeking Women

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP Single Jewish male, early 50's, down to earth, tall, slim, caring, easy going, professional, enjoy movies & quiet times Seeking a Jewish female, 39-49, warm, sensitive, and health conscious AD#1718

EASY TO LOOK AT Single white male, young looking, late 50's, blue eyes, brown hair, medium built, financially secure, down to earth, great sense of humour, enjoy the outdoors. Seeking an attractive female, caring down to earth, tnm figure, of any age AD#1720

GOOD CONVERSATIONALIST Single Jewish male, 6', slim, attractive, brown hair, blue-green eyes, have a B.A., enjoy cooking, travelling, movies, dining out. Seeking a Jewish female, 30-34, who is well read AD#1730

LIKES LAUGHS & OUTDOORS Divorced Jewish male, 29, brown hair, blue eyes, professional, enjoy outdoor activities. Seeking a female with good sense of humour, caring, & kind. AD#1787

CALL ME Single male, 32, professional, fit, enjoy motor cycles, travelling, moves, working out, life. Seeking an attractive female, down to earth, fit, who also has a zest for life. AD#1733

COMPANIONSHIP Single Jewish male, 55, professional. Seeking a non-smoking, Jewish female, 50-60, with traditional values, who enjoys the theater, dancing & dining. AD#1710

TIME WAITS FOR NO ONE Single male, 45, conservative looking, enjoy country drives, art auctions, have a business degree, stock market investor and analyzer. Seeking a lady, no need to be slim, for serious relationship AD#1681

ROMANTIC AND CARING Single white male, 56, self-employed, businessman, enjoy movies, music, travel, good conversation, quiet times Seeking a female, compassionate, loving, attractive, sensitive, to be his special lady. AD#1784

SEEKING NICE LADY Single male, 18, enjoy movies, dancing Seeking a single female with similar interests. AD#1670

DON'T MISS OUT Youthful Jewish senior, 65+, semi-retired, 5'7", 180lbs, blue eyes, thoughtful, sincere, reliable, romantic, affectionate, humorous. Seeking a special lady to share love, understanding, and friendship, 50-64. AD#1676

HONEST Single Jewish male, 39, 5'10", 160lbs, fun, fit, handsome, athletic, financially and emotionally secure, honest, professional, 2 university degrees, blue eyes, light brown hair, enjoy outdoor activities, reading, movies Seeking a female, fit, attractive, independent, fun loving, with similar values and interests AD#1679

MY KIDS TAUGHT ME WELL Single male, 40, ready to get into life again. Seeking a special lady to share life with. AD#1779

FRIENDSHIP Single male, 5'7", 180lbs, semi-retired, blue eyes, sincere, thoughtful, easy to talk to, romantic, reliable, dependable, humorous. Seeking an attractive female, 50-64, that is slim, trim in body and mind. AD#1653

A NEW BEGINNING Young looking male, 53, 5'9", 180lbs, professional, successful, healthy, enjoy long walks, good food, dancing, theater, movies. Seeking a female for partnership. AD#1654

INTEGRITY Senior Jewish male, 5'7", 180lbs, presentable, romantic, down to earth, humorous, blue eyes. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 50-64, that is kind, caring to share love, understanding and integrity AD#1657

HANDY MAN Single Jewish male, 32, 6'2", good heart, honest, caring, intelligent, funny, enjoy travelling, camping, playing pool, country drives, trying new things for an internal relationship with the right person. AD#1659

ACTIVE JUNIOR SENIOR Single male, mid 60's, 5'6", non-smoker, Anglo-Jewish background, enjoy music, theater, outdoors, travel, public affairs Seeking a semi-dependent, warm, educated, outgoing, caring lady, 50+. AD#1690

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP Single male, 6', enjoy movies, dining & dancing, exercising, good conversation. Seeking a lady with similar interests. AD#1643

STYLISH GENTLEMAN Single Jewish male, very stylish, blue eyes, dark hair, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, music. Seeking a female, 18-40, with similar interests and outlook. AD# 1742

GOOD TIMES Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship. AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator. Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate.

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330 OBITUARIES

PERKELL, Frances - on Nov. 26, 1998, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W.
WIENER, Larry - on Nov. 27, 1998, late of 138 Combe Ave.
CLARK, Sally - on Nov. 29, 1998.
COHEN, William - on Nov. 30, 1998.
ZACKS, Annie - on Nov. 30, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
ACKERMAN, David - on Dec. 1, 1998, late of 5879 Bathurst St.
BLOOM, Rose - on Dec. 1, 1998, late of 4001 Bayview Ave.
BLOCK, Morris - on Dec. 2, 1998.
ISENBERG, Harold David - on Dec. 2, 1998, late of 21 Overlea Blvd.
FELDMAN, Nachum - on Dec. 3, 1998, late of 525 Lawrence Ave.
KOSOY, Gertrude - on Dec. 3, 1998, late of 40 Shallmar Blvd.
DAVIS, Jack - on Dec. 4, 1998, late of 7420 Bathurst St.
GREENWOOD, Harry - on Dec. 4, 1998, late of 84 Cherrywood Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

LANDS, Mary - on Nov. 26, 1998, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
MILLER, Irving - on Nov. 26, 1998, late of 31 Yatesbury Rd.
FAGEN, Edis - on Nov. 27, 1998, late of 240 Heath St. W., #1003.
PANZER, Dorothy - on Nov. 27, 1998, late of 70 Spadina Rd #104.
BOGOROCH, Anne - on Nov. 29, 1998, late of 19 Cheval Dr.
FINE, Helen - on Nov. 29, 1998, late of 16 Alberta Ave.
LIBRACHT, Dora - on Nov. 29, 1998, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W., #1111.
PIFKO, Joseph - on Nov. 29, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
TIERNEY, Helen - on Nov. 29, 1998, late of 131 Torresdale Ave., #803.
ZELDIN, Sam - on Nov. 29, 1998, late of 33 Harbour Sq., #1004.
KAMARAS, Edith - on Dec. 2, 1998, late of 4 Forest Laneway, #2102.
ROSENTHAL, Harry - on Dec. 2, 1998, late of 645 Castlefield, #425.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

FERGENBAUM, Issie - on Nov. 28, 1998, late of 214 Livingston Rd.

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HETTLER, Gertrude - on Dec. 4, 1998, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MARAN, Maxine - on Dec. 6, 1998.
WEISBLOTT, Joseph - on Dec. 6, 1998, late of 98 Redpath Ave.
ATKINS, Meyer - on Dec. 7, 1998, late of 289 Burnett Ave.
BLUMENFELD, Abraham Solomon - on Dec. 7, 1998, late of 103 Bannockburn Ave.
TISSPLAT, Benno - on Dec. 7, 1998.
EIDELMAN, Luba - on Dec. 8, 1998.

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We will not be publishing an issue on Thursday, Dec. 31st.

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On Campus

Doing the write thing

By PERLITA ETTEDGUI
Special to The CJN

I didn't really know what to expect when I embarked on a flight to Jerusalem on Nov. 14. With 50 other Jewish journalism students headed to Israel in the middle of the night, anything was possible.

Commentary

The program I went on was a World Zionist Organization-sponsored tour, called Do The Write Thing, and it granted university students from across North America the opportunity to become part of the world press at one of the Jewish community's most exciting and important annual events.

This year, in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary, the General Assembly of United Jewish Federations (GA) from across the United States and Canada, convened in Jerusalem to discuss and examine the relationship between the Diaspora and Israeli Jewish communities. With a pen in hand and a very eager heart, I was there to cover the proceedings.

I was at the extravagant opening ceremonies at the International Convention Centre, where 3,000 of the most influential and involved Jews celebrated their achievements, and looked forward to a week of intense cross-cultural interaction.

I was there when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the Diaspora Jews on the importance of their commitment to Israel, on the firmness with which he would hold on to an often questioned peace process, and on the awesome hurdles Israel has already achieved.

I was there to hear international philanthropist Charles Bronfman, and Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky, announce the introduction of a program that will give Jewish youth across the globe the gift of a trip to Israel as their birthright.

I was there to meet with representatives of the American Jewish Press Association who discussed their experiences with us as if they were handing down a torch of wisdom to the next generation.

I was there to hear Amos Radian, adviser to Ehud Olmert, speculate on the effects of the proposed building on Har Choma set to begin in the next few months, and to question Foreign Minister Yaacob Levy on the state of Wye. Perhaps most importantly, I was there to witness and sign my name on a covenant between Israeli and North American Jews, "…rededicating to strengthen the links between us by creating personal relationships and active involvement."

For an aspiring journalist and an active member of the Jewish community, these experiences were priceless in exposing me to the primary sources of information and facts I often try to dissect from thousands of miles away. During one week in Jerusalem, I was able to gather a more concrete understanding of the working infrastructure of the country than I have in countless hours behind books here.

With days full of lectures focusing on issues like the Experiences of Ethiopian Olim, Women in Israel and the Diaspora, and Enhancing Jewish Unity, the conference covered a varied and wide spectrum of viewpoints. Having the ability to question those at the heart of the issues, is not often a luxury student journalists are afforded, but at this conference we were simply journalists, with all the freedom of approach and capability that title encompasses.

As a member of the Diaspora Jewish community with strong Zionist sentiments, and a former resident of the country, the experience I had last week in Israel left me with the very simple emotion of pride. At a time when both the American and Canadian embassies were warning tourists to avoid the "unstable" country because of yet another Iraqi-American showdown of wills, thousands of powerful Jews left the comforts of their homes, and descended on the hills of Jerusalem, on a selfless mission to discuss their collective fate.

This GA, more than anything else for me, proved that much of the cynicism one encounters regarding the hope for Israel is nothing more than rhetoric. When it came time for action, Jews came out in swarms from their dispersed pockets to help themselves and each other.

These delegates did not have to convene in Jerusalem to learn of the peace process, to discuss where fundraising efforts should be concentrated, and to discuss methods of bringing more youth to visit the land.

The fact that they came anyway seems to me a crystal communication of the commitment of a people whose bonds remain firm, despite the thousands of borders that separate them from each other.

If there was one central message gathered from the conference, it was that of the importance of active involvement in issues crucial to all Jews. Whether they were of Orthodox, Conservative or Reform affiliation, it seemed quite clear last week that the future of Israel was of paramount concern to all representatives of Diaspora Jewry.

Somehow, this tiny piece of land in the middle of a desert millions of miles away, became much more than a symbol of sovereignty these past 50 years. For the Jews at the GA, the land was a piece of evidence of the struggles, triumphs and challenges an evolving people shared.

As journalists whose minds were pumped with a wealth of information and perspectives, the group of university students I was a part of, more than probably, are sitting at their computers this day attempting to share their own experiences through the written word.

Writing for campus papers across North America and any other publication that will listen, the GA has certainly sparked a fire within us that will propel us to write on the issues of importance within Israel, and those of influence outside the state. I know for myself, the opportunity was not a wasted one, because I have never written so much about such a small period of time.

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Slick centre adds speed to Greyhounds' lineup

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — This weekend will mark a unique event in hockey history. Not quite as rare as an asteroid slamming into the earth or the Leafs winning an Eastern Division game, but pretty close anyway.

Consider this: how often do you get to see two young Jewish hockey players toiling in the country's top junior league, lock horns in a mano-a-mano confrontation?

It'll happen this weekend, when the Barrie Colts, with power forward Michael Henrich in the lineup, take to the ice against the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds, with the slick skating Cory Pecker centring the second line.

Henrich gained national attention last summer when TV commentators told a national audience on NHL draft day that the Thornhill teenager is considered a role model for other Jewish hockey players. Henrich was selected in the first round by the Edmonton Oilers.

Pecker is a lesser-known commodity, but that is likely to change. First, however, he must overcome last year's disappointing rookie season in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) caused by a severe illness that hospitalized him.

Things were bright for Pecker as he looked at his first year in the OHL. He had been drafted by the Greyhounds in the OHL's first round from Lac St. Louis Midgets AAA. A native of Dollard des Ormeaux in Montreal, Pecker had chosen to continue his hockey career in Ontario to be closer to his family, which was in the process of moving to Toronto.

He came out of Quebec with impressive credentials. He'd only been on skates for four years, putting on his first pair at age 12. Luckily for him, he was a natural. He scored 86 goals in his first year of competitive hockey as an atom.

Blessed with natural scoring talent, it was more of the same in peewee and bantam. By the time he was suiting up for Lac St. Louis, he knew he had a realistic chance of making it as a professional. In his one and only year as a midget, he scored 30 goals and added 40 assists.

Junior teams took notice, and he was drafted as an under-age player by the Greyhounds when he was only 15. Pecker was happy to move to the OHL, because "we figured it would be better for my development."

Before he moved to the Hounds, Pecker got a taste of international hockey played in a Mediterranean setting. He was asked to try out for the Canadian team heading for the Maccabiah Games in Israel. Although he was surprised to be asked – "I didn't think I had a chance, I was so young" – he impressed team management. Charles Henry, former GM of the Hull Olympiques, who put together the Maccabiah team, raved about Pecker's abilities.

In Israel, he skated on a line with former NHLer Brian Wilks and Jamin Kerner, who plays for Harvard. Ironically, his roommate in Metulla was Henrich, a natural fit since the two were the youngest players on the team.

Led by a handful of pros, junior A and college players, Canada steamrollered its opposition and won the gold medal easily. Pecker, who had attended Hebrew Foundation school in Montreal, loved the Maccabiah Games. "It was pretty good hockey, but the experience was unbelievable," he said.

Unfortunately, the rest of the year proved to be a major disappointment. About 20 games into his rookie junior season, Pecker was hospitalized with what doctors thought was appendicitis. He underwent emergency surgery and the appendix was removed, but he didn't get better. Doctors later realized he was suffering from Crohn's disease, which affects the intestinal tract. After a week in hospital, he was flown to Montreal in an air ambulance and he underwent more surgery during which doctors removed a small part of his intestine. He's now on a maintenance drug to keep the problem under control.

Pecker returned for the last 10 games of last season but the season was a write-off.

Over the summer he resolved to bounce back better than ever. He attended a number of hockey schools and he spent hours on the ice working on his skating.

Cory Pecker

So far this season, it's showed. During a recent televised game against Kitchener, Pecker blew by a Ranger defenceman who had a three-stride head start, took away an icing call and centered the puck to set up a goal. Skating speed, which was one of his weaknesses, has become a strong point.

In 26 games this year, the six-foot, 185-lb Pecker has 11 goals and 15 assists and he leads his team in plus/minus with +17.

Greyhound's head coach Dave Cameron calls Pecker "a gifted player. His offence and his ability to score goals come naturally to him. He's worked hard to improve his defensive responsibilities.

"Cory adds speed, he adds character to our team. He's a solid player who plays in all situations.

"I think Cory has a real future in hockey if he continues to work as hard as he has in the last few years," Cameron said.

Pecker is optimistic he'll be drafted by the NHL this summer. Preliminary Central Scouting evaluations have him ranked as a third rounder, but with continued strides, who knows, perhaps he'll join Henrich as a Jewish role model drafted in the first round by the NHL.

Sketch goes to Cooperstown

NEW YORK — A pencil sketch called *Yankee Stadium 1973* by former Torontonian Shirley Winthrope Rivo has been selected for the permanent collection of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Rivo, who studied at the University of Toronto before marrying and moving to the United States, drew the sketch during a double header she attended in July 1973.

Rivo's work is part of major corporate, museum and private collections. A reproduction of *Yankee Stadium 1973* is in view at Mickey Mantle's Restaurant in New York as well as in Yankee Stadium's administrative offices.

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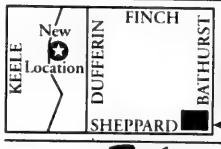

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The Inside Back

The whims of justice

By JONATHAN SHIFF

Some people are of the opinion that a judge's job is to do justice, even if the law is bent in the process. Others argue that the judge is required to apply the law, regardless of the "justice" of the consequences. The following case illustrates the fact that in some instances, judges use the law as an empty vessel into which they pour contents which seem just to them.

The case, Kowarsky v. Kowarsky, was heard in the family court in Tel Aviv.

The facts involved a man who, after remarrying, gave his apartment to his daughter from his first marriage. Although the property was registered in his daughter's name, the man and his second wife continue to live in it rent-free. After his death, the widow remained in the apartment, and the daughter sued to have her evicted.

Although the widow owned an apartment in Haifa, which she rented out, she argued that she had a right to remain in the Tel Aviv dwelling, and that she needed the income from her apartment in order to live. The daughter argued that the apartment was hers, and that since the widow had an alternative, she did not have any right to stay in the apartment.

The judge surveyed the relevant statutes and case law. The laws regarding inheritance and personal status do grant a widow a limited right to continue living in the common dwelling, but do not grant her the unlimited right she was requesting. He therefore turned to a branch of law Israel inherited from the British, that of a licence to use property.

The law recognizes that the owner of a property may grant another the right to use the property without payment. In this case, the judge ruled that when the daughter received the apartment from her father, they agreed he could remain in the apartment for free for the rest of his life. The judge further inferred that the daughter also agreed the widow could remain in the apartment, and that this licence could not be canceled.

Clearly, this is a problematic ruling. First of all, the judge wrote that by her behavior, the daughter agreed to extend the licence to her father's widow, this despite the fact that the daughter sued to have the widow evicted – behavior which suggests she did not agree to such a licence.

Furthermore, despite the absence of a written agreement or statutory basis, the judge essentially stripped the daughter of all her rights for as long as her father's wife remains alive, to an apartment which is registered in her name.

From this case it is obvious that the legal construction of a "licence for use" can be a fairly empty term. In a 1969 case the Supreme Court ruled that "*a licence which is unlimited in time cannot be terminated by the grantor when justice requires its existence*" (emphasis added). In other words, the court can decide that a licence was given, and that justice requires it not be ended.

Nowhere is this "justice" defined, and while there are definitely cases where injustices are obvious, each judge is left to decide what justice is, and how it is to be applied. There is something very problematic in leaving one's property rights dependent on the vagaries and whims of an undefined sense of justice.

Certainly, one can debate whether justice required that the widow in this case remain in the apartment. On the one hand, it seems the judge did not want to deprive the woman of her dwelling. On the other hand, one may ask why the obligation to support her (i.e. fully subsidize her rent) should fall entirely on her late husband's daughter, especially when the woman owned property herself.

One thing is definite: It is hard to shake the notion that the law essentially gives the judge the right to, as the old joke goes, shoot the arrow and then paint the target around it. The question is whether that is a good thing or not.

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POMEGRANATE-HONEY ROASTED CHICKEN

2 pomegranates (put pomegranate seeds in blender until liquified. Pour mixture through cheesecloth-lined sieve = 1 cup fresh pomegranate juice
1/2 cup plus 3 tblsp. honey
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1/4 tsp cayenne pepper
3 chickens, cut in 1/8ths
chopped, roasted pistachio nuts for garnish
1/2 tsp. ground coriander
1/2 tsp allspice
6 cloves garlic, smashed
salt, pepper to taste
pomegranate seeds for garnish

Mix pomegranate juice, 1/2 cup honey, coriander, cinnamon, allspice, cayenne pepper and garlic; pour over chicken pieces. Marinate, covered, overnight or at least 8 hrs. in the refrigerator. Drain chicken pieces, reserving marinade. Simmer marinade, covered, for 10 minutes; reserve. Season chicken with salt & pepper. Bake at 450°F, basting frequently with reserved marinade, about 25 minutes. Remove chicken from oven; let rest covered with a tea towel for 5 minutes. Brush each half with 1/2 tblsp honey. Garnish with pomegranate seeds and chopped pistachios.

About Life

Dear Ella,

I recently heard that one of my colleagues, Sandra, was looking for a new new job after 12 years of working in our office. I know this because my husband is friends with the person she applied to.

When I found out, I was so angry Sandra would do this without telling me, as we have become close over the years and our positions are directly intertwined. With her leaving it would add a ton of work to my job.

I was so upset, I confided the whole situation to another colleague, Andrea, who promised me she wouldn't tell anyone if I told her this plan of Sandra's.

Not only did Andrea tell one person, she told a few people, and it got back to Sandra, who figured out where the rumor began. Needless to say she was furious as she was questioned by our boss.

I am so hurt with Andrea I am beside myself. I can't even look her in the face. How am I going to be able to go to work now and have to face both Andrea and Sandra everyday?

Confidence Betrayed

Dear Confidence Betrayed,

Rumors have been known to destroy lives and should not be taken lightly.

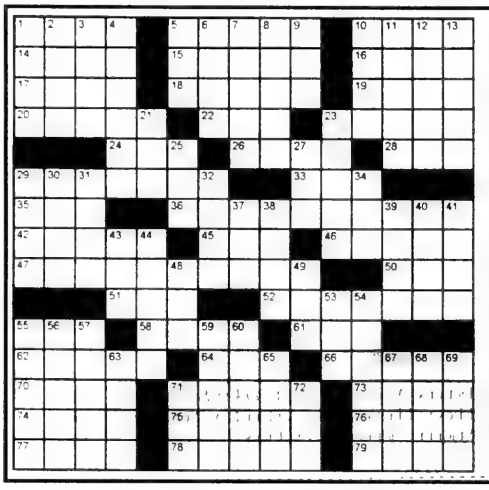
What you did is called "gossip." You heard something juicy about a so called friend and colleague and revealed what was obviously supposed to be a secret to other co-workers.

Unfortunately, there is not a lot you can do at this point. The damage is done and can't be taken back. You owe Sandra an apology and hope she doesn't lose her job. As far as Andrea goes, she did nothing that you didn't do and that is spread gossip.

Often the workplace may become a little boring, so adding a little spice to your day helps get you through it. Unfortunately, you didn't think this through to realize that it could snowball and hurt someone you've been friends with for 12 years, not to mention make you look rather petty.

As far as Andrea goes, unless you plan to leave your job, make peace. In the future think before you speak; you can save yourself and others a whole lot of heartache.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional*



The Canadian Jewish news CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Uzis
5. Rachel or Leah
10. Bezaleel specialty
14. Calendar guide
15. Dipping vegetable
16. Swimmer Spitz
17. Anne Frank's pop
18. Chuppah happening
19. 1,003
20. Use an Uzi
22. Issachar to Levi
23. Baseball MVP
24. Israeli shipping line
26. Athletic org.
28. Koch or Land
29. Storehouse city
33. Imitate the four sons?
35. Solomon's mine find
36. Samson's triumphant site
42. Levi's sister
45. That woman
46. Hatikvah poet
47. Writer
50. Travel club
51. Tried and true man
52. Protects
55. Fortas, casually
58. Send
61. Lamed (Eng.)
62. Masada activity
64. Neither's partner
66. Chanukah lamps
70. Heavenly circle
71. Bitter waters locale
73. Seymour
74. "Waterboy" Sandler
75. "__ Hall", Allen film
76. King of Judah
77. Biblical fishing tools
78. Tzedakah recipients
79. Myra, pianist

Down

1. Minor Prophet
2. Writer Philip
3. "Mr. __", Lorre film
4. Shluf (Eng.)
5. Movie house
6. Israeli neighbor
7. Purim state
8. The waters of __
9. Whichever
10. Stones for David
11. Hagba'ah
12. Attempted
13. Jacob's disguise
21. It is, to Bialik
23. Torah commentator
25. "Sea" to Chagall
27. Streimel
29. Staffs for Moses
30. Jan Peerce specialty
31. Deli fare fishing
32. Comic Mort
34. Alphabet run
37. Brooks
38. Gad's boy
39. Ambassador
40. Kop (Eng.)
41. Gershwin and Morris
43. Every
44. Edward Teller project
48. Arkia stat
49. K'Tonton
53. Florenz Zeigfeld's nickname
54. Passover guest?
55. Hid Jericho spoils
56. Circumcision tool
57. Israeli resort
59. Meshugge
60. "Bonanza" dad
63. Leah and Zilpah
65. Entebbe rescue
67. Jacob after the Angel
68. Seth's boy
69. Lions' lairs
71. Sixth day creation
72. Hebrew letter

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut. *(Last week's answers are on page 38.)*

Voices from the Heart

A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel

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Chanukah, 1948. The new nation of Israel was born to battle, fighting off enemy armies, struggling against scarcity and bravely building a country. Thousands of Canadians were among Israel's builders. They gave from the heart. Read their remarkable stories in ***Voices from the Heart: A Community Celebrates 50 Years of Israel,*** a treasured, limited edition collection of photos, memories and anecdotes, chronicling the connection of Canadians to their Jewish homeland.

Voices from the Heart is edited by Bonnie Goldstein and Jaclyn Shulman, published by McClelland and Stewart and sponsored by UJA Federation, Israel at 50 and the Hong Kong Bank of Canada. ♥

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This Week

National

"Rabbinical ruling" stirs up controversy with Lubavitchers. *Page 3*

JF&CS adopts suggestions to help Jewish homeless. *Page 6*

Former mayor Barbara Hall delivers Lenkinski lecture. *Page 7*

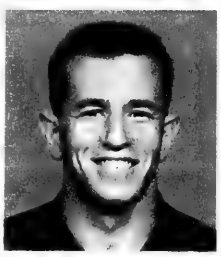
Arts

Many "Jewish" films are available at your local video store. *Page 28*

Health

Israel behind in treatment of stress disorder, expert says. *Page 34*

Sports



Jay Fiedler is happy as Minnesota Viking's backup QB. *Page 38*

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Havdalah: 5:33

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Elections likely in Israel

PROTECTING THE HEARTLAND
American Patriot missiles were positioned in central Israel near its large cities as a defence against possible attack by Iraqi Scud missiles. See story on page 21. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

CJN Wire Services

JERUSALEM — As *The CJN* went to press on Monday, the dissolution of the Knesset was virtually assured. Prior to the debate, the Likud caucus had decided to support the dissolution bill that was submitted by MKs Haim Ramon, Ra'anan Cohen (Labor) and Haim Oron (Meretz).

The vote on Monday culminated a period of severe political agitation in the wake of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's signing of the Wye accord two months ago. Last Friday, the prime minister decided to halt the implementation of the Wye agreement.

During its weekly session on Sunday, the Cabinet adopted his policy and voted to suspend the Wye agreement until it feels the Palestinian Authority has lived up to its part of the accord.

Reaffirming the stance adopted by Netanyahu earlier this month, the Cabinet called on the Palestinian Authority to take the following steps before Israel would move forward on implementation of the Wye accord:

• cancel plans to declare an independent state unilaterally next May 4;

Continued on page 22

Co-operative mine action launched

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Canada and Israel have launched a co-operative mine action project in Guatemala which will focus on community rehabilitation for mine victims, Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray announced last week.

The International Centre for the Advancement of Community Rehabilitation at Queen's University in Kingston, supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), will be the Canadian partner. The Development Study Centre of Rehovot, Israel, affiliated with MASHAV, the Centre for International Cooperation, a development agency of Israel's foreign ministry, has been selected as the Israeli partner.

Gray made the announcement at a Chanukah reception held by Israel's Ambassador to Canada, David Sultan and his wife Adina, on behalf of Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy, who had been scheduled to speak but had been detained due to the U.S. invasion of Iraq that day.

Canada's Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, left, and Israel's Ambassador to Canada David Sultan announce the joint Canada-Israel project for landmine victim rehabilitation in Guatemala.

Axworthy, who arrived before the reception ended, said the landmine action project "is a very symbolic way of celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary. I am glad we were able to work out a partnership, because it was all about saving lives, the best way of giving meaning to the values that the State of Israel was founded on. We are putting these values into practice in Guatemala."

Gray said that "the celebration is especially significant this year, as Israel continues to mark its 50th anniversary."

Continued on page 17

***The CJN* will not appear on Dec. 31.**
This is our last issue of 1998.
See you in the new year.

Dor

A happy, healthy, peaceful 1999 to one and all!

Chanukah 1998

Three Jewish youngsters among winners in annual song writing contest

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Three Jewish youngsters were among the winners of the twelfth annual Christmas Carol and Chanukah Song Writing Competition sponsored by the Amadeus Choir.

Cassandra Luftspring and Aaron Schwebel, both 10, won in the Child 14 and under, Chanukah, Unison, Accompanied category; while Laura Silberberg, 12, won in the category Child 14 and under, Chanukah, Harmony, Accompanied.

Their winning entries were performed by the Amadeus Choir at its Celebrate With Brass concert, held earlier this month at the George Weston Recital Hall of the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

Cassandra, a fifth grader at Bayview Fairways Public School, studies piano, composition and voice at the Yamaha Music School. She also takes jazz and tap, and has been involved in musical theatre. This summer, she received a scholarship to the National Music Camp, and performed at the Israel at 50 pavilion's Centre Spotlight Show at the CNE.

She wrote the text for the song *Celebration*.

Aaron has played violin since the age of seven, and now also studies voice. A Grade 5 student at Bialik Hebrew Day School, he performs in the A Cappella choir of the Toronto Children's Chorus. His winning entry, *Shir Shel Chanukah* (A Song for Chanukah), is his first composition.

Laura, who set the words of the traditional Chanukah prayer *Al Hanisim* (referred to as Ul Haneeseem in the program) to music, has won twice before. A Grade 7 student at the Claude Watson School for the Arts in North York, where she studies voice, violin and drums, she is active in competitive jazz, tap, and acrodance for the TNT Dance Studio.

Among her other achievements, she won the 1998 William R. Cockburn Memorial Scholarship for organ at the Kiwanis Music Festival, and was selected to perform in the Showcase of the Stars for the York Region Music Festival.

The Amadeus Choir, now in its 24th season, consists of 120 members, under the musical direction of Lydia Adams. It is the choir in residence of the George Weston Recital Hall, and has appeared with, among others, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Toronto Chamber Choir.

In an effort to encourage initiative and dedication by composers of different ages, the choir sponsors the annual Christmas Carol and Chanukah Song Writing Competition. It draws entries from composers around the world.

Edna and Saul Goldfarb and family members at dedication of menorah in Ottawa.

Chanukiyah dedicated at Ottawa's new JCC

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Hundreds of people gathered in the lobby of the new Soloway Jewish Community Centre for the lighting of the first Chanukah candle, following an afternoon of entertainment, children's activities and refreshments.

This was not just the first time a chanukiyah was lit in the new facility. It was also the dedication of a chanukiyah, which is, itself, historically significant.

Sabrina Goldfarb told the story of how her grandparents Saul and Edna Goldfarb had discovered the magnificent, 6-foot-high sterling silver chanukiyah on a visit to Jerusalem in 1972.

Hand-crafted from over 80 pounds of sterling silver and decorated with Eilat stone, this magnificent artifact had a fascinating history of its own.

It was the chanukiyah used to celebrate the first Chanukah at the Western Wall following Jerusalem's reunification in 1967.

The Goldfarbs purchased it with the intention of donating it to the Ottawa Jewish community, but it was too large to fit in the former JCC, and they have kept it in their own home for the past 26 years.

Finally, this year the Chanukiyah has found an appropriate home.

"Now my sister, brother, cousins and everyone can see it all the time," Sabrina Goldfarb said.

JCC president Jeff Gould told the audience that "this menorah was given as an act of community spirit and a symbol of the type of community spirit we hope it will engender in years to come."

As he lit the first candle, Saul Goldfarb, who was an opera singer, sang the brachot in his deep melodious voice. The audience joined him in singing *Ma'oz Tsur* and other Chanukah songs.

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Schneerson as Messiah controversy resurfaces

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A 5-year old controversy has again sprung up, after the publication of an ad in various newspapers, including the *Jewish Tribune*, affirming as a "rabbinical ruling" that Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the previous Lubavitcher Rebbe, is the Messiah.

While a belief in the coming of the Messiah is an integral tenet of Jewish faith, a small group of Lubavitch chassidim say that He has already come, in the person of Rabbi Schneerson.

Rabbi Schneerson died in June, 1993, after 44 years at the helm of the Lubavitch movement.

The men and women who acknowledge the Rebbe as *Melech HaMoshiach* (King Messiah), base their belief on Rabbi Schneerson's own writings, the fact that he made many accurate prophecies (such as that Israel would not be harmed during the Gulf War), and that, according to them, he encouraged the singing of *Yehi HaMelech*, a song taken by them as recognizing him as the Messiah.

The group is not hesitant about publicizing their views through such means as newspaper ads, lectures, flags, signs, and publications.

Rabbi Yosaif Yarmush, Toronto director of Tzivos Hashem, the Lubavitch youth movement, is a signator of the most recent newspaper ad, which decrees that "the Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach has the halachic status of a prophet, and it is explicit in his holy *sichos* [writings] that he alludes to his being a prophet (and it is understood from his *sichos* that he is Melech HaMoshiach...) and he already predicted, before all Jews and before the entire world, things that have come to pass in their entirety...Therefore we are obligated to listen to everything we are told [by the Rebbe] as an obligation to listen to a prophet, including the fact that the Rebbe is Melech HaMoshiach and will immediately be revealed to us."

Other signatories are Rabbis Yitzchok HaCohen Hendel of Montreal, Menachem Mendel Matusof of Calgary, Yosef Yitzchok Zaltzman, rabbi of the Jewish Russian Community Centre of Toronto, and others from Israel, South America, the former Soviet Union, United States, Austria, Germany, Italy and Australia.

Rabbi Yarmush explained to *The CJN* that a fundamental philosophy in Jewish theology is that there is a person in every generation who could be the Messiah, if God wills that it be so. However, "if we do more mitzvot, we can hasten His coming," or, in the case of Rabbi Schneerson, hasten his universal revelation as being the Messiah.

The acceptance of Rabbi Schneerson as the Messiah is a highly controversial view in the Lubavitch community, and indeed is rejected by the majority. An ad in *The CJN* on Sept. 19, 1996, signed by the majority of the prominent Lubavitch rabbis in Toronto and Hamilton, objecting to an ad proclaiming Rabbi Schneerson as the Messiah which appeared in the *Toronto Star* the previous week, asserted that it is not endorsed by the Agudas Chassidei Chabad International, the Central Committee of Chabad Lubavitch Rabbis of United States and Canada, or the Chabad Lubavitch Institutions of Southern Ontario. In fact, the ad says, the notion is "a distortion of and contrary to the teachings, aspirations and lifelong endeavors of the Lubavitcher Rebbe OBM."

A statement earlier this year by the Central Committee of Chabad-Lubavitch Rabbis in the United States and Canada, the organizing board of the central rabbinic organization of Chabad-Lubavitch, is even stronger.

It asserts that "the preoccupation with identifying the Rebbe as Moshiach is clearly contrary to the Rebbe's wishes;" that "the deification of any human being is contrary to the core and foundation of the Jewish faith;" that "the various talmudic, midrashic and other sources which ...ascribe superhuman spiritual attributes to certain righteous people were never meant to be deification and great care must be taken when quoting them;" that "conjecture as to the possible identity of Moshiach is not part of the basic tenet of Judaism."

Asked to comment on the traditional Jewish view on the subject, Rabbi Baruch Taub, spiritual leader of Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill, said: "While we daily affirm our belief in the imminent arrival of the Messiah, we discourage excessive messianic speculation.

"Mainstream rabbinic opinion rejects the notion of a resurrected messiah. Although there are minority texts which could be so interpreted, even those texts do not speak of a messianic career interrupted by death."

Rabbi Moshe Stern, president of the Vaad Harabonim of Greater Toronto, said that Rabbi Schneerson "was without question one of the outstanding 20th-century Jewish leaders. He helped re-establish the vibrancy of Jewish life after the Holocaust, and bring closer Jews who were far removed from their heritage.

"The various ads claiming the Rebbe to be 'Moshiach' brings dishonor to his memory. A man of his stature deserves to be remembered by all Jews everywhere for the unconditional love he displayed towards all."

Rabbi Martin Berman, a member of the executive of the Toronto Board of Rabbis, called it "inappropriate for a highly controversial *psak din* [rabbinic ruling] to be recorded in a newspaper ad as if it were accepted by a majority of the Jewish people."

CHANUKAH WONDERLAND THRILLS ALL

"Judah Maccabee," dressed in traditional garb, entertained over 3,000 people who jammed Thornhill Square for Chanukah Wonderland, sponsored by Chabad Lubavitch of Markham. The day-long fair featured hands-on activities,, songs, food and fun for all ages.

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Since there may be disruptions even after January 18, we recommend that you call the Consulate: (416) 961-1126 before coming to our offices.

From the editor's desk

(Last month I attended the 67th General Assembly (GA) of the UJA Federations of North America. For the first time ever, it was held in Jerusalem. In the past weeks, I have used this space to reflect on some of my experiences there)

***

Understanding it better

On the eve of the GA, Dov Lautman, the Israel chair of the GA, gave an interview to *Ha'aretz*, Israel's leading daily newspaper. The very next day, the first full day of the GA, the day we arrived in Israel, the main headline in the English-language edition of *Ha'aretz* was "Israeli UJA chief tells U.S. Jews: 'Keep your money at home.'"

The headline was as incongruous as it was shocking. At the largest annual gathering of UJA workers, professionals and volunteers from North America, the chief Israeli GA "pointman" was telling them, in effect, Israel can get by without their efforts!

Despite his business acumen and his entrepreneurial success, Lautman totally misconceived the incomparable uniqueness of the UJA's Israel mandate. He totally failed to grasp what lies at the very heart of making a donation to UJA. He simply did not understand that the macro-statistics of Diaspora-Israel philanthropy are really about the countless, micro-connections between individual human beings.

When one follows the trail of the UJA gift through its bureaucratic echelons, the large "categories" – Israel, Diaspora, regions, communities, projects – eventually all fall away, subdividing into smaller and smaller units until what remains are the irreducible, needy, single, human beings in Israel whose lives are made better, perhaps healthier, happier, by the poignant generosity of single human beings in other parts of the Jewish world, Canada, for example.

Every UJA Federation in North America is an instrument for the poignant generosity of single human beings.

In Israel, I joined a group of GA delegates from Toronto to see some of the specific micro-results of our UJA Federation's donations.

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תוכנית התחדשות השכונות מטרונטו קנדה
BEIT DAGAN COMMUNITY CENTRE
PROJECT RENEWAL TORONTO CANADA

Over the years, the UJA Federation of Toronto has been involved in a number of "projects" in a number of "communities." Our group visited two communities: Kfar Gvirol and Eilat.

Kfar Gvirol is a large neighborhood, a suburb of sorts, just southwest of Rehovot. It was founded in 1948 by immigrants from Yemen and Iraq. They were joined by immigrants from Morocco.

Kfar Gvirol was always poor and always deprived. It soon developed a "reputation" and with it, the stigma that robs residents of the possibility of self-improvement.

In 1983, the Jews of Toronto became involved with the Jews of Kfar Gvirol. A state-of-the-art day-care centre eventually was built. That was followed by Toronto Jewish Community Campus in Kfar Gvirol comprising both a community centre and an elementary school.

Today, some 900 families live there, and in the words of Gabi Golan, chair of the neighborhood committee, Kfar Gvirol "has succeeded in completely changing its image, and instead of being a place from which everyone tried to escape, it became one of the most attractive neighborhoods in the area due to its educational buildings, community services and mainly, the quality of life the neighborhood could offer its residents."

Eilat is Israel's southernmost city. Far-removed from Israel's centre, it is isolated by distance and geography from the rest of the country.

For many years, Eilat's location was its disadvantage, attracting few new residents, and keeping even fewer. Its people were poor. Parents could only dream of their children choosing to remain through adulthood in their city.

Today, some 33,000 people live in Eilat. Ten years ago, there were approximately 21,000. The city is growing.

Helping the city grow and develop and helping those many parents live to see their dreams come true are the Jews of Toronto, whose donations to the UJA have helped to make Eilat a more attractive, more successful, more viable place to live. The Jews of Toronto have actually built a library and two special learning kindergartens in Eilat.

Seeing the human beings and not merely the slogans, I understood better what UJA actually means "on the ground." If only Lautman understood it better, too.

TORONTO JEWISH COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Some of the "projects" – the Beit Dagan Community Centre and the Toronto Jewish Community Campus in Kfar Gvirol, and some of the beneficiaries – the little children – of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

Greater Toronto Area

Whitby business vandalized

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

WHITBY — A Jewish merchant here was shocked to find a swastika and other graffiti scrawled on his business last week.

Mark Lichtental, owner of Baby Shack, which sells furniture for babies and toddlers, discovered the daubings when he opened his Brock St. shop last Wednesday morning.

"I was really upset and emotional," a visibly shaken Lichtental, 49, told *The CJN*. "I'm an ordinary Canadian. I deal with pregnant women."

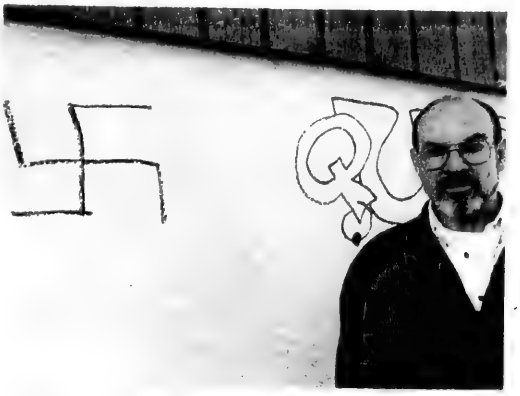
The graffiti were sprayed with black paint on the rear of the shop. The markings included a cross with a satanic message, the stylized word "Quads," and a swastika.

"Where does someone get these ideas?" Lichtental wondered.

No other merchants on the shop-filled street in Whitby, about 40 minutes east of Toronto, were hit.

Lichtental, who has run the shop with his wife Beth for 15 years, wonders why he was singled out.

"We don't hide [the fact] that we're Jewish. But we don't advertise it either."



Whitby merchant Mark Lichtental stands before his vandalized store.

Lichtental said that a few years ago, he was involved in a dispute with a neighboring business over a laneway. He said staff at the other shop would often hurl anti-Semitic insults and taunts his way.

Last year, two members of a neo-Nazi group were convicted for passing out hate-filled literature in the area.

Lichtental was born in Poland after World War II and was brought to Israel as an infant. He said this incident is especially painful for him because his father was a Holocaust survivor, while his late mother's Catholic family helped hide Jews during the war. Yad Vashem has recognized his mother as a Righteous Gentile.

Durham Region police are investigating the incident.

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Perl's Meats fined $10,000

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Perl's Meat Products Ltd. pleaded guilty in Provincial Court in Toronto earlier this month to two counts of violating the Food and Drugs Act by adding sulphurous acid to meat labelled as "Ground Beef Extra Lean."

The company was fined $10,000 and given 90 days to pay.

Sulphurous acid, a mixture of sulphur dioxide and water, keeps the product looking red and appealingly fresh.

Herman Perl, owner of Perl's, told *The CJN* that an employee, who has since been fired, added the chemical to a small amount of meat at the beginning of the summer without his knowledge or approval.

He said that he pleaded guilty because, as the business owner, he had ultimate responsibility. Explaining that the sulphurous acid was used to clean tables, he said that there is no longer any on the premises, so the offence cannot be repeated.

Recent laboratory reports have shown Perl's meat to be completely free of the substance, Perl said.

Joe Di Lecce, an inspector and spokesperson for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, said that the sulphurous acid was found during one of the regular inspections of the establishment. "We test all places that sell meat for things like sulphurous acid, as well as, for example, making sure that the fat content agrees with what is on the label, and that packages contain only the kind of meat that they are supposed to."

Di Lecce explained that sulphurous acid is an allergen, and people who are particularly sensitive to sulphites, or allergic to them, can become ill, even with very low levels. There can be such serious results as anaphylactic shock or the blocking of the airway for those with asthma.

This is the first time Perl's has been found to have used the chemical, Di Lecci said.

Rabbi Mordechai Levin, executive director of the Kashruth Council of Toronto, said that the sulphurous acid would not affect the kashrut of the meat.

CHANUKAH PHONE CALL

Reina and Alfred Hen received a surprise Chanukah telephone call from relatives in Amsterdam. The couple, married for 56 years, live at the Baycrest Jewish Home for the Aged. The calls were sponsored by B'nai Brith's Wilson Heights Lodge.

NCSY

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"Perspectives on Jewish Diversity"
Public Cordially Invited

JF&CS adopts suggestions to help Jewish homeless

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) has taken more concrete and immediate steps toward dealing with homeless Jews.

Following a meeting last week, the agency's newly struck homeless task force made four specific recommendations:

- sensitizing the agency's intake and after-hours emergency staff to the homeless problem, and providing them with a list of available resources;
- establishing accounts with budget hotels for emergency placements. (this was scheduled to be accomplished by last Friday);
- Continuing to work toward establishing a coordinated information network on services available in the community;
- and contacting rabbis to make them aware of JF&CS's services for the Jewish homeless.

As well, the agency has hired a worker to assemble all relevant information on resources for the homeless in and around Toronto, a task expected to take about a week.

JF&CS has also adopted most of the recommendations made by freelance social worker Lillian Freedman, who spent October and November on the streets of Toronto searching for homeless Jews as a pilot project.

JF&CS paid Freedman $2,500 for her efforts. She had the agency's authority – and a continuous float of $200 – to locate homeless Jews. She found five on the streets. Three of those were found permanent accommodations, but one of them, a woman in her 50s, returned to the streets.

A 66-year-old Russian- and Yiddish-speaking woman, described as emotionally unstable, still lives in a park in the Bathurst-Antibes area.

Freedman says she incurred large personal expenses on her mission, for which she was not reimbursed. She says her cell phone bill is approaching $1,600. "Had I been aware of the constant flood of calls, day and night, from these five people, their relatives and interested citizens, and the strong response that would come from the community, I would have asked for a separate cell phone for two months, and not used my own," Freedman writes in her report to the task force.

In any event, JF&CS, in its report, says that in the past six months, it has helped 27 Jewish homeless who have been living in shelters, cars, and with friends "but had no independent accommodations."

These 27 were accommodated "in appropriate housing." As well, 10 different clients were moved into subsidized housing. Eight other clients were given emergency funds to avoid eviction.

The total cost was about $20,000, paid from JF&CS's Financial Assistance Program, which tops up welfare payments, and its Rent Advance Fund, which pays first and last months' rents on apartments. Some of that money was repaid over time by deductions from the client's ongoing financial assistance from the agency.

The JF&CS task force declined two of Freedman's recommendations: setting up a crisis hot line, and developing a team of volunteers who would go downtown to search for homeless Jews.

JF&CS director Gordon Wolfe told *The CJN* that dispatching volunteers to go looking for Jewish homeless poses legal risks for the agency. And the number of homeless Jews located so far by Freedman does not justify a telephone hot line, he added.

Besides, he said, homeless Jews tend not to fit stereotypes about the homeless generally.

"They're not wandering the streets of downtown Toronto. They're people who have been evicted or are threatened with eviction, or they're staying with friends temporarily. They have no housing, but they're not necessarily out on the streets."

When all this started in the fall, there was friction between Freedman, who envisioned a whole new, crisis-oriented approach to the problem, and JF&CS, which believed that the needs of the Jewish homeless could be folded into existing services.

Freedman described current efforts as "very good. Consciousness has been raised about what it's like to live on the streets."

The homeless task force meets again in mid-February.

CD-ROM celebrates Israel's 50th

TORONTO — State of Israel Bonds has released a CD-ROM as a conclusion to its Israel's 50th anniversary celebrations.

The Israel at 50 Special Edition CD-ROM was the product of an eight-month development project, and was produced with the cooperation of Toronto's Israel at Fifty consortium.

"This is undoubtedly one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken by our organization," said Lawrence Waller, executive vice-president of Israel Bonds. "We are very excited to embrace this new technology as a means of reaching a new audience."

The CD-ROM has four major components: There are multi-media presentations on various aspects of Israel's history and culture; an Israel Bonds Daily Journal, which allows users to find facts from Israel's history that correspond to a particular date; a screen saver that provides Hebrew-English translations and facts about other communal organizations; and interactive games with an opportunity to win a trip for two to Israel. The CD also features remarks by Jehudi Kinar, Israel's consul-general in Toronto.

The CD-ROM is being mailed to over 15,000 individuals across Canada. In addition, it will be provided to over 3,000 Jewish day school students in the Toronto area.

Instrumental in developing the CD-ROM was Ron Bernbaum, an active Israel Bonds volunteer.

"The CD-ROM would have remained nothing more than another good idea if it weren't for Ron's vision, expertise and commitment," said David Brown, chair of the Ontario region for Israel Bonds. "As a result of his tireless efforts, Israel Bonds is one of the first communal organizations in Canada to have a CD-ROM to its credit."

A recent preview of the CD-ROM for Toronto area Jewish day school educators brought rave reviews. More than one of those present noted that it was exactly the kind of technology-based Israel related resource that schools needed.

The CD-ROM was created in the studios of New Media Architects, a Toronto based multi-media and software development firm.

Greater Toronto Area

Former mayor Hall delivers Lenkinski lecture

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Human rights contribute as much to healthy communities as schools, roads and fire departments, former Toronto mayor Barbara Hall said recently.

That is why they must be cherished and supported by local governments if they are to be real rights for real people, she said in presenting the third annual Louis Lenkinski Memorial Lecture on Human Rights in the Lipa Green building.

Now chair of National Strategy on Community Safety and Crime Prevention, Hall said she sees the same issues emerging on the local scene – the perils of homelessness, abuse of women and exploitation of immigrant labor, among others.

On all these fronts, she paid tribute to Louis Lenkinski, the trade union leader whose wife, Helen, and son Lionel, were in the audience.

Human rights abuses in Kosovo, Indonesia and China should not be used as an excuse "to evade the much more troubling issues taking place here in our own backyards," Hall said.

As a former member of city council, she spoke of her own attempts to build a healthy city, and referred with approval to the Mayor's Committee on Community and Race Relations.

"Its work helps to ensure that citizens, irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability or ethnic origin, can participate fully in the life of the city. Just one example of the committee's advocacy is a recently initiated complaint against Ernst Zundel for spreading hate on the internet."

Hall said she agreed with urban planner Jane Jacobs that cities have an obligation to make streets and neighborhoods safe for people who have different lifestyles, but want to live next door to each other in an urban setting.

In introducing Hall, lecture chair Rabbi Jordan Pearlson said Lenkinski and others like Hall were instrumental in transforming Toronto from "one of the most bigoted cities" in the world into "the realm of one of the most peaceful, productive and sensitive multicultural communities in the world."

Rabbi Pearlson said Hall helped to make Toronto City Hall a place "where human rights and individual rights were respected and not confronted."

The meeting was sponsored by Congress on the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteering for the Jewish Hospice Program provides opportunities to improve the quality of life of persons with a terminal diagnosis. Volunteers are needed for two-hours weekly commitment (daytime, evening or weekend) and are matched to clients according to needs of the client and the interests of the volunteer. Additional languages such as Yiddish, Hebrew or Russian are welcome. Call Susan Samila 635-2860, ext. 461.

***

Jewish Family and Child Service needs volunteers with cars to drive children in foster homes to appointments with doctors and social workers, and visits with their parents. Drivers are compensated for mileage.

Trips vary in length and duration and round trips take between one and three hours. Time commitment can be as little as one half-day a week. Call Barbara Barak, coordinator of Volunteer Services, 638-7800, ext.266.

***

The Breakfast Club, a project of National Council of Jewish Women-Toronto Section in association with Circle of Care, provides a hot breakfast and a healthy start to children living at 262 Ridley Blvd. Volunteers are needed to help with meal preparation and other duties. If you are an early riser and interested in helping out, call Arnold Foss at 635-2860.

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A closing inventory

This is the last issue of *The CJN* in 1998. It may be appropriate, therefore, to "take inventory" of some of the main news stories that comprise the multi-mirrored corridor through which this calendar year, reflecting the evolution of our civilization to date, is now passing in the annual transformation of one year into the next. The list is not comprehensive. There could have been many more entries. They derive from the past weekend's perusal of the newspapers. But lest anyone confuse our purpose, we do not wish to dishearten. Rather we wish to inspire. It is to recommit to our values, to refocus on our responsibilities and to rededicate our efforts for the coming year that we record this list.

In Canada

• Quebec. The government of Quebec is still, officially, bent on separating Quebec from Canada, although the majority of the people of Quebec, officially, do not want to be taken out of Canada. In his ongoing effort to reduce that majority, Quebec's Premier Lucien Bouchard told visiting French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin that one of Canada's ambitions "over the last 30 years [has been] to drown Quebec's identity..." In light of the fact that Canada's prime minister himself and more than a third of the federal cabinet are Quebecers, the premier's statement never reaches higher than mere pettiness.

• Poverty. A public discussion has begun to try to redefine the poverty line. The debate encompasses two possible methods for determining poverty: the low income cutoff (LICO) method or the market basket measure (MBM) method. Using the former method, some 17 percent of Canadians are said to be living in poverty; using the latter method, the number falls to 12 percent. The MBM method is undoubtedly good news for those five percent of Canadians who, by the switch of a definition, will no longer be "poor."

In Israel

• The Peace process. Wherefore Wye? That is now the question Israelis and Palestinians are asking each other. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced last week he would not proceed with the next troop redeployment scheduled for last Friday, as agreed under the Wye accords. He would only redeploy after the Palestinians had honored their agreed-to commitments, such as to confiscate illegal weapons, stop anti-Israel incitement, curb violence, reduce the size of the Palestinian police force and renounce any intention to unilaterally declare a Palestinian state. Polls have consistently shown that the majority of both Israelis and Palestinians want the peace process to advance, but their leaders seem somehow incapable of doing this.

• Political uncertainty. As of this writing, the outcome of Monday's vote of no-confidence is not known. Pollsters, pundits and political experts in Israel of every stripe have already decided that the government of Benjamin Netanyahu will assuredly fall and that elections will be held by April 1999. As history has taught us, the holding of elections in April is no guarantee that there will be a new government even by June. What will be the effect on the peace process, the economy and the social fabric of the country of so prolonged a period of political uncertainty?

Further abroad

• In the United States, partisanship has gone berserk. The impeachment of President Bill Clinton has reduced the American political system to a level of derision, mockery and ridicule unprecedented in modern times. Civility was defeated by partisanship.

• In the former Soviet Union, the jingoistic, nationalistic communist/fascists are going berserk. They are bringing out of its temporary cold storage, that old, reliable footstool, anti-Semitism on which to stand and from which which to spout their reinvigorated hatreds.

Happy new year.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"And Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?'" *Parshat Vayigash*

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Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Jack Kahn, Zac Kaye, Igor Korenzvit, Guidy Mamann, Lou Ronson, Pamela Medjuck Stein, Joseph Steiner

Objects to using Holocaust as a metaphor

Re: The Washington conference on Holocaust assets. (*CJN*, Dec. 3)

I find it unusual and disturbing that we get this report post facto, that we, the survivors had no input.

It appears that millions will be collected for distribution among the still living Holocaust survivors. The article makes it clear that the money will be held in escrow and it will take at least a year before they will decide who will get it. The fact that many of these survivors may not live that long, that at present they may need badly those few dollars for food and medication does not seem to bother anyone. It is indeed ironic that very strong presentations were made to Germany and the Swiss Banks on behalf of Holocaust survivors, who in turn, are lost in the shuffle. I believe that if funds are collected in the name and on behalf of Holocaust survivors, it is their money and it should not be used for educational or other purposes.

We the survivors, and not you, were in those camps and forests. We lost our loved ones, we suffered and suffer daily from the effects and memories of those years. So, by what right did you decide that it is "inappropriate to end the 20th century arguing over how to divvy up the assets." Are these your assets? Your pension fund or some other investment? No, by your own admission, these sums were, are, and will be collected for the Holocaust survivors, period, without any right of selection as to who does, and who does not get it. All Holocaust survivors deserve their share equally.

Dr. Irving Abella stated in the article that it was decided at the London conference that "it would be inappropriate to end the 20th century arguing over how to divvy up assets." And he further stated: "So (in Washington), we'll be stressing Holocaust education using the Holocaust as a metaphor."

Here are two issues: Who authorized any of these members to decide that it is "inappropriate" to argue about the assets? If so, why did they go on the warpath to get the money?

The second, most painful issue is the use of the world "metaphor."

Who are the educators or other authorities who demoted the Holocaust to a metaphor? Six million martyrs became a metaphor? The survivors of KZs, Auschwitz, Belsen, and some of the rarely mentioned KZ Lagers like Ebensee, Mauthausen, Gusen, Gross Rosen, Flossenburg and Natzweiler are "metaphors?" Did we become a figure of speech by the grace of a committee? What exactly did Abella and his colleagues mean by "using the Holocaust as a metaphor?"

From the scholar who co-authored *None is Too Many*, using the Holocaust as a metaphor is a frightening change. It indicates the trivialization of the Holocaust. I have this strange feeling that we, the handful of survivors, are given a lot of lip service but in reality we are regarded as an unwanted minority, holding up progress and interfering with business. Otherwise a hand-picked, highly qualified interdisciplinary team would not have labeled the martyrdom of six million Jews, and the physical and psychological suffering of the survivors as metaphorical.

D.M. Schonberger
Toronto

No de-emphasis of supplementary education intended

Your article entitled "Rabbi Questions the Value of Supplementary Hebrew School" (*CJN*, Nov. 19) reports on a panel discussion which I moderated at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. The occasion was the launch of the book, *Creating the Jewish Future* edited by Michael Brown and Bernard Lightman, a book which originated in a conference by the same name held two years ago at the York University Centre for Jewish Studies.

I see no basis for the claim made in the article and in the headline that Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl said that supplementary school education should be de-emphasized. Like the other panel members, he said clearly that many different educational, social and religious approaches will be necessary if we wish to create a vibrant Jewish future.

Martin Lockshin
Associate Director
Centre for Jewish Studies

Objects to tone of story about her award

I would like to correct some misinformation that your newspaper published about my "Concert Artist Award" win from the American Harp Society. (*CJN*, Aug. 13)

The tone of the article as it is written, portrayed me as cavalier and rebellious, critical with regard to the classical world, classical harpists, the American Harp Society (AHS) and its members.

The American Harp Society is comprised of many types of people. In addition to classical harpists, members of the AHS include: jazz, pop, and folk harpists, non-professional harpists, professional harpists, students, and even non-harpists. For the record, the audience on the day of my audition was comprised of a mixture of these types of people, not just classical harpists as the article implies.

Although I feel that I would like to break new ground in my approach to playing the harp, I certainly do not feel the need to put other people down, especially classical harpists, a group that I am part of and admire.

Joanna Jordan
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

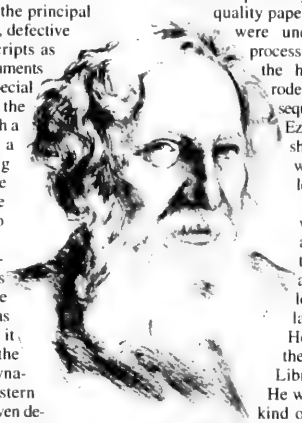
Perspectives

Hidden Treasures: 100 years mining Cairo Genizah

By VICTOR BOCHMAN

The high reverence for God's name, which is a characteristic of Judaism, is one of the main reasons explaining Jewish esteem for the written word. It was unthinkable for Jews to destroy a Jewish manuscript since in each manuscript God's name would have been written many times.

But what should be done with unnecessary or damaged documents, books and scrolls, as well as with texts declared by the rabbis as pernicious or contradictory to the dogmas of Judaism? Such materials were often buried in cemeteries, and some Jewish communities have maintained this custom to this day. However, the principal way to keep unwanted, defective or "heretical" manuscripts as well as out-of-date documents was to place them in special chambers or niches in the synagogue's attics. Such a chamber was called a genizah (literally: hiding place), derived from the Hebrew root *gnz* – hence the word *lignoz* – to conceal).



Solomon Schechter

Every ancient or medieval synagogue had its own genizah. As the genizah filled up, it was sealed forever, or so it would seem. But in the 19th century, some synagogues in Middle Eastern cities were repaired or even destroyed, which provided an opportunity for opening the genizahs, thus allowing the materials to pass into the hands of collectors and scholars. It appeared that many unique texts of various contents had been kept – ancient and medieval Hebrew theological and scientific treaties, literary works, and a mass of other interesting documents.

The largest genizah so far discovered is that of the Ezra Synagogue in Cairo, commonly named the Cairo Genizah, which was discovered just over 100 years ago, in 1896. The importance of this discovery can be likened to that of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947, since the significance of genizah material for medieval Jewish history may be compared with that of the Scrolls for the history of early Christianity.

The immense amount of Cairo Genizah materials and the extreme variety of the contents are easily explained. For many centuries, Cairo played an important role as one of the most prominent Middle Eastern economic, political and cultural centres; the Cairo Jewish community consequently held a leading position among other Jewish communities, not only in Egypt, itself one of the oldest lands of the Jewish Diaspora, but in the Middle East in general.

Soon after the Arab conquest of Egypt, in the late seventh century, the newly built city of Fostat became the administrative centre of Egypt and remained so until the adjacent city of Cairo was built in the 10th century. In 882, Jews of Fostat bought a destroyed building, formerly the Coptic church of St. Michael, repaired it and reopened it as a synagogue, which they called the Ezra Synagogue.

For many centuries, the genizah of the Ezra Synagogue slowly filled up with material. About 1,000 years later, information concerning the genizah began to reach Europe. Early evidence attesting to its existence, such as that of the 18th century poet Simon von Heldern, did not attract the attention of scholars at that time.

Thus, practically speaking, two collectors – Jacob Saphir (1832-1886) and Abraham Firkovich (1787-1874) – may be considered the discoverers of the genizah. Both of them visited it as early as 1864, but were not able to estimate its importance. Saphir, a bookseller, was interested in manuscripts in good condition, which could be profitably sold. But the genizah comprised mostly fragments, and in the prevailing conditions, even high-quality paper or parchment leaves were undergoing a constant process of decay as a result of the humidity, mud, dust, rodents and insects… Consequently, Saphir was in the Ezra Synagogue for a very short time and took away with him only a few leaves.

Abraham Firkovich was a Russian Karaite, already well known by that time among scholars as a traveller and collector, who had sold a large collection of Hebrew manuscripts to the Imperial Public Library in St. Petersburg. He was interested in every kind of material relating to Jewish history… whether it was a complete text or a fragment, well preserved or damaged. He had examined fragments at another Cairo Karaite synagogue, in May-June and in September 1864.

After he had finished his work there, he came to the Ezra Synagogue intending to study its genizah… He removed some materials from the Ezra Synagogue and took them with him to Russia. After his death, these fragments, together with manuscripts from the Karaite Genizah and others, were purchased by the Russian Imperial Public Library…

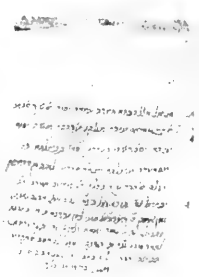
Additional materials from the genizah were received by European libraries and private collectors in the early 1890s. The repair of the Ezra Synagogue undertaken in 1890 by leaders of the Cairo Jewish community caused the occasional opening of the genizah, and in a short time a number of collectors appeared who took away some parts of its treasures…

But the main part of the Cairo Genizah materials are to be found in the Cambridge University Library, which has over 140,000 of the total 250,000 fragments. The library received such valuable materials by a stroke of luck.

In 1896, two English ladies, Agnes Smith Lewis and Margaret Dunlop Gibson, while travelling in Egypt, acquired some fragments from the Cairo Genizah. On returning to England in spring 1896, the ladies showed the fragments to Prof. Solomon Schechter of Cambridge University for identification. Schechter, who played a key role in the acquisition of the genizah materials as well as in genizah studies [was recognized as a linguist and] as an expert in Semitic studies.

May 13, 1896, the day when the two ladies showed Schechter their genizah fragments, became a noteworthy day in the history of Jewish studies. Among the fragments shown to Schechter was an ancient leaf that caused a real sensation. Schechter identified it as a fragment of the *The Book of Wisdom* ascribed to Ben Sira, a second-century BCE Jewish sage. *The Book of Wisdom* became a part of the Christian biblical canon when translated into Greek. But the Hebrew original text was considered lost, and many scholars even doubted its existence. Schechter's discovery immediately attracted the attention of his colleagues, and then other fragments were tracked down in the Bodleian Library, the British Museum and others. All the fragments found had a common source – the Cairo Genizah.

With the hope of locating additional parts of the original Ben Sira text, Schechter decided to journey to Cairo… In December 1896, Schechter left for Cairo. He carried with him letters of recommendation from the Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, Dr. Herman Adler, to the Chief Rabbi of Cairo, Aharon Ben Shimon, and from the vice-chancellor of Cambridge University to the president of the Cairo Jewish community, Joseph Kattawi, which were intended to procure access to the genizah.



A letter from Maimonides found in the Genizah.

The genizah itself was located in a narrow chamber without doors and windows, at the end of the synagogue gallery. The only way into it led through a large hole in the wall, and it was necessary to use a ladder in order to gain access. The chamber was full of fragments that emitted clouds of dust at every touch, and naturally, was totally in the dark. It was in such conditions that Schechter had to work.

However, due to his great erudition and enthusiasm, he was able to classify the contents of the fragments while still in Cairo. The leaders of the Jewish community agreed to hand the genizah materials over to the Cambridge University Library, and in spring 1896, Schechter brought back to Cambridge with him 104 boxes crammed with ancient manuscripts.

The main problem was to identify the [documents]. Even complete medieval manuscripts rarely contained a title-page; and much of the material was in the form of individual leaves or even fragments of a leaf. It was no great problem to identify biblical and talmudic fragments as well as parts of prayer books, but the genizah demonstrated great diversity of contents, and thus its study called for wide erudition. For instance, it was not enough to have knowledge of Hebrew to identify the fragments of Ben Sira's *Book of Wisdom*, since no Hebrew text of this work had been known before Schechter's discovery. Schechter compared the unknown Hebrew text with old Christian translations of the work in Greek, Latin and Syriac. In 1899, Schechter and Taylor published the entire text of the *Book of Wisdom*, piecing together all the fragments.

From the first appearance of the genizah materials in Europe, scholars began to pay serious attention to them.

First of all, the large numbers of medieval official and private documents (mostly from Middle Eastern Jewish communities) should be noted… Before the discovery of the Cairo Genizah, no library had possessed such documents. The discovery provided scholars with thousands of documents community minutes, rabbinical court records, title-deeds, leases and endowment documents, debt acknowledgments, marriage contracts (ketubot) and private letters. Most of the documents date to the 10th-13th centuries – a period poorly represented in Jewish narrative sources…

An important body of documents was found relating to the history of the Jews in Palestine at the time and their relations to the Crusaders. The genizah materials dramatically demonstrated the great role played by the Jews in the economic and cultural life of the medieval Middle East, and provided significant evidence of the prevailing good relations between Jews and Arabs…

The genizah documents give a detailed picture of the economic and cultural life of the Middle Eastern and Mediterranean region over many centuries. This aspect of genizah studies was one of the principal trends carried out over several decades by the prominent scholar Shlomo Dov Goitein (1900-1985)… His principal work, based on the genizah documents, was an immense monograph in five volumes, *The Mediterranean Society*, describing social, economic, political and cultural aspects of Mediterranean Jewish communities in the 10th-13th centuries.

In 1962, an American medievalist, Prof. Norman Golb, was studying an ancient letter preserved under glass at the Cambridge University. He was especially interested in some strange names among the signatures which were neither in Hebrew nor Arabic. The text itself was damaged by mud and humidity, and was difficult to read. However, an ultraviolet photograph of the letter enabled Golb to read the name of the place where the letter was written: Kiev, thus providing the oldest (10th century) evidence of the existence of a Jewish community in the Ukrainian city…

It should be emphasized that the genizah materials reflect aspects of Jewish life in many countries of the medieval world (especially in the Middle East) and that they are an irreplaceable source for knowledge of contemporary Jewish history and culture… The genizah materials are well-nigh inexhaustible, and there will be material for many generations of scholars to study in the future…

It must be remembered that the Cairo Genizah is not the only one. Valuable material is also preserved in the Karaite Genizah, mostly included in the Firkovich collection, and in some other genizahs. Moreover, new discoveries are also possible. The study of Middle Eastern genizahs by scholars of different countries will contribute to the further understanding of medieval Jewish culture.

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Opinions

Act in the face of this need

When my daughter worked in an office in the downtown east side of Vancouver, I often picked her up at the end of the day. More than once, I passed a young girl selling herself at a nearby corner. She was not more than 14, with clear skin, huge dark eyes and long black hair. In short, she looked like a normal teen, except that she was prostituting herself while her pimp, no doubt, lurked in a nearby shadow.

Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

I, broke my heart. I wanted to stop the car, gather her in and take her back to her family and people. On the other hand, what horrors was she escaping from? I did nothing.

Over the past few years since I last drove down that street, the downtown east side has become infamous for AIDS and deaths from overdoses, now nearing 400 a year. The community is ravaged by drugs, devastated by neglect, and overwhelmed by the magnitude of human misery on its streets.

Officials admit they have lost control, even though we have a needle exchange program. It is swamped by demand and unable to keep up, hence the growth of IV drug users with HIV. Since we have few detox centres, halfway houses, or maintenance programs, we flutter helplessly in the face of this human tragedy.

I cannot believe that other cities in Canada do not face the same kind of overwhelming despair on their streets. Maybe our milder climate is why many are here. But I know they are everywhere, these children of the night who sell themselves even at noon.

Several weeks ago the *New York Times* did a feature on the street kids of the Big Apple, and not surprisingly, most of them seem to come from New York itself and not from the heartland of the country. Again, drugs, prostitution and sickness are their lot. But the article held out hope offered by a few places, one of which I want to tell you about.

Kaplan House is a group home supported by the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, which in turn, is supported by the New York UIA-Federation. Kaplan House offers 25 young men counseling, tutoring and job training while they heal from the wounds of abusive homes and life on the streets. There are other such places, none able to cope with the estimated 20,000 street kids, but all making an effort. But it was Kaplan House that spoke to me, because it is supported by a Jewish Agency.

Needless to say, its clientele is, by and large, not Jewish.

So I began to think about our communities, so rich that they rival United Way in the amount raised for tzedakah at home and abroad. I thought about the millions recently pledged to send all Jewish teens to Israel in the next decade. About the thousands we spend on dinners honoring important donors. About the simchot we sponsor for our children, lucky to be born into homes where they are loved, nurtured, educated and protected from the mean streets of our own cities.

And I realized that although we say we should love our neighbour as ourselves, we don't act that way. Right now, the girl I saw years ago on the streets may be dead, lying in a drug-induced coma, or nursing wounds from her pimp or a bad trick. And I and my community did nothing to save her.

I do not want to get letters telling me that we give to United Way out of proportion to our numbers. We must do so if we are to fulfil the commandment at all. But as communities with access to great wealth, we should be going to whoever it takes, and saying – we can do something for you. We can create a safe place for at least some, and we can save lives. Why are we sitting here in the comfort of our homes while children are dying on the streets?

It does us no credit. It is a shame on us that we do not, as Jewish communities, act in the face of this need. I want our Federations to create the kind of funding that makes Kaplan House work. We can afford it, but more than that, we are commanded to do it.

I know that in our community, a caring family has supported an AIDS hospice.

In Toronto the Ve'Ahavta, Jewish Humanitarian and Relief Committee, does its work for the homeless. These are the kinds of efforts that fulfil the commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our neighbors aren't the people in the next house. They are the kids out there on street corners, dying without love or hope.

And we are failing them.

The politics of pronunciation

The National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP) recently concluded its highly successful Read Hebrew America/Read Hebrew Canada project. As part of this Hebrew literacy project, 1,124 classes were offered at 732 locations across the United States and Canada, including two classes in Edmonton. One class used Sephardi pronunciation and one Ashkenazi. I was, quite frankly, surprised that in 1998, anyone would want to learn Hebrew with an Ashkenazi pronunciation.

Bruce Elman in Edmonton

Speaking on behalf of the NJOP, Melanie Notkin told me that in 1988, when the project began, instructional materials were geared to Ashkenazi pronunciation but over time, they evolved such that the course now features Sephardi pronunciation. The NJOP allows each congregation or centre to teach whichever pronunciation it chooses, although teachers are encouraged to indicate to their students the differences between the two.

I should not have been surprised that students were being taught Ashkenazi pronunciation in Edmonton. Last summer, I was asked to give a d'var torah at a shevah brachot – the week-long series of parties that follow an Orthodox wedding. After discussing the upcoming Torah portion, I tried to relate the parshah to the bride and groom, or as I referred to them in Hebrew, the *chatan* and the *kallah*. The groom subtly and quietly corrected me. I should have referred to him not as the *chatan* but as the *choson*. I assume, on the same theory, that I was participating not in the *shevah brachot* but in the *shevah brochos*.

The difference between the Sephardi pronunciation and the Ashkenazi seems, on the surface at least, minor. However, something of greater significance is going on here.

When I was a child in Sydney, N.S., Rabbi and Mrs. Israel Kenner taught me to read and speak Hebrew with the Ashkenazi pronunciation. Having left Europe before the Holocaust, the Ashkenazi pronunciation is what they knew.

When I made my first trip to Israel in 1974, I was lost: no one davened in Ashkenazi Hebrew, let alone spoke it. I resolved over the following years to change from Ashkenazi pronunciation to Sephardi, and I have generally been successful, although on occasion, the Ashkenazi version of some prayer pops back into my head.

Why did I make a point of changing? Because I believe one of the most important mitzvot is to work, both personally and communally, for the unity of klal Yisrael – the people of Israel.

I do not fault others of my generation or our parents for not changing their pronunciation. We simply become accustomed to one method of pronunciation, and it is difficult to change. However, there has been, of late, a more general and organized renewal of Ashkenazi Hebrew. Young people are being taught Ashkenazi pronunciation, and others, who had learned Sephardi, are being encouraged to convert to Ashkenazi. In my view, this development is most unfortunate.

What can be behind the renewal of Ashkenazi Hebrew? Perhaps some believe it is a return to a more authentic Judaism. This seems unlikely. Even the most ardent supporter of Ashkenazi renewal could not claim that Moshe Rabbeinu spoke with an Ashkenazi pronunciation.

Perhaps it is a nostalgia for the "pre-Holocaust European Jewish existence." If so, it is misguided. The "pre-Holocaust European Jewish existence" was, quite honestly, not so great. It certainly was not a life to which we would want to return. Neither of these reasons, nor others that I have heard, provide a convincing basis for the renewal of the Ashkenazi dialect.

You might say, "It's only words; not even the words, just their pronunciation." However, words have real meaning and even the manner in which those words are pronounced is important. In my opinion, those who advocate renewal of the Ashkenazi pronunciation are engaged in promoting "Jewish separatism." Their goal is to separate themselves from the rest of the Jewish people. In doing so, they are undermining the unity of klal Yisrael. If there is one thing we do not need, it is more divisions. We already divide ourselves in so many ways – politically and religiously, to name just two – that we should try not to divide ourselves linguistically.

Furthermore, the klal Yisrael of the 1990s stems from the Holocaust and the establishment of the State of Israel. The renewal of the Ashkenazi dialect, however, demonstrates a preference for pre-Holocaust Hebrew over the dialect commonly used in Israel today. As such, and perhaps not coincidentally, the movement to renew the Ashkenazi dialect, is, at least implicitly, denying the state's existence.

It is important to stand for the unity of klal Yisrael and the integrity of Medinat Yisrael. Perpetuating linguistic divisions will accomplish neither.

My visit to a new Jewish museum

The largest Jewish community outside of Israel, the mega-city of greater New York, now has a place where the Holocaust is remembered in a special environment. The new Museum of Jewish Heritage is built on what is arguably the most beautiful and inspiring spot on the Isle of Manhattan. There, at its southern end, at the Battery across from the Statue of Liberty, this latest addition to New York's skyline and to Jewish remembrance has been erected. Recently, we were able to visit it, and this is a brief report on what the new museum has to offer.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The building, immediately recognizable by its hexagonal structure, is different from the famed Holocaust Museum in Washington. Instead of focusing on the Shoah – to which one of the three floors is in fact dedicated – two other floors are testaments to Jewish life rather than death. The first floor displays items relating to the roots of American Jewry: How the many millions had once led their lives in the shtetl or in large metropolitan centres like Warsaw, Berlin and London.

But there is another side to this floor, because it also shows how the migrants from the early days on up to World War II shaped their existence in the new world: who they were, what they did, how they contributed to the larger society and how they fashioned their American Jewish existence.

The second floor is filled with images of the Shoah. To me, the most memorable exhibits were six pillars covered with thousands of pictures of children who were murdered, together with an index where to find the photograph of the child that one might be looking for.

The third floor deals with the post-Holocaust era: building Jewish lives in Israel and in North America. In that sense it is the floor of hope, and shows the indomitable will of our people to embrace once again, not only a new physical existence but Jewish life as well.

It happens that my wife's family had lived in the United States since the early decades of the 19th century, and that the immediate members of my own family had escaped from the Nazis just prior to the outbreak of the war. Many years ago, when the musuem was in its planning stages, we were approached by its planners and asked whether we could contribute some everyday items from our home that would reflect on our families' lives in the old world and the new. Among the items we contributed (and there were many that had great sentimental, though little monetary value), were such everyday objects as the brass name plate in our apartment in Berlin, or the bundle of keys that Mother used for her duties in the Jewish orphanage in the city of which she and Dad were directors. Our photographs too were there – but we were told that much more was to come. In the early weeks of December, there was a program, part of which dealt with both our families through mementoes that illustrate the past.

The visit to the museum was a special experience because of such visual association.

The Kirshner File

The passing parade...

They died recently, leaving footprints in time...

Andre Weil was one of the giants of 20th century mathematics. Without his path-breaking work in algebraic geometry and number theory at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J., the accurate transmission of computer data might not have been possible.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Jonathan Postel, a computer scientist at the University of Southern California, played an integral role in the development of the Internet's address system.

Jonathan Mann, a former Harvard professor, was a pioneer AIDS researcher for the World Health Organization.

Herschel Herzog was instrumental in helping U.S. pharmaceutical companies develop two popular anti-inflammatory drugs – prednisone and prenisolone – and an antibiotic, gentamicin, used in the treatment of eye, ear and skin infections.

Joseph Speyer, a refugee from Nazi Germany, was a geneticist at the University of Connecticut whose research on mutant genes lay the foundation for modern molecular genetics and biotechnology.

Frederick Reines, a member of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory and the winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize in physics, discovered the nutrino, the massless sub-atomic particle that enhanced understanding of elementary particle physics.

Martin Rodbell was the co-winner of the 1994 Nobel Prize in medicine and physiology. Associated with the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Md., he was cited for his work on a component of the communications system which regulates cellular activity.

Joel Barr, an American electronics engineer who defected to Moscow in 1950 after being linked to convicted spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, was a leading force in the development of the Soviet Union's microelectronics and computer industry.

Milton Handler was an anti-trust lawyer from New York City who helped draft such statutes as the National Labor Relations Act and the G.I. Bill of Rights. In 1944, he drafted the presidential order which established the War Refugee Board, an agency which saved tens of thousands of Jews during the Holocaust.

Arnold Aronson, a Boston social worker, coordinated the lobbying efforts which resulted in the 1957 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act and the 1968 Fair Housing Act. In 1963, he planned Martin Luther King Jr.'s March on Washington.

Henry Spira, an animal rights activist who founded Animal Rights International, mounted a successful campaign in the United States to limit the use of animals in medical testing.

David Ayalon, a scholar of Muslim history, founded the Hebrew University's department of modern Middle East studies, headed its Institute of Asian and African Studies and co-compiled an Arabic-Hebrew dictionary that has gone through 22 printings since 1947.

Jacob Katz, formerly the Hebrew University's chief academic officer, was a historian best known for his book, *Exclusiveness and Tolerance: Studies in Jewish-Gentile Relations in Medieval and Modern Times*.

Ra'anan Weitz, a Jewish Agency expert in regional development, was the architect of mass rural settlement (kibbutzim and moshavim) in Israel in the first three decades of its existence.

Ivo John Lederer founded and directed the Centre for Russian and East European Studies at Stanford University.

Carl Feis, a town planner from Cleveland, was instrumental in transforming the science of slum clearing into the art of historic preservation in cities like Charleston, S.C., and Annapolis, Md.

Hal Lipset, a San Francisco private detective, pioneered the use of electronic surveillance in the entrapment of suspected criminals. For a brief moment in 1973, he was chief investigator of the Senate's Watergate Committee.

Yefim Geller of Odessa was a chess grandmaster who won the Soviet title in 1955 and 1979. At the 1972 world championship in Iceland, he served as Boris Spassky's second in his loss to Bobby Fischer.

Fred Kassner was a co-founder of Liberty Travel, the biggest privately-owned leisure travel chain in the United States.

Rose Blumkin of Minsk and Omaha founded the Nebraska Furniture Mart in 1937, building it into the largest home furnishing store in America.

Alan Sainsbury (aka Lord Sainsbury of Drury Lane) inherited his father's small grocery store chain in 1938 and, with the assistance of his brother Robert, transformed it into Britain's first modern, self-service supermarket empire.

Milton Kutscher built Kutscher's Country Club from a small operation into one of the leading country resorts in the Catskills.

Joseph Baum, renowned as an innovative restaurateur, created some of the finest restaurants in Manhattan, ranging from the Rainbow Room to the La Fonda del Sol.

Red Holzman, the Hall of Fame coach, led the New York Knicks to National Basketball Association championships in 1970 and 1973. Next to Red Auerbach, he was the NBA's most successful coach.

Roland (Rolly) Schwartz, a major figure in American amateur boxing, was manager and part-time coach of the 1976 U.S. Olympic team that amassed five gold medals, one silver and one bronze. He was one of Muhammad Ali's early coaches.

Frank Scott, a former New York Yankee official, was baseball's first player agent. Among his clients were Mickey Mantel, Willie Mays, Roger Maris and Joe DiMaggio.

Jerome Weidman's first novel, *I Can Get It For You Wholesale*, published in 1937 when he was 24, launched his career. The book, which unfolded against the backdrop of New York's garment district and which produced an archetypal figure in American literature, was made into a Broadway play.

Lew Grade founded Britain's first commercially financed television company, as well as the Grade Organization, the country's biggest show business agency.

Gerold Frank, a ghostwriter, almost single-handedly developed a new literary form, the as-told-to celebrity biography. He collaborated with singer Lillian Roth on *I'll Cry Tomorrow* and with gossip columnist Sheilah Graham on *Beloved Infidel*.

Bob Kane, the comic book cartoonist, co-invented Batman and his sidekick, Robin the Boy Wonder.

Martin Stone produced NBC TV's *Howdy Doody* in the 1940s and 1950s.

Marshall Barer, a lyricist, penned the Mighty Mouse theme, *Here I Come to Save the Day*, and **Wally Gold** co-wrote two of the greatest pop hits of the 1960s, Elvis Presley's *It's Now or Never* and Lesley Gore's *It's My Party*.

Jerome Robbins, one of ballet's towering choreographers, applied his magic touch to Broadway successes like *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The King and I*, and *Gypsy*.

Jeffrey Moss, a composer, dreamed up Cookie Monster and Oscar the Grouch for the award-winning TV show, *Sesame Street*. **Shari Lewis**, a puppeteer and ventriloquist, was a children's television performer.

Roman Cycowski was the last survivor of the Comedian Harmonists, a legendary sextet that enjoyed immense popularity in Weimar Germany. **Leonid Kinskey**, an actor, played Sascha, the bartender, in the 1942 film *Casablanca*.

Irwin Suall directed the fact-finding department of the B'nai Brith's Anti-Defamation League in the United States for almost three decades.

Richard Maass was the founding chair of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Manfred Klafter founded Amcha, an organization which offers social and psychological support to Holocaust survivors in Israel.

Oswald Rufeisen (aka Brother Daniel) was a Polish Holocaust survivor who converted to Christianity, moved to Israel after the war and made legal history by forcing the Israeli Supreme Court to deal with the "Who is a Jew" issue.

Clark Clifford, a U.S. presidential advisor, prepared the case for Israeli statehood at Harry Truman's behest.

Telford Taylor was the main prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

Edward Flannery wrote *The Anguish of the Jews*, the first history of anti-Semitism by a Roman Catholic priest.

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Sar-El volunteers *gofer* the experience

By GORD GARSHOWITZ

Guest Voices

There are many ways to spend time in Israel as a volunteer. Some people teach English through Yad B'Yad, or in the United States through such programs as Teachers On Volunteer (TOV).

Other people work on archeological digs in Ashkelon, Jerusalem, Tel Morasha and various other places. You can work at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem or teach English through Young Judaea in the United States. Through Mogen David Adom, you can work on ambulances, and through organizations here, you can find several other volunteer opportunities.

I chose to go through Sar-El (acronym for Sheroot L'Yisrael – service to Israel) and work on an army base. Hundreds of people each year spend time on various army bases doing what is basically "gofer" type jobs. Obviously, they do not allow volunteers to drive tanks, but there are many jobs volutneers can do, such as working in warehouses or in the dining room, gardening, packing mess kits or assisting mechanics. This enables the soldiers to do the soldiering, and the *miluim* (reserves) to do other things, when they are called up.

While I was there, I was on one of two bases that had English-speaking volunteers. I was at Azur, near Holon, and we had eight American, three British, two South African, two Dutch, and one Mexican volunteer, besides me. Some bases had French-speaking people, others had Russians, some had Italians, and so on.

Our base was a small mechanical base. Repairs were done to the bulldozers and caterpillars used by the army engineers, and to the armored personnel carriers. My last week was spent working with a crew repairing treads, drive wheels and bearings.

Our work week, in theory, was five days, and evenings were ours. Sar-El arranged two evening educational programs a week, but other nights we went into Holon or Tel Aviv. We were also taken on two tours, one day to Beersheva, and a different day to Jerusalem. Weekends, we were able to tour, visit family or friends, or do whatever else we wanted. We had a *madricha* (guide) who helped us with the weekend plans – getting bus schedules and numbers, making hotel reservations, and so on.

Volunteers do not find out what base they are going to until they arrive in Israel. While there, I met people from bases at Beersheva, Ashkelon, Tiberias, and the air base Tel Nof. Through Sar-El, it is also possible to volunteer at Tel Hashomer Hospital.

The volunteers come in all shapes and sizes (and ages) and the *madricha* makes every effort to assign volunteers to a job they can handle. A key question asked of me during the registration process, was whether I was prepared to take orders from an 18-year-old on base, and whether or not I could handle the heat.

Would I do it again? Yes, in a minute, and hopefully next year I'll take along a few more people I know. Although I went during the summer, Sar-El does welcome volunteers throughout the year. For more information, call Esther at the Sar-El office in Toronto, 781-6089.

Gord Garshowitz is a past president of Beth Emeth Synagogue, and a high school vice-principal in York Region.

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Rabbinic Reflections

We can be proud of our own beliefs

By RABBI MOSHE SHULMAN

There is a beautiful Sabbath custom that both parents bless their children Friday night. (Often the mother blesses the children upon candlelighting and the father right before kiddush).

At that time we say to our daughters, "May the Almighty guide you to be like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah."

Interestingly enough, however, for our sons we do not make the parallel request, "May the Almighty guide you to be like Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." Instead, we substitute for our forefathers the two "grandchildren" tribes, Ephraim and Menasheh, sons of Joseph.

Historically, the reason for this switch is that when Jacob blesses Joseph's children, he says: "Through thee shall Israel bless, saying, 'G-d shall make thee as Ephraim and Menasheh." But why? Why should the two sons of Joseph stand as greater role models for our people than even the patriarchs themselves?

Ephraim and Menasheh were unique amongst all the tribes of Israel primarily because they were born and bred in exile. They did not live with Jacob and the rest of the tribes in Canaan. They grew up in Egypt. They were children of the Egyptian court. They were princes of Egypt.

How were they to react to the arrival of Joseph's family? How would they fit into the household of Jacob, a household with different values and different customs? Jacob and his family brought with them to Egypt all that Judaism believed in, which was foreign to Egyptian culture.

Joseph, still pretending to be the viceroy of Egypt to his brothers, could not even eat with his brothers because Egyptian society would not allow it. When the family stood before Pharaoh, at Joseph's request, they asked for land in Goshen, because their profession as shepherds was abhorrent to Egyptian culture.

To Ephraim and Menasheh, who grew up in the "cultured" "modern" society of Egypt, these values and customs might have seemed "old," "outdated," for another time, another place. It would have been so easy for them to have turned their backs on the beliefs of their grandfather, and look forward, accepting the values and customs of the more "modern" Egypt.

But they did not. Instead, they *chose* to be part of Jacob's family. "Ephraim and Menasheh, like Reuben and Shimon, they shall be mine." They *chose* to link themselves with their past, in order to live the present and the future with the values and beliefs of the heritage of Jacob.

Every Jewish parent, for generations to come, would turn to their children and say: "Be like Ephraim and Menasheh. Be part of a link of tradition and values which goes back thousands of years, and will continue to go forward for thousands more. Don't be tempted to say: 'the mitzvot that my grandparents kept are for a different time, a different place.' Be like Ephraim and Menasheh, and make those mitzvot and traditions part of your life whether in Egypt or Canada, Toronto or Israel."

This is especially important this time of year, when the whole world around us is caught up in their religious celebrations, and so many of our people are tempted to participate in that holiday spirit.

We must remember that we have our own heritage, our own holidays and our own spirituality. We do not need to turn our backs on Judaism in order to feel that we have to fit in. We can be proud of our own beliefs. We can be like Ephraim and Menasheh and remain steadfast and committed to the traditions and legacy of the Children of Israel to whom we belong.

"May the Almighty lead you to be like Ephraim and Menasheh, and like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah."

Rabbi Moshe Shulman is the spiritual leader of the Shaarei Shomayim Congregation in Toronto.

The Jewish Highway

More Israeli coins and medals

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today, we wrap up our survey of coins and medallions in Israel. At the same time, we'll look at the coin Israel minted to mark a Jewish tradition that dates back to the Torah.

Many of the coins minted in Israel are not legal tender but were created to commemorate a personality or a celebrity. The Israel Government Coins & Medals Corporation **[http://www.coins.co.il/]** was established in 1961 by the Israeli Government primarily to distribute State Medals and other collectibles. It has released a large and varied collection of items celebrating Israel and Jewish life: Israeli coins, banknotes, medallions, coin-jewelry, giant framed medals of the Lubavitcher Rebbe and the Baba Sali, as well as paintings by Chagall, Dali, Modigliani and Pissarro. The Corporation sells its merchandise online.

Another large private vendor of Jewish medals and coins is Commemoratives International **[http://www.commem.com/]**. The Connecticut-based company operates a large Web site which lists available products, everything from Palestine Coins **[http://www.dtcc.edu/~berlin/palestin/palestin.htm]** struck between 1927 and 1946, to a one-ounce gold coin struck this year to mark Israel's Jubilee **[http://www.commem.com/prod01.htm]**. That coin bears the timely inscription "And you shall sanctify the 50th year by declaring liberty throughout the land" (Leviticus 25:10) **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/leviticu/torah/25102511.htm]**.

There are hundreds of other general sites on the Internet of interest to the budding numismatist. To get started, check out Yahoo **[http://search.yahoo.com/bin/search?p=numismatics]**.

* * *

In the 1970s, the Israeli Government minted a series of coins with a unique purpose: to help fulfil a commandment from Torah.

Traditionally, the firstborn of Israel were supposed to be dedicated to God and expected to perform religious services for the priests, the kohanim (Exodus 13:1-2) **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/exodus/torah/12511302.htm#prtn_7]**.

According to the biblical command, the firstborn could be redeemed through a ceremony called pidyon haben **[http://www.shamash.org/jb/bk961108/suppson.htm]**. Although the ceremony is more rare than the brit, pidyon haben is still widely practised today. A month after the birth of the firstborn boy, the father "buys back" his son by paying a kohen five silver coins **[http://www.virtualjerusalem.co.il/depts/torah/lifecycle/pidyon.htm]**.

From 1970 to 1977, the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation minted a series of commemorative silver pidyon haben coins **[http://www.commem.com/images/1970%20Pidyon%20Ha Ben%20front.JPG]** that were halachically certified by the Israeli Rabbinate **[http://www.shamash.org/listarchives/mail-jewish/volume22/v22n1]**.

Unfortunately, the Israeli pidyon haben coins are no longer being minted and are only available through collectors. But don't worry. Even if you can't get your hands on one of these coins, you can still buy back your son from the kohen. Any coins that are legal tender and have the required amount of silver will do.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

A blueprint for men

***Understanding Men's Passage: Discovering the New Map of Men's Lives*, by Gail Sheehy (Random House, $29.95).**

Books
Bernard Baskin

We like to think of ourselves as singular or unique. After all, don't we display individual needs, passions, doubts, dreams and concerns? But there is an unmistakable rhythm to life that affects us all. Without exception, we pass through a number of stages on our journey through the years. Psychologists now recognize that just as there are patterns to physical growth, so are there stages to human behavior and the development of personality.

Taking these inevitable stages into account, Gail Sheehy, a best-selling journalist and popular sociologist, has written a number of useful and readable guides to adult behavior.

Her latest book, based once again on original research and hundreds of interviews, charts the changing nature of men's lives in the middle years, and into the period of still evolving old age.

In effect, this volume is a blueprint for middle-aged men that shows them how to confront a wide variety of problems, from losing one's job to finding a new career; from impotence to renewed sexuality; from depression (now believed to be closely connected to heart disease) to struggling for a emotional regeneration.

In middlescence, many people begin to act in strange and erratic ways. The sense of limited time left leads to desperate attempts to recapture youth. A 50-year-old begins dressing in teenage styles. One or another marriage partner begins to think: "If I don't find somebody who is young and who will keep me alive, I'll never know joy."

It is a time when some abandon their business or profession for a liberated career. The pressures of middlescence sometimes shows themselves in unwarranted and uncontrollable anger towards one's family, or bitterness towards an employer, in wild energy or great lassitude. They express themselves in many ways, but everyone inevitably experiences them.

Among the author's major findings are these:

• The strongest factor in male survival is being married. In a large-scale study of survival factors in more than 7,000 American adults by the University of California at San Francisco, men from the ages of 45 to 64 who live with wives are twice as likely to live ten years longer than are their unmarried counterparts.

And that holds true despite differences in income and education and even among men with obvious risk factors such as smoking, drinking, obesity and sloth. There is something special about sharing daily life with a wife that protects men from depression.

• No one has discovered a cure for the common signs of aging. You can curse the phone book and watch television news instead of squinting at the newspaper, but sooner or later almost everyone in the early 40s finds the fine print blurring.

• We are never too old to benefit from exercise. Men who walk at least half an hour every day, six days a week, can cut their mortality rate in half compared to their sedentary counterparts of the same age. (That was the striking conclusion of a massive study on 13,000 men and women at the Copper Institute for Aerobics Research in Dallas, Texas.)

• After age 70, it is psychological attitude and behavior that mostly determine the quality and duration of the third stage of life, much more so than a man's genes. Therefore, successful aging in the later years becomes a career choice.

• In interviews, all of the professional men over 50 said that their spouses are their primary source of intimacy and comfort. They often acknowledge in interviews, "My wife has helped me to discover aspects of myself I never knew were there."

This engaging and anecdotal work about how men can redirect their lives is a guide to informed and intelligent self-renewal. Wives and female partners should be especially interested.

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Innovation marks NCSY programs

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Rabbi Glenn Black, 29, declines to take credit for the growth of the National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) since he began running it in the early 1990s.

His staff of eight full-timers and 15 part-timers regularly put in overtime, he said in a recent interview, and his board has encouraged innovation. "If I have a new idea, no one says, 'How much does it cost?' The vision is limitless. I don't think it's me at all, frankly."

When he took on the directorship of the organization at age 22, he had three full-time staff and two part-timers working in cramped quarters on Bathurst Street. For almost two years now, they've been headquartered in a more spacious basement office (4,200 square feet) in a Thornhill plaza.

Rabbi Black estimates NCSY "touches the lives" of 3,000 kids in Ontario and Quebec, about 1,200 of whom are actively involved.

Although the organization is under the auspices of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, participating students are from all walks of Jewish life.

Some 250 students a week come to NCSY offices, some to hang out, some to take classes at the organization's Free Torah High (with two locations, one in Thornhill and the other at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation), and others to participate in Shabbatons, or to pray at evening services or the new monthly Carlebach minyan – a 90-minute Friday night service with plenty of singing and dancing.

Other students access NCSY through its Hebrew Culture Club offered at a number of public high schools, or they spend Saturday nights taking part in athletic activities at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

The latter is a recent innovation, evidence of Rabbi Black's "sort of motto" to try at least one new thing a year. Their newest innovation is a girls' overnight camp integrating Judaic studies, to be launched next summer.

This past summer, NCSY sent 50 teens on a subsidized program to Israel at a cost of $500 per student. The organization also subsidizes over 40 students annually for year-long study programs in Israel.

With an annual budget of $1 million – most of it raised locally – NCSY allocates $350,000 a year in scholarships for summer programs and year-long yeshiva study in Israel.

"And we're just getting going," says Rabbi Black. Seven years ago, the entire annual budget was $350,000.

So why is it working? Indeed, why would kids want to go to a place that doesn't offer dances when everybody else is holding dances? asks Rabbi Black rhetorically. "I make the guys wear kippahs. At our Shabbatons, you have to pray three times a day. We're doing everything completely according to Jewish law."

He figures it's the "warm, non-confrontational environment" – which also extends to his home. He and his wife opened their sukkah to about 300 NCSYers this year, he said.

"We have been very successful in keeping kids involved in some level of Judaism."

He admits that some parents are not happy when their children become more observant through involvement with NCSY. He would like to address that issue by creating parallel or interwoven programs for parents.

Rabbi Black maintains there is no expectation that participants will become "frum," but stated his belief that learning does lead to change.

"We believe that if we are able to teach about Yiddishkeit in a warm and loving way, then kids will embrace it."

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New Israel Fund launches New Generations group

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Businessman Jonathan Latsky has served as chair of the New Israel Fund (NIF) of Canada's New Generations' group for less than a month, but he's hit the ground running in his bid to rejuvenate the 19-year old organization.

One of Latsky's first orders of business was to put out feelers in a search for a core group of 10 to 15 people to man a variety of important executive committee portfolios. Together with key staff people, the group will help move the NIF forward by enhancing its profile in the Jewish community, raising funds for worthy causes in Israel, and cultivating a cadre of young leaders, he said.

Latsky, who has started two businesses and one non-profit organization in the marketing field, is convinced that Canadians would rush to support the NIF if they were made aware of all its good work.

"The New Israel Fund is a relatively young organization. I think it's never had a real push in Canada. That why awareness of it is low," he said.

Latsky believes the NIF's goals have tremendous appeal to average Canadians since they closely parallel the core values of Canadian society. Advocating for human and civil rights and for government accountability are key components of the movement, he said.

"I'm an entrepreneur, a right-leaning person and this organization speaks to me," Latsky added.

Since it was established in 1979, the NIF has supported more than 200 Israeli organizations that promote democracy, civil and human rights, religious pluralism, tolerance and Jewish-Arab co-existence. Groups like the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), the NIF's largest grantee; HEMDAT: The Public Committee for the Freedom of Science, Religion and Culture in Israel; the Israel Women's Network; and Adam Teva V'Din: Israeli Union for Environmental Defence, are among the beneficiaries of NIF grants.

NIF also supports Shatil (Hebrew for seedling), an NIF division that provides free consulting services to not-for-profit organizations in Israel, said Minda Davis, director of NIF Canada.

"As Israel moves into another phase after building its physical plant, there is a focus on building the country's social fabric," Davis said.

New immigrants, for example, come to Israel from over 100 countries, most of which have no democratic tradition. These olim often don't know how to access their rights, she said.

In the last five years, NIF Canada has transferred an average of $500,000 to Israeli grass roots organizations. This year appears to be a particular good year, with more than $1 million expected to be transferred, she said.

Latsky believes those numbers can only go up if more and more people are attracted to the organization. For NIF Canada's leadership core, "we are looking for professionals, accomplished business-people who have a strong interest in what the NIF is all about," he said.

Although planning is still in preliminary stages, Latsky said he expects that group would chair committees that might focus on areas like programming, marketing, membership retention, education and strategic alliances.

The new generation group will be centred in Toronto to start, "but we're looking to expand to include people from Montreal" who might participate in executive meetings by teleconferencing, he added.

For more information about New Generations or other NIF activities, contact NIF assistant director Talya Rotem-Assaf at (416) 781-4322.

Jonathan Latsky

THE SWEET SOUNDS OF SONG

UJA Federation wound up its 1998 campaign last week with a night of music and celebration. Musical entertainment was provided by the Associated Hebrew School Chamber Choir (seen here) and by Israeli performer Yehuda Elyas. This year's campaign raised a record $41.5 million. Philanthropist Anne Tanenbaum pledged a further $1 million to UIA Federations Canada to go to a scholarship fund to support Israel experience programs operated by the Canada-Israel Experience Centre.

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WEEK OF DECEMBER 25-31/'98

Synagogue	Address	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave.	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	7:00 & 7:45 AM	5:00 PM
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W.	4:30 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	Mon.-Thurs. 6:15, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:30	Mon.-Wed. Maariv 8:45-9:00 PM
Anshei Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St.	4:40 PM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	Mon.-Thurs. 4:35 PM
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd.	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	4:45 PM
Beth Radom (C)	18 Reiner Rd.	4:30 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	4:30 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave.	4:30 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre (O)	7026 Bathurst St.	4:15 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 AM	4:25 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd.	6:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave.	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
WEEK OF JANUARY 1-7/'99						
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W.	4:35 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	Mon.-Thurs. 6:15, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 7:30	Mon.-Wed. Maariv 8:45-9:00 PM
Anshei Minsk (O)	10-12 St. Andrews St.	4:45 PM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	Mon.-Thurs. 4:40 PM
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda (C)	100 Elder St.	4:45 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	4:45 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave.	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St.	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Kehillat Shaarei Torah (O)	2640 Bayview Ave.	4:35 PM	9:15 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	----------
Sephardic Kehilla Centre (O)	7026 Bathurst St.	4:20 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	6:45 AM	4:30 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd.	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	6:45 AM	7:00 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please contact the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Lasers aid in medical field

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Lasers have opened up many new opportunities for treatment and diagnosis in the medical field, according to the head of the division of medical physics of the Ontario Cancer Institute.

Recent advances include the use of laser technology to remove port wine stains in children, said Dr. Brian Wilson, using dramatic before-and-after slides to illustrate his point. He spoke at the national annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science, held recently at the Sutton Place Hotel.

Lasers (the word derives from Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation) can be precise enough to drill a hole in an egg cell, yet gentle enough to pick up a single sperm and take it to that hole to fertilize the egg, Wilson said.

Lasers can also be powerful enough to break up kidney stones or drill holes in a heart (a recently developed technique for re-oxygenating damaged heart muscle), he said.

Waxing poetic for a moment, Wilson noted that lasers can be used to increase beauty in the world, returning a smile to a baby's face or revealing the glory that is a cell. A photo of an infant with a disfiguring facial growth illustrated the former use.

Although lasers can be used for frivolous purposes – Wilson cited a laser spud peeler that burns off potato skin – there's no doubt, he said, that "some applications have made the whole endeavor worthwhile. Lasers are contributing to what's called the new medicine, playing a role in the evolution of medical technology."

He voiced doubts, however, about the effectiveness of using laser therapy to quit smoking.

Other medical uses for lasers include treatment and early detection of particular cancers, treatment of some eye conditions, rapid wound repair on the battlefield (with the help of a laser pen), and even removal of tattoos and wrinkles.

Lasers also have non-medical applications like the restoration of fine works of art, sending telecommunications signals or monitoring the progress of a mudslide, he said.

It's been said that lasers are like sex, Wilson commented dryly. "The first time you hear about it, you just can't believe it."

Laser and optical science research are among the newer areas on which Weizmann is focusing, said Haim Harari, who has just begun his third five-year term as president of the institution.

Torontonian Paul Brumer, a University of Toronto chemistry professor, and Moshe Shapiro, a chemical physics professor at Weizmann, received a Nobel prize nomination earlier this year for their joint research in that area.

The institute's current international three-year Jubilee fundraising campaign, to double its $250 million (US) endowment, will be earmarked each year for a small number of its top scientists who require "an extra push."

The main thrust of the Canadian effort, said Harari, is to create an interdisciplinary project for laser and optical science research, with "spin-offs in many directions."

It was also announced at the meeting that, among the major Jubilee campaign gifts is a donation from Murray and Marvelle Koffler and family earmarked for women's health research, including breast cancer research. The family has also funded a chair in breast cancer research at Mount Sinai Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute.

Sharon Zuckerman continues as president of the Canadian society. Gloria Snow, national executive director, is leaving Weizmann next month to work for UJA Federation.

'Traveller' turns to music

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At age 65 when a lot of people are calling it quits, Dr. Jerry Gray of The Travellers is retiring from dentistry and beginning a career as a full-time professional musician.

"Who knows what the future holds?" said Gray, who is about to give up his dental practice in Burlington and take on bookings for his folk-singing and banjo-playing performances.

If the reaction of the Friends of Yiddish (FOY) audience at the Workmen's Circle recently is any criterion, Gray is well on his way.

They gave him and his colleagues, son James of Blue Rodeo at the keyboard, and bassist Joe Hampson, a rousing heartfelt ovation.

Gray, after all, has been singing folk songs for 45 years under The Travellers banner, and the first public meeting of the Friends of Yiddish 15 years ago featured The Travellers as guest performers.

"He was just as good then as he is today," said Les Nirenberg, one of the FOY founders. It was FOY president, Eda Zimmler Schiff, and her husband, Marvin, who heard Gray sing at a fund-raiser about a year ago and decided to book him again.

Gray's eclectic repertoire at the latest FOY concert included songs of peace in English and Hebrew, some Yiddish folk gems which included one from his public debut at age four singing a *liedel* at the old Strand Theatre, and a howlingly funny song titled *Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia* in which the audience joined in.

At times, Gray stepped back and let hs son and Hampson sing solos. Hampson, who is non-Jewish, delighted everyone with a Yiddish song that he had to learn at great expense during a long-distance phone call from a Jewish friend in Chicago.

Whether it was songs Gray sang at Camp Naivelt years ago, or songs he made popular in many countries with The Travellers, the evening was suffused with pure nostalgia.

The occasion was the annual FOY Chanukah concert, Khanuke Huliankei.

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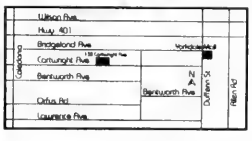

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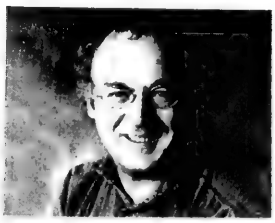

החיים יפים:

רוברטו בניני הוא איטלקי קטן , מצחיק עד דמעות ונוגע ללב, שיצר את אחד הסרטים הכי טובים שתיראו השנה. "Life is Beautiful" כבר זכה בפסטיבל קאן, ואהיה מאוד מופתע אם לא יזכה באוסקר לסרט הזר בעוד חודשים ספורים. זהו סיפור אהבתו של איש קטן לאשה יפה שמעדיפה אותו על ארוסה העשיר בשל היותו אנושי, רומנטי ומצחיק. בחלקו הראשון של הסרט צוחק הקהל בפה מלא על הסלפסטיק המעשעשים שנושא בניני. רק אז נודע לצופה לראשונה שהוא בעצם יהודי והוא, בנו ואשתו (הנוצרית) נשלחים למחנות המוות. הסרט הוא פארודיה ציונית ונוקבת על גזענות בדרך כלל וגזענות נגד יהודים בפרט. כשהילד שואל את אביו: „אבא, למה כתוב על החנות הזו שהכניסה ליהודים וכלבים אסורה?" עונה לו האבא: "יש כל מיני חנויות, אני מכיר אחת שכתוב עליה שהכניסה לארנבות ולאנגלים אסורה, ומה דעתך שעל חנות הספרים שלנו נכתוב שהכניסה לפקיסטנים וצרצרים אסורה?" חוט השני של הסרט הוא נסיונו של האבא לספר לבנו שכל חווית מחנה ההשמדה היא בעצם משחק שצריך לצבור בו אלף, נקודות כדי לנצח. בקטע מחנה ההשמדה אין הקהל צוחק יותר. אבל האופטימיות של האבא הקטן מדביקה את הבן שלו ומשאירה את שניהם בחיים. רק בסוף הסרט מתברר לצופים שזה לא הולך להיות הפי אנד והם עוזבים את האולם דומעים והמומים. במחשבה שניה, לא ניתן היה לסיים סרט כזה בסוף טוב, כי זה היה הופך את חוויית השואה לכמעט קומדיה. ההצדעה לבניני כפולה ומכופלת: גם סרט נפלא על השואה, על ילדים, על אהבה, וגם סרט סימבולי ברמה ציאפליניית. ראיתי אותו, את בניני הקטן, מתראיין אצל דיויד לֶטרמן. למרות האנגלית הרצוצה שבפיו הוא הצליח להצחיק את הקהל. שאל אותו לֶטרמן: "איך מגיבים באיטליה על הצלחת הסרט ועל זה שזכית בפסטיבל קאן?" עונה לו בניני: " אה , זה כלום. אבל כשהם שמעו שאני אהיה בתוכנית של לֶטרמן, אוהו!" זהו סרט עשר בסולם קורן.

לבנון:

בדרום לבנון ממשיכים ילדים ישראליים בני שמונה עשרה ומעלה לתת את חייהם. ממולם עומדות מיליציות מקומיות, מאומנות היטב, חדורות מוטיבציה שמאמינות שהן מגינות על שטחי ארצם. המט"כל טוען באופן עקבי שנסיגת כוחות ישראל לגבול הבינלאומי תביא לכך שישובי הצפון יותקפו. ממול המט"כל עומדים אלה שאומרים שאין לכך שום ראיה ושבעבר התקיפו החיזבאללה את שטחי ישראל רק כשפגעו במהנדסים. מעניין לציין שאריק שרון, שיזם את הכניסה ללבנון ב - 1982 תומך בנסיגה הדרגתית, ואי אפשר להאשים את אריק שהוא תומך בכך תוך סיכון ביטחון ישראל. הלחץ הציבורי על הממשלה להגיב בנסיגה הולך ועולה מפגיעה לפגיעה. ואפילו ראש הממשלה כבר הבין שזו לא עוד הפגנה של"שלום עכשיו". לדעתי האישית, הבעיה העיקרית של ישראל היא בכך שאם ניסוג, זו תהיה הפעם הראשונה בהסטוריה שצה"ל נסוג כדי להוריד במספר הנפגעים. יש בכך בעיני רבים מעין הודעת כניעה. הודעה שמודעה- בכל פעולה צבאית צריך לשאול: האם זה שווה את חיינו של ילד ישראלי אחד? ולאלה שמאמינים שהחיזבאללה יפגיז ויציק לישובי הצפון ולנוסעים בכביש הצפון - מה מפריע לצה"ל לחזור לשם בצורה זו או אחרת? הרי צה"ל כצבא, חזק עשרות מונים מן המיליציות של לבנון. הן פשוט טובות יותר במלחמת גרילה, כפי שתמיד היתה המציאות של צבא סטאטי גדול נגד פרטיזנים מקומיים שנלחמים על בתיהם. תחשבו על זה.

SHMOOZIN

"Shul is a place where you can get really good practice in shaking people's hands!"

A SPECIAL CHAIR

The University of Toronto's chemistry department recently presented Roel Buck with a "chair," in recognition of his $1 million endowment of the Buck-Weizmann Chair in Chemical Physics, in partnership with the Weizmann Institute of Science. Show in the back row, from left, are Carl Amrhein, dean of the faculty of arts and science; Prof. Paul Brumer, the chair's first incumbent; and Prof. Martin Moskovits, chair of the chemistry department. Seated from left are Dorothy Gordon Buck, Roel Buck and Rose Wolfe, Chancellor Emerita of U of T.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Please see the Classified section of this issue for EARLY DEADLINES for October

For rates or to place an ad, call:

Tanya at (416) 391-1836

***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

A Latka & Dreidl Bash. Metro Toronto Singles presents our 15th annual Chanukah Party at **Berlin Night Club**, 2335 Yonge St. (1 1/2 blocks North of Eglinton), **Thurs., Dec. 24** (X-mas Eve). 7pm - 2am. Cover - $10. Hors d'oeuvres, grand door prize. **Come meet someone special at our largest party of the year!** For info call 416-222-7111.

Darren, Mark & Ari Present Two Great Parties:

The Matzo Ball at Whiskey Saigon, 250 Richmond St. W. at Duncan. Thurs., Dec. 24. at 9pm. $12 - adv., $15 - door.

The New Years Bash at Joe Badali's 156 Front St. W. Thurs., Dec. 31 at 10pm. $25 - adv., $35 - door. *Dress Code In Effect.*

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Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1680 registered. **416-483-4151.**

Jewish Singles Week: Club Med, Cancun, Mexico, Jan. 17 - 24, 1999. Call the JSR 416-483-4151 for info.

Rainbow Premier Dating Services of Toronto. Best Gay Dating Service of Canada. Operated by a Gay Jewish Man. Call (416) 565-0802. E-Mail: rainowp@idirect.ca

Singles Scene, 35-55 New Years Bash, Thurs., Dec. 31 at 8pm. Buffet dinner, music & fun. $35. Call Rhonda at 905-731-9441.

Temple Sinai Singles Presents Simon Rosenbloom of Canadian Friends of Peace Now. "A Date With Peace," at Temple Sinai, 210 Wilson Ave. on Thurs., Jan. 7, 8pm. $3.00. Coffee, refreshments served.

www.jmatch.com Free to register, free profile page, free to browse.

Applications available for Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel

ALBANY, N.Y. — Applications are now available for the 1999 Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel.

The Fellowships, now in their 13th year, offer an opportunity for 26 students entering 12th grade to spend five weeks in Israel this summer.

Fellows will be chosen based on character, intellectual interests, special talents and leadership qualities. Merit, not financial need, is the standard for selection.

While living in Jerusalem, Bronfman Fellows participate in seminars and dialogues with a diverse rabbinic faculty, representing a wide range of Jewish perspectives. They explore Jewish texts against the background of Israel's land, culture and customs and meet with some of Israel's prominent political and literary figures to examine contemporary issues in light of Jewish history and tradition.

In addition, for the second year, the Samuel Bronfman Foundation will sponsor a parallel group of outstanding young Israeli high school students, called Amitei Bronfman. The program is run in cooperation with *Mifashim*, part of Charles Bronfman's CRB Foundation which for the past four years has run joint educational programming for Israeli and Diaspora youth.

The Israeli fellows, like their American counterparts, will undergo a rigorous selection process and represent a cross-section of contemporary Israel society. They will have their own educational programming as well as a week-long encounter with the North American fellows.

The program begins on June 28, 1999, with a two-day seminar in New York City. The students return from Israel on Aug. 4, 1999. All meals will be kosher, and group activities on the Sabbath will be in keeping with the sanctity of the day.

All expenses are covered by the program, including round-trip international transportation, room and board, travel in Israel and incidentals.

High school students in the United States and Canada entering 12th grade in the fall of 1999 may obtain an application form and detailed information by mail at The Bronfman Youth Fellowship in Israel, 17 Wilbur Street, Albany, NY, 12202; by telephone at 518-465-6575; by fax at 518-432-8984; by e-mail at [yfi@bronfman.org] or on the Web at [www.bronfman.org.]

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than Jan. 29, 1999. Finalists will be notified March 1, 1999 and interviews will be held during the week of March 14, 1999. Names of Fellowship recipients will be announced on March 31, 1999.

From coast to coast

Cappe is new Privy Council Clerk

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Canada's next top bureaucrat – one of the most powerful people in the land – is described as a Jean Chrétien loyalist and an advocate of a strong central government.

Mel Cappe, 50, will succeed Jocelyne Bourgon Jan. 18 as clerk of the Privy Council, a post that combines the political with the bureaucratic.

Cappe was born in Toronto, and attended William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute. He had his bar mitzvah at Adath Israel Synagogue by Rabbi Erwin Schild.

As a teenager, he was active in United Synagogue Youth and B'nai Brith Youth Organization.

Today, he and his wife, Marni (née Pliskin) are members of Agudath Israel Congregation in Ottawa.

Mel Cappe

An economist by training, Cappe has a long history of civil service, going back 23 years. Most recently, he was deputy minister of human resources development and deputy minister of the environment.

Cappe told reporters last week that he's "honored" by his new appointment and looks "forward to helping the prime minister make Canada a better place."

His demanding new job is not easily definable, but it breaks down into three main areas: He'll head Canada's public service, ensuring that the roughly 200,000 federal employees maintain efficiency; the clerk is also secretary to the Cabinet, and he will serve the cabinet's collective needs; and perhaps most importantly, Cappe will be the prime minister's principal adviser – essentially Chrétien's deputy minister. The two will meet for about 30 minutes every day to discuss all aspects of government business and the civil service.

In other words, not much happens in Ottawa without the clerk's knowledge and input.

Past and present colleagues described Cappe as a believer in a strong central and activist government, as well as a tough manager with high standards.

Cappe and his wife have two children. Daniel, 22, is a computer science student at Queen's University, and Emily, 20, lives and works in Vancouver.

Collection on view

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — A selection of books from the Jacob M. Lowy Collection of rare Hebraica and Judaica is now on view at the National Library of Canada.

At the opening of the exhibit, entitled Ashkenaz: A Celebration of German Jewry, Tom Delsey, acting on behalf of the national librarian, described the Lowy Collection as one of the pre-eminent collections of the library.

A 45-minute slide presentation with accompanying commentary by Lowy Collection curator Cheryl Jaffee told the audience of about 70 guests about some of the books on display.

Speaking of how the exhibit had evolved, Jaffee said, "I did something very ambitious. I did a bird's-eye view of 1,000 years. My goal was to remind people what there is to remember, so I went from the beginning of the flourishing of Ashkenaz in the 10th century right through to the 20th century – truly 1,000 years."

Highlights of the exhibit include the first complete Talmud ever printed in Germany – in the late 17th century – on which there are knotted strands of wool from a tallit, which were found inside the book.

One of the treasures of the Lowy collection is an 18th-century Haggadah that was printed in 1763 in Altona, Germany. The book, with its bright, deep colors in a folkloric style, is unique.

Also on display is the first Talmud to be printed in Germany after World War II. Printed in 1948, it was for the use of the displaced persons in the camps.

The exhibit opened on Dec. 7 and continues until Jan. 20, 1999. The library is open every day from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. including Sundays and holidays.

Mine action project

Continued from page 1

Barbara Farber, president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'Ir, said, "The lighting of the candles is very symbolic. It not only turns on lights here, but it is symbolic of lighting up the world together."

Others in attendance included Sheila Finestone, MP; Ezra Levant, legislative assistant to Preston Manning; and Jack Silverstone, executive vice-president, Canadian Jewish Congress.

Sultan thanked all those who had been involved in the week-long Israel at 50 celebrations held recently at the National Arts Centre.

Cantors Daniel Benlolo, Pinchas Levinson and David Aptowitzer joined Gray in lighting the Chanukah candles and leading in the singing of Chanukah songs.

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required immediately. Permanent F/T 26-30 hrs. per wk., $14/hr. Experience with MS Word, Excel, Simply Accounting an asset. Mail resumé to: The Dawes Road Cemeteries, Attn: Ben Hamburger, 3169 St. Clair Ave. E., Scarborough, Ontario M1L 1V5 or fax: (416) 755-3800.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Please note that since there will be no issue Dec. 31, all items that would ordinarily have appeared Dec. 31 are included in today's column (i.e. all events through to Jan. 7).

Monday, Jan. 4, is deadline for Jan. 14 issue and Monday, Jan. 11, is deadline for Jan. 21. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Dec. 25

BRUNCH

Shir Libeynu and Downtown Jewish Community Council present You Don't Have to Go to the Movies Brunch, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Reserve. 924-6211.

SINGLES SHABBAT DINNER

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning hosts Shabbat dinner for singles (20s, 30s, 40s), co-sponsored with Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 6:30 p.m. at Bloor JCC. Humorist **Allen Gould** speaks on Laughing to Keep from Crying: The Jewish Joke and Jewish Humor. $30 by pre-registration only. 905-709-1900, ext. 222.

Sunday, Dec. 27

BB SINGLES LODGE

B'nai Brith Friendship Singles Lodge (40 to 60) mix & mingle party with DJ, 8 p.m., 15 Hove St. Members $7, non-members $12. RSVP 633-6224, ext. 351, leave your name.

Sunday, Jan. 3

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Feminist Book Discussion Group, North York Chapter, Older Women's Network, discusses *Three Guineas* by **Virginia Woolf**, 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

Monday, Jan. 4

ABOUT DIABETES

Jewish Diabetes chapter of Canadian Diabetes Association meeting, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Topic is Diabetes: Effects on Spouses, Family Members and Friends by **David Patrick Ryan**, consulting psychologist, Sunnybrook Health Centre. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

Wednesday, Jan. 6

CMDA BOARD MEETING

Toronto chapter, Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, board meeting, 7 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave. Visitors and volunteers welcome. **Cheryl** 780-0034.

Thursday, Jan. 7

A DATE WITH PEACE

Temple Sinai Singles (35-55) presents A Date With Peace with **Simon Rosenbloom**, national co-president, Canadian Friends of Peace Now, 8 p.m., at the temple.

And What Else Is New

STUDY LUNCHEON

At the Shabbat study luncheon Saturday, Jan. 9, at Beth Tzedec Congregation following services, **Prof. Morton Weinfeld** of McGill University speaks on Anti-Semitism, Free Speech, Hate Speech. Service begins 8:45 a.m. Reservations (paid) no later than Tuesday, Jan. 5. 781-3511, ext. 10.

PARENT AND BABY TIME

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, Parent and Baby Time featuring baby massage, starts Tuesday, Jan. 5, 11 a.m. to noon for six consecutive Tuesdays, at Council House, $48. **Rachel** 905-731-7216.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Open house, information session for students (18 plus) interested in volunteering as a medic for Magen David Adom this summer in Israel.

Continued on page 19

Coast to Coast

Canadian activist protests new Israeli highway

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Protesters rally against construction of Highway 6 in Israel.

TORONTO — A Canadian activist protesting against the construction of Israel's first toll highway, is not about to give up the fight, although most environmental groups have already abandoned the cause.

"As they say, 'It ain't over 'till it's over' and I'm going to do everything in my power to stop this project," said Henry Gold. The former Montrealer is leading Green Action, an Israeli environmental group, in its campaign against the construction of Highway 6, which ironically is being built by an international consortium led by Canadian Highways International Corp.

"I think every person who cares about Eretz Yisrael should support us," he said.

On a recent visit with friends in Toronto, Gold, 46, a Jerusalem resident since 1993, told *The CJN* he objects to the project because the proliferation of roads and cars is bad for the environment, and the new toll road will only benefit a small group of wealthy Israelis.

Many people have tried to discourage him from waging a public relations battle with the developers and politicians, he said.

"I was told nothing can be done, that it is impossible to do anything...They say this is a David and Goliath battle, in that we're taking on tremendous economic powers."

But Gold is not one to be swayed by naysayers. A professional social activist, he is the founding director of Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR).

From 1984 to 1993, he coordinated relief operations in Africa, and he said that during his tenure, CPAR, which now operates on a multi-million-dollar budget, became a model for other international relief organizations.

"We were told that nothing could be done to help. But through the initiative and perseverance of three or four people, we were able to save thousands of people. We refused to take a defeatist attitude. And it's the same thing now."

He said he opposes the construction of Highway 6, which is modelled after Highway 407 in Ontario, because it will only be used by rich Israelis who can afford to pay the substantial toll costs; essentially the government is taking a huge financial risk to spare wealthy people the inconvenience of rush hour gridlock.

Gold criticized the deal signed between the Israeli government and the international consortium set to build the road: the government will guarantee up to 80 percent of any losses the consortium incurs on the project, estimated to cost $3 billion (US).

Gold predicts that the toll highway will be under-utilized by the public, and thus be a money loser for the consortium and ultimately the government.

Citing an article about Highway 407 in the November issue of *Toronto Life*, Gold said the magazine reported that Highway 407 is not well used because few people want to pay the cost of the tolls, and he foresees the same scenario occurring in Israel.

Estimates that Highway 6 would stimulate $15 billion in economic benefits is incorrect because "the formula they used to justify these high numbers is obsolete," he said.

"There is an assumption that the road building will kick-start the economy by creating several thousand jobs. Unfortunately, I wish it were true. But it's not, because most of the people who are going to be working on the highway are foreign workers.

"In Canada, construction jobs – at least government construction jobs – are well paying, but in Israel they hire foreigners to do this kind of labor because they work for less money...Israelis won't work for such low wages."

According to Gold, the auditor general of Israel and even Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in his pre-election campaign, called for a re-evaluation of the project.

"It's simply nonsensical," Gold said. "Both the government and the public know it. This is a project that is poorly thought out, poorly designed, which will cause irreversible damage.

"Israel is such a small country with so little green space. Any project of this magnitude should be assessed and re-assessed. There should be a public inquiry before they start building."

Gold accused the government of spending money on highways at the expense of public transportation. For instance, the train connecting Tel Aviv to Jerusalem is no longer operating because the tracks are supposedly unsafe, he noted.

"Rather than invest money in saving and improving the train, the government's priority is to build highways...To add insult to injury, the land that belonged to the train authority has been allocated for the highway.

"The Israelis have adopted the California mentality of 40 years ago, basing a system of transportation on a model to build more and more roads – to create urban sprawl, traffic jams and pollution."

What's New

Continued from page 18

Wednesday, Dec. 30 or Jan. 6, 7 p.m., 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300. Israel Aliyah Centre. 633-4766.

PROJECT OSHER

Open house information session for students (18-22) interested in eight weeks in Israel from Feb. 14, Wednesday, Dec. 30 or Jan. 6, 8 p.m., 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300. Israel Aliyah Centre. 633-4766.

KABBALAT SHABBAT

Congregation Keshet Shalom Kabbalat Shabbat, Friday, Jan. 8, services 8 p.m., kiddush at 9, at Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. Rainbow Line 925-1408.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Adult Yiddish conversation classes, all levels, at locations all across Toronto including new downtown location and Thornhill. Evening and day classes, Sunday-Thursday, 10 weeks, beginning week of Jan. 10. Yiddish Hotline 635-2883, ext. 150. Also, children's beginners Yiddish classes offered.

ART CLASSES

Drawing and painting, all levels, Thursdays, 1-3 p.m., Jan. 7 to March 11, at Beth Sholom Synagogue. $10 per class, $85 for 10 sessions. **Terri,** instructor, 487-7244.

SINGLES MOVIE NIGHT

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles movie night, *Good Will Hunting* starring **Robin Williams**, mix and mingle, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. at synagogue. $10.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work, daytime, evening begin Jan. 28; Social Skills Groups for Children seven to adolescents – Adolescents begins Jan. 11, 7-12 years begins Jan. 25; Single Parent Challenge begins Jan. 26.

SINGLES SCENE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda and Beth Tikvah singles group (35-55), Skate Day Sunday, Dec. 27, 2-4 p.m., Irving Chapley Arena. If no snow, indoor games, hot chocolate.

New Year's party for 35-55 group, buffet and music, 8 p.m. $35. Register with **Ada** 630-7757.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tzedec Seniors Haverim program, Bring Beauty Into Your Life – Say It With Flowers with **Patricia Patrick**, professional flower arranger and designer, Monday, Jan. 4, 1:30 p.m. $2.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 31, party for members; Jan. 7, bingo; Jan. 14, lecture by **Noam Raz**, envoy for Hashomer Hatzair; Jan. 21, video; Jan. 28, evening of song. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 31, New Year's Eve dinner/dance; Jan. 4, Thornhill Square Mall; Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 10, 24, Casino Rama. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors package deal to Florida Saxony Hotel leaving Jan. 25, includes Canadian funds, hotel, plane, airport to hotel and back to airport, all taxes, heated pool, $2,999. **Helen** 635-6343.

Hungarian Seniors' Writing Group, Wednesdays Jan. 6-June 30, 2-4 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Participants bring their own work or favorite readings to discuss. Conversation in Hungarian. 395-5440.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

The Caregiver Education Series presents **Shirley Weiss**, senior coordinator with Circle of Care, speaking on Caring for a Loved One at Home - The Emotional Impact on Families, 1:15 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 7.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, sing-alongs, lectures, bingo, dances. Dec. 29 is bingo. **Anna**.

Movie *True Lies* Sunday, Dec. 27, 2:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Register for the winter session of BJC 55+ courses, **Teme** ext. 364.: Ballroom Dancing – waltz, tango, fox trot, cha cha and more (partner not necessary), Monday, Jan. 4, 10 weeks, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Needlecrafts – crochet, knitting, crewel, all levels, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 10 weeks, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Beginners Bridge Thursday, Jan. 14, 10 weeks, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Line Dancing, Friday, Jan. 8, 10 weeks, 1-2:30 p.m.

World Issues – Current Events restarts Thursday, Jan. 7, 1-2:30 p.m., in-depth discussions with **Doug Haddow.** Call **Teme.**

55+ Department of Adult Services, co-sponsored with Toronto District School Board, winter session starts week of Jan. 11: Bridge, Intermediate Wednesday 1-3 p.m.; Tai Chi Beginners Thursday, 2-3:30 p.m.; Tai Chi Intermediate/Advanced Friday 9:30-11 a.m.; Yoga Thursday noon to 1:30 p.m. Register at first class. **Teme.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Winter programs for preschoolers, children, teens, adults. Classes start the week of Jan. 4. Register.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 16

ABOUT PEOPLE

POETRY AND MUSIC

Toronto poet **Donia Blumenfeld Clenman** has an impressive list of her poems that have been set to music. Among them are:

In Memory of Yitzhak Rabin, set to music by **Srul Irving Glick,** performed by the Elmer Iseler Singers and also broadcast on CBC's *Two New Hours*.

Music for Chanukah, a suite of five poems also set to music by Glick, three performances by the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus.

A Ballad of Peace, set to music as a cantata for choir and orchestra performed at MacMillan Theatre and aired on CJRT-FM.

In addition, her poem, *With Timbrels and Dance* was awarded a Certificate of Merit in the 1998 Israel Poetry for Peace Prize.

NA'AMAT PRESIDENT

Susie Shillow (left) newly installed president of Na'amat-Toronto, with immediate past-president Paula Schipper at recent tribute and installation dinner. Marylin Myers, national vice-president, Na'amat Canada, was installing officer.

[Mollie Rothman photo]

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region Chair Keith Landry (centre) praised MPP Ted Chudleigh (second from left), Attorney General Charles Harnick (second from right) and their fellow Ontario legislators for being the first province in Canada to proclaim an annual Holocaust Memorial Day-Yom Hashoah. CJC National President Moshe Ronen (left) and National Vice-President Cary Green (right) were among those in attendance at a reception at Queen's Park. The bill, sponsored by Chudleigh, passed third reading unanimously in the Legislature.

TAY-SACHS SCREENING CLINIC

Pictured at Jewish Women International of Canada's recent successful Tay-Sachs Screening Clinic held at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue are seated left Mitzi Dickstein, JWI Tay -Sachs co-chair; standing Lucille Bensky, JWI Tay-Sachs co-chair, and seated Dr. Joe Clarke, Hospital for Sick Children.

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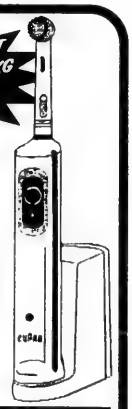

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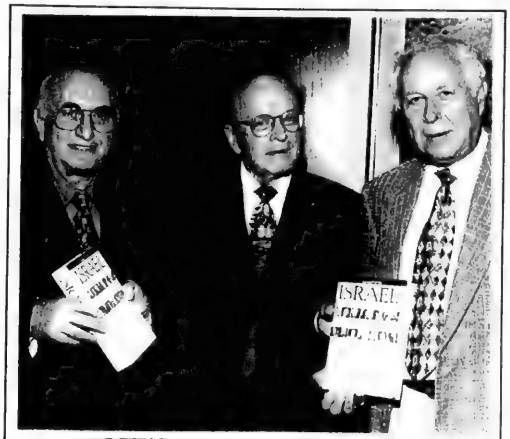

JCT'S 1999 DINNER DRAW

David Anisman (centre) presents Joseph Klasner (left) and Saul Feldberg with mementoes of appreciation for their efforts in last year's dinner draw for the Jerusalem College of Technology. The three will again chair the next dinner draw, to take place at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue Feb. 23. For details, call 787-7565.

Audience in awe of survivor

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — More than 200 men, women and children in a Halifax audience sat in quiet awe as Holocaust survivor Helena Jockel told her story.

More than a few people wiped tears from their eyes as she told of the horrors she and so many others experienced in her year of incarceration at Auschwitz and other Nazi death camps between 1944 and 1945. And when she concluded her speech, the audience at Dalhousie University's Student Union Building rose in tribute to her courage.

Jockel, who came to Halifax 10 years ago, was the keynote speaker during celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. With her voice breaking, yet strong, she urged the young people in the audience to "please, please, please be good to each other, help each other.

"This world is your world. Please make it a nice and happy world for everybody, no matter what his religion, color of his skin, sexual orientation, or if he is damaged by nature or accident."

Speeches, dramatic presentations, songs and the first Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission journalism awards highlighted the two-hour session.

Jockel, born in Czechoslovakia, and a Hungary resident during the war, was taken to the camp during the German occupation. A university graduate and teacher, she spent three weeks in an open ghetto with no shelter and little food and water. Transferred by cattle car to Auschwitz, she survived through what she termed "a humiliating experience."

Jockel said the Germans, realizing the war was lost and wanting to destroy any witnesses, loaded everyone into cattle cars in January 1945 and sent them to four other camps. "I don't have the strength today to describe the suffering there until the time we were liberated. Maybe another place, another time."

Halifax Jewish university student Lauren Abrahams thanked Jockel, and reminded the students in the audience that "human rights abuses still go on. It's up to all of us, but especially you leaders of tomorrow to end these atrocities.

"You can stand up when you see someone being picked on because of differences in their appearance or religion or race. It's up to you to build a better tomorrow."

The event also featured a presentation by Voices, an African-Canadian theatre and music group, which offered a brief history of black life and struggles in Nova Scotia.

Human Rights Day was sponsored by the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, Canadian Human Rights Commission, Canadian Heritage, Human Resources Development Canada, Atlantic Jewish Council, Dalhousie University Public Administration Student's Society, Cultural Awareness Youth Group of Nova Scotia and Scotiabank.

Hebrew educators meet

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — A recent professional development day, co-sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) and Jewish Family Services of Ottawa, attracted more than 60 Hebrew school educators.

In her keynote address, Frances Pearlman, a teacher from Bloomfield, Minn., told the teachers that "as a teacher of Torah, I find that I am constantly looking at the world through Jewish eyes. We have to be able to understand that the content itself is not sufficient. Every teacher has to be a model...it is very important for the children to see that the teacher practices what she teaches."

She urged the teachers to remember that they "have taken on an awesome responsibility, using your Jewish life to model Jewish life."

Pearlman also led workshops on alternative Holiday Programming. Other workshops included dealing with different learning styles, learning disabilities, and multi-level classroom instruction.

Zelaine Shinder, chair of the Board of Jewish Education praised Lauren Shaps, a social worker with the student support program of Jewish Family Services for recognizing the need for the professional development day, and presenting the idea to BJE.

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Israelis lower their guard as Iraq bombing ends

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — With the end of the U.S. and British air strikes against Iraq, Israel has lowered its preparations against a possible Iraqi attack.

But Israeli officials say they see the halting of the strikes as a lull in the ongoing crisis with Iraq, and not an end to it.

During the recent crisis, Patriot anti-missile batteries were stationed outside major Israeli cities. But with the halt to the strikes over the weekend, the batteries were moved back to army bases. Patriots were used during the 1991 Gulf War to try to intercept Scud missiles fired by Iraq at Israel.

The Israeli army was expected to release hundreds of reservists who had been called up as a preventive measure. Gas mask distribution centres also reduced their operations, which were increased last week.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said the situation in Iraq would still have to be closely watched.

Most Israelis reacted to the latest tension in the Gulf with indifference. Gas mask distribution centres reported a low turnout of people seeking to update their kits.

The tensions did have a major impact, however, in the West Bank, where Palestinians and Israeli troops clashed Saturday during pro-Iraq demonstrations.

More than 100 Palestinians were reported wounded in the clashes. The Palestinian Authority, trying to restrict demonstrations of solidarity for Iraq, detained a number of Palestinian journalists covering the events.

On Sunday, the Palestinian Authority also lifted a ban on foreign news organizations that had attempted to cover Palestinian demonstrations in support of Iraq.

Palestinian officials had imposed the ban in an effort to squelch reports about the demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a source of embarrassment to the self-rule government, which has sought improved ties with the United States.

Cape Town shul bombed

By SUZANNE BELLING
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JOHANNESBURG — South African Jews are outraged by the bombing of a synagogue in a suburb of Cape Town early last Friday, which some suspect of being perpetrated by Muslims protesting the U.S. bombardment of Iraq.

Nobody was hurt in the explosion, which occurred just after midnight, about two hours after congregants had left the synagogue following a Chanukah party.

But the blast shattered the ornate stained-glass doors and windows inside the synagogue, one of the oldest in Cape Town.

"Thank God, nobody was hurt and there was no damage to anything inside the sanctuary," said Mickey Glass, executive director of the Union of Orthodox Synagogues in Cape Town.

The blast rocked the entire suburb of Wynberg, once a stronghold of Cape Town Jewry, and now an area occupied by a large number of Muslims.

Misguided missiles

By ZE'EV SCHIFF
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Even if Iraqi military facilities sustained severe damage in the four days of bombing by American and British forces, there is no sign that Iraq's weapons of mass destruction were hit.

Analysis

The sanctions imposed on Baghdad will undoubtedly continue, but it is unlikely that the UN inspections will be renewed at a serious level.

In short, the end result is that Saddam Hussein will go on manufacturing weapons of mass destruction, perhaps even more intensively than before.

A key question is what effect the results of the operation will have on Iran. Will those responsible for manufacturing deadly weapons in that country decide that they have to accelerate their projects even more because Saddam Hussein is going to obtain such weapons? Intelligence sources say the Iranian program has been proceeding at full tilt for some time, regardless of what Iraq is doing.

It is clear that Iraq sustained damage, but the scale is not yet known. Only U.S. and British intelligence know why the various targets were chosen. However, even if they knew where the illicit weapons were being hidden, they have no way of knowing whether the weapons were buried under the rubble of the buildings razed to the ground by the Tomahawk cruise missiles.

It is not clear if the operation was meant to last four days or whether the decision to stop was taken in midstream. Nor is it clear whether the Americans and the British will be willing to resume the bombing if they find targets where weapons are manufactured or stored. Perhaps they will act only if Iraq actually attacks one of its neighbors.

If Saddam Hussein concludes that the danger has passed, he will find this a spur to continue the production of his deadly weapons. In that case Operation Desert Fox will go down as a failure.

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On behalf of all Canadian Holocaust Survivors, the following representatives were recognized by the Federal Government and National Jewish Organizations at a special ceremony in Ottawa on November 18, 1998.

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Klara Belkin
Morris Bitterman
Albert Blum
Martha Blum
Lillian Boraks-Nemetz
Ruben Bortenstein
Wolf Bronet
Elsa Chandler
Sidney Cyngiser
Leslie Dan
Louis Danto
Elizabeth De Jong
David Ehrlich
Aron Eichler
Alex Eisen
Margot Engel
Robert Engel
Saul Feldberg
Gerda Frieberg
Vera Gara
Solomon Gisser
Mendel Good
Elly Gotz
Alex Grossman
Max Hubschman
Rachel Hyams
Max Iland
Leah Kaufman
Mania Kay
David Kilberg
David Korn
Chaim Kornfeld
Mira Koschitzky
Robert Krell
Michael Kutz
David Makow
Bernice Meller
George Reinitz
Philip Riteman
Jack Rosen
Michael Rosenberg
Walter Salzberg
Rena Schondorf
Fanny Silberman
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Elections in Israel likely

Continued from page 1

• acknowledge that the Wye accord does not call on Israel to release any Palestinian prisoners with blood on their hands;
• stop inciting violence among the Palestinian people;
• confiscate illegal weapons; and
• reduce the Palestinian police force to the size specified in the Oslo accords.

The prime minister sought the Cabinet vote to shore up right-wing support in advance of the crucial Knesset vote on Monday.

Stirring up an already agitated political scene ahead of Monday's vote to dissolve the Knesset, former chief of staff Amnon Shahak said on the weekend that he had decided to run for prime minister at the head of a new centrist party, not as part of a ticket with Labor party chief Ehud Barak.

Barak, who is also a former chief of staff, tried unsuccessfully to dissuade Shahak from this course, arguing that if they divided their forces the beneficiary would be Netanyahu.

Sources close to Shahak told *Ha'aretz* that "the goal is not to save the Labor party but to oust Netanyahu. Amnon can do it, and that is what is important."

Some of the prime minister's aides were counselling him to call an election within 60 days. This would effectively neutralize the entry of Shahak into the prime ministerial elections.

Shahak is still formally in the IDF and is thus legally ineligible to run for office. As the law now stands, Shahak has to undergo a "cooling off" period of 100 days after his formal discharge from the military. For him to avoid the cooling off period, the consent of President Ezer Weizman would be necessary.

Some of those in Netanyahu's close circle suggested another way by which he could neutralize both Shahak and former Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo. If Netanyahu were to resign, elections would be held for the position of prime minister only – and only currently serving MKs would be eligible to run under the law.

Much of the talk about early elections has focused on the possible formation of a new, centrist party and who would lead it.

Among the names put forward as possible candidates for the new party are Shahak, Milo and Likud Knesset member Dan Meridor.

An opinion poll indicated that Shahak would be Netanyahu's most formidable challenger if new elections were held.

Shahak's possible candidacy raised concern in the Labor party, which views him as someone who could split the vote with Labor leader, Ehud Barak, and force a runoff between one of them and Netanyahu.

With files from JTA and Ha'aretz

The Week in Israel

Dec. 14

• President Bill Clinton thanked Palestinian leaders for rejecting the anti-Israel clauses in the Palestinian charter during a public vote on the matter by the PNC, which he attended. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accepted the outcome of the Gaza meeting.

Dec. 15

• Netanyahu criticized Clinton for equating the children of Palestinians jailed for murder with the children of Israeli victims of terror. (Clinton subsequently apologized for his remarks.)

Dec. 16

• Netanyahu told the cabinet he would not meet a Friday deadline for carrying out the next West Bank redeployment called for under the Wye accords. The Palestinians had yet to fulfil a number of Wye commitments, Netanyahu said.

Dec. 17

• Iraq is unlikely to target Israel as it did during the 1991 Gulf War, according to Israeli army intelligence officials. Just the same, some 90 gas mask distribution centres opened after the United States and Britain launched Operation Desert Fox against Iraq.

• Former prime minister Shimon Peres said two Israelis charged with spying in Cyprus were trying to stop a terrorist act against the Jewish state. The arrest of the two Mossad agents has fuelled suspicion that the men were acting on behalf of Turkey.

Dec. 18

• In the wake of Operation Desert Fox, some 800 British tourists have left Israel, after British tour organizers in Eilat warned their clients to make an immediate departure. However, other air traffic to and from Israel has proceeded normally.

• The next elections may be conducted under the old system, if a bill to annul the direct election of the prime minister is passed on its first Knesset reading Dec. 22, said MK Hanan Porat, who chairs the Knesset's constitution, law and justice committee. *(A bill to dissolve the Knesset was also on the same day's legislative agenda.)*

Files from the JTA and Ha'aretz

Covenant annulled; what's next?

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

The gathering of hundreds of Palestinian representatives in the Gaza Strip last week felt like a remake of an old movie.

The members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), along with other groups, jumped to their feet and raised their hands to show President Bill Clinton that they no longer seek Israel's destruction.

Their actions bore a striking resemblance to what they did in the spring of 1996, when the group voted by an overwhelming majority in favor of a vaguely worded resolution amending the covenant "by annulling clauses which contradict the exchange of letters between the PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization] and the government of Israel on Sept. 9 and 10, 1993."

The script was almost identical, and so were the protagonists. The actors, members of the PNC reinforced by newcomers, seemed tired; but the censor, Israel, wanted yet another scene, before it would approve the film's release.

And as on the earlier occasion, this week's vote, which passed by an overwhelming majority, was met with praise.

Clinton thanked Palestinian leaders in the Gaza Strip for rejecting the anti-Israel clauses in the Palestinian charter. Even Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who had sought a formal vote annulling the clauses, said he accepted the outcome of the Gaza meeting.

But it remained unclear whether the move would end the more than 30-year controversy surrounding the covenant and solve the latest stumbling block in the peace talks.

The PNC was formed in 1964 as the supreme legislative body of the Palestinian people. Long known as the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, the PNC was supposed to be elected directly by the Palestinian people, but these elections never materialized.

Its influence has waned in recent years, with the formation of the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian Council, which represent Palestinians living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The charter was adopted at what later became known as the first meeting of the PNC. On June 2, 1964, at the Ambassador Hotel in eastern Jerusalem, the 33 articles of the Palestinian charter were approved – 28 of which negate Israel's right to exist and call for its annihilation.

It is those articles that Israel has insisted be revoked.

Some of the clauses do, indeed, sharply contrast with the current Palestinian policy of coexistence. The first three articles declare that the Palestinian people have the sole right to Palestine in its pre-1948 borders.

According to Article 9, "Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine," and Article 19 says, "The partition of Palestine in 1947 and the establishment of the State of Israel are entirely illegal."

For the past 10 years, even before the Oslo process, Palestinian leaders had said the covenant was no longer in effect.

On Sept. 9, 1993, prior to the signing of the Oslo accords, Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat wrote a letter to Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin committing himself to changing the clauses negating Israel's right to exist and those that contradict the Palestinian promise to refrain from violence.

After Netanyahu took over as prime minister, and after the Palestinians failed to come through on their promise to redraft the covenant, the issue heated up once again.

Last January, Arafat spelled out in a letter to Clinton the 28 articles that would be annulled. The PLO Executive Committee and Central Council ratified the letter last week, and the PNC, joined by others, approved it in front of the president last week.

But despite the initial positive reviews, it remains to be seen whether this latest scene in the Israeli-Palestinian drama will lead to tangible progress in the peace process, or whether it will just be another burst of optimism that wanes over time.

Dry Bones

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BUT IN A BRILLIANT COST-SAVING MOVE...
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FLAG FLAMED
Palestinians supporting Iraq and President Saddam Hussein burn an American flag during an anti-American rally in a refugee camp outside Bethlehem last week. Middle East states condemned the combined U.S. and British air strikes against Iraq while Palestinians called for an emergency Arab summit. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Millennium tourists concern officials

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

JERUSALEM — Jerusalem police and psychiatrists are worried about the possible influx of tourists and pilgrims this coming Christmas and throughout 2000.

While politicians and tourism officials are touting the hype for the millennium as a good thing for the economy and for publicity, police and psychiatrists are already dreading what they're up against.

"In two years time, Jerusalem will be in the centre of mankind," Mayor Ehud Olmert told a small press conference. "We have to get Jerusalem ready, beautify the city. We are expecting millions of people."

And it is these millions – tourists and doomsday cults – that have police and hospital staff worried.

Dr. Yair Bar-El, director of Jerusalem's Kfar Shaul State Mental Health Hospital, said there are three mental disorders that afflict tourists. He and his staff are doing all they can to prepare.

"We are currently in a process of discussing with the Palestinians what to do," Bar-El told *The Canadian Jewish News*, referring to the problems the Palestinians will encounter in Bethlehem. "We are teaching them how to detect the mental disorders early and to treat them."

Overwhelmed by the impact of the city's religious and historical heritage, many people come to Jerusalem, and believe themselves to be characters in the Bible, he said. Some are temporarily deranged, while others are violent and cause damage to holy sites throughout the city.

In 1992, a U.S. Christian went into a violent rage in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, smashed lamps and tore down the cross marking the traditional site of the crucifixion of Jesus.

Bar-El said this type of behavior belongs to the group of people who possess "strange beliefs that they can do something in Jerusalem to provoke change in the society and religion."

He said this type of person is generally not mentally diseased, but is dangerous, and can cause extensive harm. Ninety percent of those afflicted with this type of disorder are Protestant, said Bar-El, suggesting this could be because, in their beliefs, Jerusalem is the only holy place.

More recently, police refused entry into Israel to two Christians they learned had intended to carry out an attack on the Temple Mount "to precipitate Armageddon." Police would not comment on this incident or other security plans for the millennium.

There are two other groups of people afflicted by Jerusalem's mystique. Those affected include Jews, Christians of all denominations, and Muslims, said Bar-El.

One group is comprised of people who have real psychiatric problems and decide that they must come to Jerusalem. "They arrive here identifying with the figures of the Bible," said Bar-El, adding they too are dangerous, as they often act out.

The other includes people who are "not really mental, but have strange feelings," said Bar-El. This affliction, which tends to last approximately seven days, has been termed the Jerusalem syndrome. Bar-El has studied this phenomnon for over a decade, but can trace it back much further.

He cited the example of an English Christian woman who was certain of Christ's second coming in the 1930s, and who would climb up Mount Scopus to welcome Jesus back to earth with a cup of tea.

Another example is that of a Canadian Jew claiming to be Samson, who tried to smash through a wall of a room to prove his identity.

This group, said Bar-El, is not dangerous to the public, although they can be disruptive.

While there is a lot of speculation about the cause of the Jerusalem syndrome, Bar-El suggested that people go temporarily crazy because the "deep subconscious of a person can't cope with the internal images and the real images" of holy places in Jerusalem.

About 150 foreign visitors each year, said Bar-El, are affected by one of the disorders. Hospital staff estimate this number will at least double over the course of the year, as the number of tourists increases with the coming of the millennium.

There are currently three tourists in the Kfar Shaul Hospital suffering from Jerusalem syndrome. Bar-El said his staff treats people throughout the year, but during Passover and Christmas, the numbers tend to rise.

Christian sufferers tend to break down at traditional sites such as the Mount of Olives, the Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre or the Garden Tomb. They identify with Jesus, the Virgin Mary and John the Baptist. Jewish sufferers tend to identify with Samson, Moses and King David.

Cults are another concern, said Bar-El. The disappearance in October of the doomsday group, Concerned Christians, a Denver cult reportedly headed to Jerusalem to commit mass suicide before the millennium, is just one of many cases police and psychiatrists will have to deal with during this Christmas season and next.

Meanwhile, Father Claudio Baratto of the Agency for Guarding the Holy Sites in Israel, said his institution, which takes care of Christian shrines throughout Israel in conjuction with the state, is not worried about the number of tourists coming en masse to Israel, and said they do not have any special plans for keeping the sites safe.

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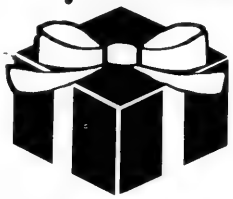

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A bumper crop year for 'Jewish' films

By LARRY ANKLEWICZ
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — This year has seen a bumper crop of "Jewish" films and videos, many of which are now available at your local video store.

The most memorable is *The Truce*, the stirring story of Italian writer Primo Levi. Levi was a young chemist when World War II broke out and he joined a group of partisans in the mountains. The Germans quickly tracked down the inexperienced freedom fighters and sent them to Auschwitz.

The Truce opens with the liberation of Auschwitz and follows Levi's tortured attempts to return to his native Italy. John Turturro gives a truly memorable performance as Levi.

This year also saw the video release of two significant documentaries: *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies, and the American Dream* and *The Long Way Home*.

Hollywoodism, directed by Torontonian Simcha Jacobovici, describes the creation of the Hollywood studio system by a small group of Jews who were driven out of eastern Europe and saw in Hollywood an opportunity to create an America in the image of their own hopes and dreams.

Whether or not you agree with its premise, *Hollywoodism* is a fascinating study of the power a few Jewish men were able to gain in a very short period of time and the influence they exercised over the American way of life.

The Long Way Home is the Academy Award-winning documentary produced by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. It details the trials and tribulations encountered by Holocaust survivors attempting to flee eastern Europe and make their way to their new homeland in Palestine. It is a story and a film worth viewing many times.

A number of films made for cable television were also released on video this year, including *The Rescuers: Stories In Courage*, a series of one-hour films co-produced by Barbra Streisand, and broadcast on Showtime in the United States.

The first video in the series, *Two Women*, consists of two films about individual women who risked their lives to save Jews from the Nazis.

The second video, *Two Couples*, also consists of two films, each about a married couple who sheltered Jews in their homes during World War II.

Also from cable is *A Call To Remember*, a moving story about a married couple who survived the war and came to the United States to start a new life and family. After almost 20 years, the wife learns her son from a pre-war marriage is alive and will be coming to America soon.

Not In This Town is another made-for-cable film about a true incident in Billings, Mont., involving a local hate group which tried to turn the town against its minorities, only to be stopped by the courage of a Jewish woman and the local sheriff.

Twilight of the Golds is a bit of a hybrid. Originally produced for cable, it was shown theatrically for a short time. The film deals with a Jewish couple who must decide whether to abort a pregnancy as a result of tests done on the fetus. It presents a moral dilemma that is worth watching and discussing.

American Pop is an animated feature tracing four generations of American musicians from the time they fled Russian pogroms to modern times when the youngest member of the family has lost all memory of his Jewish ancestry. It is a chilling story of assimilation and lost roots.

Also released on video this year were *I Love, I Love You Not* and *I Love You Don't Touch Me*. The first, *I Love You, I Love You Not*, is a film about the teenage granddaughter of a Holocaust survivor who learns her friends may be more prejudiced than she expected. The second, *I Love You Don't Touch Me*, is the story of a Jewish woman and her romantic entanglements.

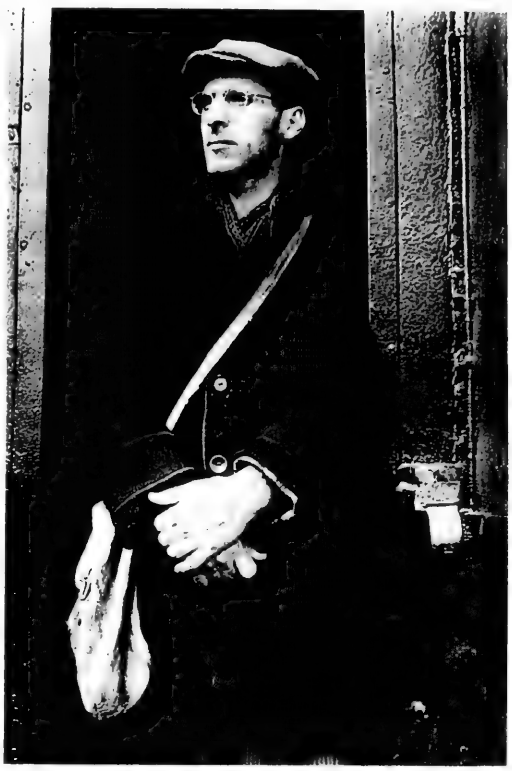
Some other "Jewish" releases:

• *The Tango Lesson*, a small independent film about a Jewish filmmaker seduced by tango dancing who offers to trade a film role for dance lessons and romance.

• *A Price Above Rubies*, a troubling film about a Chassidic woman getting involved in a series of affairs.

• *The Assignment*, an action film about a team of Israeli and American agents tracking the notorious terrorist Carlos the Jackal.

• *Family of Cops*, two films about a family of Jewish police officers featuring Charles Bronson in the lead role.



John Turturo as Primo Levi in The Truce.

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ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.

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CORRECTION

The name of the shtetl in the story "Video helps young people understand the Holocaust" (Dec. 17) was wrong. It should be Rokitna, in the region of Volyn, Russia.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MAYNE FETED IN ISRAEL FOR BOOK OF POEMS

Seymour Mayne, a prolific poet and professor of English at the University of Ottawa, recently visited Israel to launch *The City of the Hidden* (Gevanim, Tel Aviv), his fourth book of poems to be translated into Hebrew.

Mayne was recently profiled in Israel's *Ha'Aretz Magazine*. "To be Jewish does not contradict being Canadian," he said. "As a writer, editor and anthologist publishing in Canada for 40 years, I feel totally at home and accepted."

Not only did Mayne boast of Canada's many well-known Jewish writers, such as **Klein**, **Layton**, **Waddington**, **Cohen**, **Richler** and **Michaels**, he also mentioned a more obscure name – **Isidore Ascher**, a Montreal Jewish poet who started writing in the late 19th century.

Acknowledging that he has spent at least five of the last 30 years in Israel, Mayne admitted he does not always feel like an insider in Israel. "No matter how close I may feel to my Israeli friends, I don't share their day-to-day reality," he said. "I come from a quiet, civil and rather undramatic society in the north of North America. Israel is the diametric opposite of Canada, politically, socially and weatherwise."

The Israel Association for Canadian Studies, the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies and the Canada Council of the Arts joined in sponsoring a poetry reading by Mayne last month at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's campus on Mount Scopus.

***

First Night Toronto: Starting at noon on Dec. 31, First Night Toronto presents exciting new shows and music, theatre, dance, film, story-telling, puppetry, clowns and much more fun for the whole family. Admission buttons may be purchased in advance for $8 (family pack $28) at Harbourfront or participating Loblaw's stores. 973-3000. [Web site, www.firstnight-toronto.com].

***

Names in the News: Murray Frum, the Toronto-based real estate developer and philanthropist, has recently been named head of the charitable arm of the Ontario Arts Council. Meanwhile his daughter, **Linda Frum**, a board member on the arts council, is a columnist for Toronto's new daily, the *National Post*. Son and brother **David Frum** has appeared in the Post as well.

• **David Buchbinder**, leader of the **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band** and creative director of the biennial Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture, wrote some of the music for the soundtrack of *Jerry and Tom*, a big-budget American film that opened recently in Toronto.

The film features **Maury Chaykin** in a lead role and was directed by **Saul Rubinek**, who can be seen briefly in one of the scenes. Both Rubinek and Chaykin are Torontonians who have made it big in Hollywood.

• Speaking of Ashkenaz, the lively week-long celebration of Yiddishkeit attracted more than 70,000 people to Harbourfront in the summer of 1997.

Planning is well under way for Ashkenaz '99, which is slated for Aug. 30 to Sept. 6. According to plans, the fest will open with a large parade and will feature the Ashkenaz Orchestra Project, a 20-piece ensemble of the hottest international Yiddish musicians, performing new works commissioned for the festival. Volunteers wanted. 703-6892. Web site [www.ashkenaz.org].

***

Judith Cohen CD: Incomplete information appeared recently in these pages regarding the CD *Dans Mon Chemin J'ai Rencontre...*, by Toronto ethno-musicologist **Judith Cohen**. The CD is on the Interdisc label, and may be ordered from Interdisc by phoning 514-887-2384. To order it directly from Cohen, visit her web page at [www.yorku.ca/faculty/academic/judithc/judith_cohen.htm]

***

In the Spotlight: Cellist **Shaun Rolston** has been captivating audiences worldwide since the age of two. She made a spectacular debut at New York's Town Hall at the age of 16, and usually wins critical claim whenever she performs.

"Her relationships with the instrument was completely natural; no physical movement was alien, and her own breathing was intimately related to the music's," commented a *New York Times* reviewer about one of her performances.

A member of the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto, Rolston recently recorded a CD with **Bernadene Blaha** on piano, featuring music by **Richard Strauss**, **Claude Debussy**, **Samuel Barber**, **Witold Lutoslawki** and **Olivier Messiaen**. The CD is on the CBC record label.

Jubilee Award goes to Brampton

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Deciding to do business in Israel made good sense for Nortel Networks, says John Roth, vice-chairman and CEO of the company.

Recently, David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, presented Roth with the Israel Jubilee Award for Business in recognition of Nortel's substantial investments in Israel.

The award states, in part, that the Brampton-based firm "has demonstrated a long-term commitment to building a world-class telecommunications network in Israel. In cooperation with Telrad, Nortel Networks introduced the first digital telecommunications switch in Israel in 1982. The company continues to demonstrate its commitment to Israel through recent projects with the Ministry of Defence, Cellcom, Baraq and Gold Lines."

The presentation came two months after the Jubilee Business Summit hosted by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. At the summit – held in part to introduce Israel to international business leaders not acquainted with the Israeli economy – Netanyahu presented the Israel Jubilee Award to companies that had invested more than $50 million in the economy of Israel.

For companies considering doing business with Israel – or any foreign country – patience, persistence and the formation of a partnership are "absolutely critical," Roth told *The CJN*. "You need to make a long-term commitment."

Over the years, Telrad ended up doing a lot of research and development for Nortel. The Israeli company now manufactures variants of Nortel products that are sold in many countries, said Roth.

Nortel networks has a presence in over 150 countries and territories, with offices and facilities in North America, Europe, Asia/Pacific, the Caribbean and Latin America, the Middle East and Africa.

Firm eyes Israel

By JOSEPH SERGE
Business Editor

TORONTO — Club Monaco Inc. announced last week it will be opening stores in Israel as early as next year.

"Israel has long been an important target market for Club Monaco," said Sol Nayman, Club Monaco's chief operating officer in Toronto. "Israeli consumers have a strong awareness of Club Monaco, which they have acquired from their travels to North America."

Nayman said the first store is expected to open in the fall of 1999 although he refused to say exactly where until all the arrangements are made and contracts signed.

He did say it will probably be in a shopping mall of a major city.

If all goes well Nayman envisions around five stores within the next three years. "We have to grow with a focus not simply for the sake of growing," he said.

Club Monaco has over 120 stores in North America and Asia. It markets men's, women's and children's apparel, home fashions, and color cosmetics and licenses jewelry and eyewear.

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

DIG AT YAVNEH YAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Yavneh Yam, an ancient site on the Mediterranean between Jaffa and Ashdod, is revealing its secrets to archeologists.

Since 1992, a team of archeologists has uncovered remains from the Hellenistic period to the Middle Ages, including buildings, mosaic pavements, fine ceramics and glass objects, metal artifacts and many coins. An oil lamp depicting the seven-branch menorah (circa 4th-5th century CE) has also been unearthed.

The dig, headed by Prof. Moshe Fischer of the classics department at Tel Aviv University, is focused on establishing the nature of the encounter and conflict between Near Eastern civilizations and the Greek and Roman culture on the coast of Eretz Yisrael.

The Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University has been assisting to publicize and find volunteers for the dig's fifth season, scheduled from July 11 to Aug. 20, 1999. Volunteers may sign up for one or more of three two-week periods within this six-week time frame.

The fee for two weeks of participation is $600 (US), including full board and accommodation at the modern Youth Village Ayanoth. Also included, is an introductory course to archeology of the Holy Land, and visits to sites of interest. The application deadline is next April.

For further details, contact Prof. Moshe Fischer, Dept. of Classics, Tel Aviv University, 69978 Ramat Aviv, Israel. Phone 972-3-6409938. E-mail, [fischer@ccsg.tau.ac.il], or contact the Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University. Phone 787-9930. E-mail, [cftau@ interlog. com]

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Perlman-Zukerman Celebration: The American Friends of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra is sponsoring a gala celebration in New York in honor of renowned Israeli musicians Itzhak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman, and their 40-year association with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

A concert at Carnegie Hall on Jan. 12 is followed by a black-tie benefit dinner in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Concert tickets range from $30 to $150; for reservations call 212-247-7800. Dinner tickets start at $1,250; call Joy Williams, 212-697-2949.

* * *

El Al Winter Package: El Al is offering an airfare-hotel package involving the deluxe Laromme Hotel in Jerusalem. The airline's winter package consists of round-trip economy class airfare and six nights' accommodation at the Laromme for $1,542 per person from Toronto. The offer is based on double occupancy, and remains in effect through Feb. 28.

As of last spring, all El Al flights to and from North America and Europe have been fully non-smoking. 967-4222 or 800-361-6174.

* * *

Consider Cuba: University Term in Cuba is a Toronto organization that offers educational packages at the Instituto Superior de Arte in Havana. Courses in Spanish and Cuban culture begin in January, May, July & October. Participants live in university dorms that are supervised by an attendant around the clock.

The cost is $2,500 for seven weeks room and board, tuition and airfare. UTIC, 25 Givins St., Toronto M6J 2X5. Phone, 531-1012. E-mail [jargon@idirect.com].

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Starbucks Winners: Stacey Pollock, who lives in the Yonge-Eglinton area of Toronto, and her fiancé Gali Bar Ziv, hope to journey to Africa for their honeymoon. Pollock recently won a trip for two as first prize in the Festival Afrika contest organized by Starbucks Coffee Company to benefit CARE Canada.

"I've entered so many contests, but this is the first time I've won anything," says Pollock, who is studying for a masters degree in health psychology. She and Bar Ziv, who is in a masters program in business administration, hope to go to Africa after their spring exams.

Their prize consists of a trip for two to Harare, Zimbabwe, compliments of Air Zimbabwe, and a 14-day Zimbabwe/Botswana safari. Pollock entered the contest at her neighborhood Starbucks at 2293 Yonge St.

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Winter in Amsterdam: A hotel package called Winter, the Amsterdam Way provides special offers and discounts on numerous hotels in the Dutch city through March 31. The off-season rates range from roughly $100 to $270. The package also includes the Amsterdam Culture & Leisure Pass, which offers entrance to many leading museums. 1-888-GO HOLLAND. Web site, [www.goholland.com].

***

Ulpan Honored: Ulpan Akiva in Netanya was given an honorable mention this month at the UNESCO award ceremony in Paris. The UN organization gives out prizes for peace education each year. Ulpan Akiva promotes better understanding between people through its intensive activity in the teaching of Hebrew and Arabic and their cultures. POB 6086, 42160 Netanya. Phone 972-9-8352312. Web site, [www. ulpan-akiva.org.il.]

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Film documents survivors' lifetime bonds

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two local Holocaust survivors are among seven women to be featured in an upcoming 90-minute documentary by French filmmaker Joseph Morder.

The film, which is to be shown on German and French television, will likely be titled *Mes Sept Mères* (My Seven Mothers). It's the story of Morder's mother Hela and six other women – among them Guta Lederman and Freda Rosenberg of Toronto – who forged a lifetime bond, after being forced to work on a Nazi military base as young teens.

"They're special women. I would hope if I didn't do this film, someone else would," Morder told *The CJN* in October when he was in town filming. "It's a kind of wonderful story about life, how life can win in the middle of hell...it's stronger than anything."

Morder, 49, has touched on Jewish or autobiographical themes in other films, both fiction and non-fiction. A native of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, he spent most of his early years in Ecuador before his family settled in Paris when he was 12.

He began filming in 1967 and still carries a small Super 8 camera to create his own film diary. A crew member described Morder's style as obsessive and very precise.

But the prolific filmmaker – he's made over 500 films in the past 30 years – said he is careful to avoid any impression of heavy-handedness. He likes to compare his film to Austro-Hungarian pastry. "It's very light, nice to see, good to eat – but the background is very dramatic."

At the end of October, having travelled to Florida, Texas and Israel with his small film crew, Morder brought the women together in Paris, where his mother lives, for an emotional week-long reunion.

"They're very joyful women," said Morder. "They love life. I think that's their strength."

Lederman and Hela Morder were schoolmates in Radom, Poland as youngsters. But their education was cruelly disrupted by the Holocaust.

One day the two friends were accosted on the street by a soldier and taken to a Nazi military base, where they were forced into work cleaning barracks, making beds and rearranging furniture.

Although initially they were able to return to the ghetto at night, eventually they had to remain at the base around the clock. There were nine of them, all but one, young teens. One woman, at least a decade older, did not survive the war; another died a natural death in adulthood.

For a year, until the beginning of 1943, they worked together, ate together and slept in the same room. "We became like an extended family," said Rosenberg in a recent interview. "We only had each other."

"They helped each other," said Morder. "They saved each other's lives. If I'm living, it's thanks to them."

In one incident, a soldier threatened to shoot one of the group because he didn't like her "dark Jewish eyes." Somehow, said Lederman, they persuaded him not to.

The women survived the war, for the most part, in separate concentration camps, maintaining an optimistic outlook.

"Nobody could believe at that time that we [would lose] everybody," Lederman explained. Of her immediate family, she and a sister survived. Rosenberg, the second oldest of six children, was the only survivor of her immediate family.

After the war, all seven married and raised families. Some of the children have visited their mothers' friends overseas.

The reunion in Paris marked the first time the seven women had been together since 1943. They were guests of honor at a banquet held by Paris' Radom Society to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary.

"The closeness is still there," said Rosenberg.

The women, now in their early 70s, spent the days sightseeing and being filmed, and the nights sitting up late, talking in their hotel lobby.

"There were good memories and bad memories," said Lederman. "We were very happy and very sad."

Rosenberg initially had mixed emotions about doing the film, although – like Lederman, who had told her story for Steven Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation – she had already documented her experience for Toronto's Holocaust Memorial & Education Centre.

"Then I thought, 'Why not?' " said Rosenberg. "We might as well do it and let the world know. There are still some skeptics who deny it."

From left, Freda Rosenberg, Guta Lederman and French filmmaker Joseph Morder enjoy some down time in a Paris restaurant. Morder reunited the two Toronto women with his mother and four others from the United States and Israel, for an upcoming European television documentary.

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Israel behind in treatment of stress disorder: expert

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Dr. Danny Brom

TORONTO — It seems incongruous, but Israel – where stress and even trauma are routine – is lagging in the treatment of people with psychological disorders induced by trauma.

The Jewish state "is far behind services for the traumatized," says Dr. Danny Brom, an internationally recognized expert on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), who lives and works in Israel. "And the country is not coming around to the realization that this is a serious problem.

"It's a paradox. In Israel, there's a lot of stress, but a lot of denial."

Brom, author of the recently released book *Coping With Trauma*, is scientific coordinator of the Albert and Temmy Latner Institute, located at Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem.

The Latner institute, set up in 1991, and named for its Canadian benefactors, has developed a worldwide reputation for providing psychological services to victims of terrorist attacks and family of soldiers killed in military actions, as well as to Holocaust survivors. It has also successfully reached out to the haredi community.

Even though the American Psychological Association began attaching a label to post-trauma victims in 1980, the Israeli medical and psychological establishments are still slow to regard PTSD as a clinical malfunction, Brom says.

That's odd, he adds, considering that living in Israel can be traumatic.

Traffic accidents – for which Israel has become infamous – are a major cause of PTSD, Brom says. So are terrorist attacks on civilians, war, and the country's rising rate of violent crime.

And the recent spate of Holocaust-related lawsuits the world over has raised anxiety levels and rage among Israel's 350,000 Holocaust survivors, explained Brom during a recent stop in Toronto, where he met with psychologists and psychiatrists.

Brom is also director of research for Amcha, an organization that provides psycho-social support for Holocaust survivors in Israel.

"Nowadays in Israel, you can talk about the Holocaust. It's open. For many years, you couldn't." But that new openness has also opened many old wounds.

PTSD is characterized by feelings of helplessness, vulnerability and the shattering of old assumptions. Victims often re-experience their trauma in nightmares and flashbacks. Many can't sleep. For some sufferers, it's debilitating.

But Brom says not everyone who has a traumatic experience falls apart. People are surprisingly resilient.

Between ten and 20 percent of those who undergo trauma wind up with PTSD. In the United States, roughly two percent of the population has it.

The Dutch-born Brom, who made aliyah in 1979, describes the disorder this way: "It's when your coping mechanism gets stuck. You get the feeling [the trauma] is not over. You are in denial or you avoid all stimuli. It takes away your control."

In Israel, "there are a lot of people who no longer travel on buses, or they avoid places where a bomb once went off. Every bomb, every threat, triggers anxiety. The Gulf War triggered a lot."

Brom has found that the most effective therapy is quick, short-term intervention.

The therapist works toward re-stimulating the victim, and breaking his or her avoidance patterns. As well, since PTSD sufferers often have no words to describe what they feel, therapy can force the stimulation of the part of the brain that controls language, giving words to the anxiety.

Hypnosis can also be used to push trauma into the recesses of memory.

Brom says new therapies have led to a 70 percent success rate. "It's not a complete cure, but at least you can function."

He has found that in Israel, the most denial about trauma and stress comes, ironically, from the military.

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Widowed mom, 44, professional, slim, attractive, enjoy reading Opra Winfry's recommended books. Seeking a male with similar interests AD#1811

SOPHISTICATED
Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim, blond hair, brown eyes, outgoing, sophisticated. Seeking a male, 36-43, with similar qualities and no children AD#1699

FRIENDS FIRST
Single female, sensitive, intelligent, romantic, slim,, 5'4", brunette, enjoy movies, theater, country and cottage life, good conversation. Seeking a male, 35-44, handsome, intelligent, romantic, sensitive, financially secure, who believes that being friends is the basis for a ling term relationship. AD#1705

DOWN TO EARTH
Single female, honest, outgoing, friendly, down to earth, enjoy movies, long walks. seeking a male, 36-46, for serious relationship. AD#1694

WORTH THE WAIT
Single female, beautiful, kind, honest, talented, travelled, never married. Seeking a male, 35-45, ready for long term Jewish family oriented relationship AD#1695

STYLISH LADY
Single Jewish female, 30ish, attractive, good sense of style, dark hair, hazel-green eyes, enjoy travelling, theater, movies, music, bowling, camping, board games. Seeking a Jewish male, with similar interests and qualities, age 32-43 AD#1692

BEST FRIENDS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", slim, attractive, intelligent, brunette, sensitive, enjoy camping, reading, theater, movies, dining and dancing, long walks by the ocean. Seeking a male, 35-44, romantic, financially secure, sensitive, handsome, a strong sense of humour. AD#1769

FRIEND, LOVER & PARTNER
Single Jewish female, auburn hair, bright blue eyes, sparkling smile, 47, 5", non-smoker, romantic, pretty, playful, love to cuddle, family oriented. Seeking a male, Jewish, non-smoker, affectionate, romantic, open with his feelings and ready for commitment AD#1671

FRIENDS FIRST
Single Jewish female, 44, 5'6", slim, non-smoker, professional, enjoy movies, theater, travel, reading, long walks. Seeking a single male, honest, professional, family oriented AD#1691

SINGLE MOM
Single female, 48, 2 kids & 2 cats, fit, non-smoker, enjoy outdoors, jazz, arts. Seeking a male, non-smoker, honest, health oriented, with heart and brains AD#1688

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, professional, 42, one young child, non-smoker, warm, genuine, enjoy dining &dancing, theater, comedy, long romantic, walks. Seeking a professional Jewish male, sensitive, caring, with similar interests and outlooks AD#1674

SUPERMAN NEEDED
Single mom, 5'9", thin, have 6 year old child, fit, not open minded, but loves to please. Seeking a male, does not need to have bulging muscles, but should qualify to work at the Daily Planet, Lois Lane has nothing on me AD# 1680

LET'S EXPLORE LIFE
Single female, radiant, smart, compassionate, open, fun-loving, with depth & soul, enjoy good food, good conversation, long walks, & the cultural menu of Toronto. Seeking a male, romantic, affectionate, emotionally & financially stable, traditional values & style AD#1678

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Divorced Jewish female, 48, affectionate, romantic, compassionate, mother of 2 sons, age 21 & 23. Seeking a romantic male, financially secure and will show me all the possibilities life has to offer AD#1660

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, enjoy movies, travel, romantic walks, music, dining & dancing. Seeking a male, 50+, sincere, honest, mature, thoughtful AD#1689

GOOD VALUES
Single Jewish female, never married, 38, petite, down to earth, easy going, very laid back, good values. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, 36-42, for best friends and life partner. AD#1734

ROMANCE IS IN THE AIR
Single female, warm, sincere, attractive, romantic, slim, 5'4", brunette, enjoy reading, theater, movies, being by the ocean, dining & dancing, flea markets. Seeking a male, 35-44, intelligent, handsome, financially secure, romantic, must believe being best friends is the basis of a great relationship. AD#1662

LOVES TO COOK
Single, slim female, early 40's, intelligent, professional, fit, blondish-brown hair, hazel eyes, attractive, enjoy sailing, running, tennis, skiing, loves to cook. Seeking a male, 44-53, with similar interest AD#1642

CHICKEN SOUP
Single female, 33, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving, enjoy long walks, movies, cycling, tennis, theater, dancing & dining, especially chicken soup. Seeking a non-smoking Jewish male, with similar interests and values AD#1651

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, brunette, nurse, warm, sensitive, intelligent, sincere, caring, enjoy the theater, travelling, dining & dancing, intelligent, romantic, successful, for long term meaningful relationship. AD#1641

FABULOUS FORTY'S
Single mom, 40ish, 5'2", slim, attractive, fit, hazel eyes, blondish hair, professional, enjoy skiing, sailing, running, tennis, cooking. Seeking a professional male, 44-50, single dads OK, with similar interests and a good sense of humour AD#1693

TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish female, attractive, slim, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, travel, music, long walks. Seeking a male, 50+, secure, mature, honest, and thoughtful AD#1639

ROMANCE IS FOR TWO
Single female, slim, attractive, 5'6", fit, active, a teacher and a painter, enjoy cycling, hiking, long walks, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a male with good sense of self, sense of humour, and very intelligent, sincere, honest. AD#1649

RESPECT, LOVE, JOY
Professional Jewish female, 38, warm, sincere, intelligent, a bit determined, looking for a relationship based on respect, love, joy, consideration, passion, and loyalty, communication and family. Seeking a male, honest, playful, family oriented, emotionally available, open minded AD#1645

ROMANTIC LADY
Single Jewish female, 5'6", attractive, enjoy movies, theater, long romantic walks, travel. Seeking a Jewish male, professional, intelligent, proud of his heritage AD#1727

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
Single female, attractive, intelligent, kind, caring, many vaned interests. Seeking a male, 68+, educated, honest, caring, sincere AD#1599

FLORIDA BOUND
Middle aged female, enjoy sports, travelling, dining, hopes to move to Florida, especially during the winter. Seeking a male with similar interests and outlook AD#1650

LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Slim female, warm, self employed, wonderful, sensual, enjoy movies, music, informal dining. Seeking s slim male, 38-48, 5'8"+, with similar interests. AD#1632

SPONTANEOUS
Tall, pretty female, early 30's, brown hair & eyes, easy going, good sense of humour, spontaneous, enjoy music, long walks, watching films. Seeking a male with similar interests AD#1630

ONE OF A KIND
Single Jewish female, unique, charming, honest, kind, caring, young in mind, body & spirit, enjoy outdoor activities, sports. Seeking a male who lives life to the fullest AD#1652

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single female, young looking, teacher, 47, spirited, loves to laugh, 5'3", 118lbs, kind, has 2 teenage children. Seeking a male, kind, non-smoker, honest, successful, emotionally stable, 40-55. AD#1607

LOVES TO LAUGH
Single mother, 47, slim, attractive, professional, youthful, spirited. Seeking an emotionally and financially secure male, non-smoker for friendship, possible relationship. AD#1611

SPEAKS RUSSIAN
Single Jewish female, attractive, intelligent, kind, honest, non-smoker, good cook. Seeking a Jewish male, that speaks Russian and is in the smlar age group AD#1626

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single Jewish female, attractive, down to earth, professional, enjoy movies, theater, music, reading, travelling, walks, bowling, keeping fit. seeking a single Jewish male, 31-43, with similar interests & values. AD#1596

NIFTY 50'S
Single female, 50's, 5'1", slim, warm, sincere, charming, down to earth, good sense of humour, wide degree of variety of interests. Seeking a well groomed, non-smoker, easy going, emotionally mature, caring male from the Toronto vicinity. AD#1591

OUTGOING
divorced female, 36, fit, attractive, sincere, witty, outgoing. Seeking a male, 35-40, with no dependents, beautiful on the inside and outside with similar qualities. AD#1579

EMOTIONALLY OPEN
Single female, attractive, affectionate, creative, curious, enjoy folk dancing, hiking, cross country skiing, music. Seeking a caring, warm, fun loving male, that is open to new experiences, emotionally open and expressive. AD#1583

BEST FRIEND, LOVER, PARTNER
Single Jewish lady, 47, 5', auburn hair, blue eyes, sparkling smile, bright, pretty, playful, romantic, non-smoker, loves kids, pets. Seeking a Jewish male, non-smoker, open, honest, handsome, for long term relationship. AD#1571

BEAUTY INSIDE AND OUT
Divorced Jewish female, 36, attractive, fit, witty, outgoing. Seeking a Jewish male, 34-40, with no dependents and similar qualities. AD#1587

Questions ??? 416-236-6644

Men seeking Women

LET'S CONNECT
Single male, 19, seeking a female, tall, slim, loving & caring for a meaningful relationship. AD#1814

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, early 50's, down to earth, tall, slim, caring, easy going, professional, enjoy movies & quiet times. Seeking a Jewish female, 39-49, warm, sensitive, and health conscious. AD#1718

EASY TO LOOK AT
Single white male, young looking, late 50's, blue eyes, brown hair, medium built, financially secure, down to earth, great sense of humour, enjoy the outdoors. Seeking an attractive female, caring down to earth, trim figure, of any age AD#1720

GOOD CONVERSATIONALIST
Single Jewish male, 6', slim, attractive, brown hair, blue-green eyes, have a B.A. enjoy cooking, travelling, movies, dining out. Seeking a Jewish female, 30-34, who is well read AD#1730

LIKES LAUGHS & OUTDOORS
Divorced Jewish male, 29, brown hair, blue eyes, professional, enjoy outdoor activities. Seeking a female with good sense of humour, caring, & kind. AD#1787

CALL ME
Single male, 32, professional, fit, enjoy motor cycles, travelling, moves, working out, life. Seeking an attractive female, down to earth, fit, who also has a zest for life. AD#1733

COMPANIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 55, professional. Seeking a non-smoking, Jewish female, 50-60, with traditional values, who enjoys the theater, dancing & dining AD#1710

SEEKING NICE LADY
Single male, 18, enjoy movies, dancing. Seeking a single female with similar interests AD#1670

TIME WAITS FOR NO ONE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, enjoy country drives, art auctions, have a business degree, stock market investor and analyzer. Seeking a lady, no need to be slim, for serious relationship. AD#1681

ROMANTIC AND CARING
Single white male, 56, self-employed, businessman, enjoy movies, music, travel, good conversation, quiet times. Seeking a female, compassionate, loving, attractive, sensitive, to be his special lady AD#1784

DON'T MISS OUT
Youthful Jewish senior, 65+, semi-retired, 5'7", 180lbs, blue eyes, thoughtful, sincere, reliable, romantic, affectionate, humorous. Seeking a special lady to share love, understanding, and friendship, 50-64 AD#1676

HONEST
Single Jewish male, 39, 5'10", 160lbs, fun, fit, handsome, athletic, financially and emotionally secure, honest, professional, 2 university degrees, blue eyes, light brown hair, enjoy outdoor activities, reading, movies. Seeking a female, fit, attractive, independent, fun loving, with similar values and interests. AD#1679

MY KIDS TAUGHT ME WELL
Single male, 40, ready to get into life again. Seeking a special lady to share life with. AD#1779

FRIENDSHIP
Single male, 5'7", 180lbs, semi-retired, blue eyes, sincere, thoughtful, easy to talk to, romantic, reliable, dependable, humorous. Seeking an attractive female, 50-64, that is slim, tnm in body and mind. AD#1653

A NEW BEGINNING
Young looking male, 53, 5'9", 180lbs, professional, successful, healthy, enjoy long walks, good food, dancing, theater, movies. Seeking a female for partnership. AD#1654

INTEGRITY
Senior Jewish male, 5'7", 180lbs, presentable, romantic, down to earth, humorous, blue eyes. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 50-64, that is kind, caring to share love, understanding and integrity. AD#1657

HANDY MAN
Single Jewish male, 32, 6'2", good heart, honest, caring, intelligent, funny, enjoy travelling, camping, playing pool, country drives, trying new things for an internal relationship with the right person. AD#1659

ACTIVE JUNIOR SENIOR
Single male, mid 60's, 5'6", non-smoker, Anglo-Jewish background, enjoy music, theater, outdoors, travel, public affairs. Seeking a semi-dependent, warm, educated, outgoing, caring lady, 50+. AD#1690

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 6', enjoy movies, dining & dancing, exercising, good conversation. Seeking a lady with similar interests. AD#1643

STYLISH GENTLEMAN
Single Jewish male, very stylish, blue eyes, dark hair, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, music. Seeking a female, 18-40, with similar interests and outlook. AD# 1742

GOOD TIMES
Single male, early 50's, kind, generous, witty, spontaneous, self employed, enjoy dancing & dining, music, piano bars, quiet evenings at home. Seeking a Spanish beauty, 40+, slim& trim, warm, affectionate, for long term relationship AD#1621

WONDERFUL & CARING
Self employed white male, 56, business man, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good communicator. Seeking a very attractive female that is sensitive, romantic, loving and compassionate AD#1625

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single male, 36, 5'8", handsome, fit, well-established, non-smoker. Seeking a slim, stylish, attractive, lady, no children, non-smoker, with traditional Jewish values, 28-33 AD#1634

LIFE IS BEST WHEN SHARED
Professional Jewish male, 44, 5'8", kind, slim, fit, affectionate, down to earth, employed, honest, good sense of humour, family oriented, intelligent, integrity. Seeking a Jewish female with similar interests AD#1608

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single white Jewish male, 32, 5'11", attractive, educated, honest, affectionate, well established. Seeking an educated Jewish female, 25-33, attractive, caring and easy going. AD#1590

CLASS OF '98
Single male, early 50's, stylish, tall, athletic, fun loving, enjoy dining out, piano bars, skiing, wrestling, movies, music, quiet evenings. Seeking a Jewish female, 39+, warm, attractive, affectionate, honest, fit AD#1584

NON-SMOKERS ONLY
Single male, secure, stable, sensitive, handsome, 35, blond hair, 6', 170lbs, teacher, Healthcare professional. Seeking a lady, 25-35, who shares his love of sports, nature, fitness, theater, travel, cinema, cuisine, satire & Jewish values AD#1595

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, mid 40's, established, professional, handsome, enjoy sports, dining & dancing, theater, travel. Seeking an attractive, female, 32-42, possible future relationship, marriage and children in the future. AD#1597

SEEKING A COMPANION
Single male, 31, 5'10", medium build, brown eyes, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, outdoor activities, quiet evening at home. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1615

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, 45, conservative looking, university educated, stock analyst and investor, enjoy art auctions, old movies, country drives. Seeking a lady, single moms OK, don't have to be slim, with similar interests AD#1616

FUTURE DREAMS
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, hardworking, sincere, enjoy movies, books, art walking. Seeking a lady, 30-40, for long term relationship with hopes of starting a family. AD#1558

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single male, 18, 6'1", 195lbs, enjoy dancing & movies. Seeking a special lady for the good times ahead. AD#1562

BRING LAUGHTER TO MY HEART
Single male, 40ish, variety of interests, university educated, enjoy music, astronomy, good conversation, arts, movies, dining & dancing. Seeking a lady, 40ish, feminine, slim, good sense of humour, attractive, bubbly, who just enjoys the good times. AD#1539

MAKE ME SMILE
Single Jewish male, 38, 6', professional, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy dining, movies, sports, quiet times. Seeking a lady who is romantic, fun loving, non-smoker with a good sense of humour. AD#1545

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish, professional male, 47, enjoy tennis, sailing, cottage life, dining, exercising, and quiet evening in front of the fireplace. Seeking a professional Jewish lady with similar interests & of similar age group. AD#1547

LIVELY
Single male, 55, attractive, tall, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, enjoy good jazz, dancing, singing. Seeking a fit, beautiful lady with similar interests. AD#1527

NO HEAD GAMES
single male, 40, originally from Montreal, handsome, sincere, honest, caring, spontaneous, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, long romantic walks, sport events, parties, hardworking. Seeking a Jewish lady, late 20's-mid 30's, stable, spontaneous, strong sense of humour AD#1543

LET'S TAKE A CHANCE
Single Jewish male, professional, 38. Seeking a Jewish female, 26-36, for long term relationship AD#1523

OPEN MINDED
Handsome male, late 40's, 5'11", dark brown hair, fit, open minded, great sense of humour, enjoy writing, photography, travelling. Looking for a slim, attractive female, 37-44, intelligent, sensitive, good communicator and open minded. AD#1534

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Jewish gentleman, early 60's, very presentable, multi-faceted interests include the arts, sports, dining and tete-a tetes, lots of T.L.C. to give. Seeking a slim, elegant, non-smoking lady, proud of her Jewish heritage and with "joie de vivre" AD#1504

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Professional gentleman, Jewish, 52, traditional values, handsome, healthy, successful, enjoy good food, dancing, long romantic walks. Seeking marriage minded lady, looks are not important, for a long term relationship. AD#1513

ROMANTIC & LOYAL
Gentleman, early 50's, tall, athletic, Canadian, non-smoker, easy to look at & talk to, enjoy life's pleasures. Seeking an attractive, fit, single Jewish female, 39-45, for lasting love, no pretenders pls. AD#1514

SENSITIVE & FIT
Divorced male, 5'7", professional, non-smoker, sensitive, fit, likes travelling. Seeking a sensitive female, intelligent, sense of humour, with similar qualities that likes to smile AD#1485

GOING AWAY FOR THE WINTER
Single attractive male, 58, 5'11", dark brown hair & blue eyes, great sense of humour, caring, enjoy going away for the winter to Florida, Australia, or California. Seeking a female, attractive, well kept, good personality, great sense of humour. AD#1519

JEWISH DOCTOR
Jewish male, 47, 5'7", doctor, honest, slim, fit, European background, has shared custody of his 2 children, keeps commitments & promises. Seeking a female under 40, slim, nice & intelligent. AD#1501

SHY AT FIRST
Single Jewish male, 41, no dependents, brown hair & eyes, handsome, sincere, caring, enjoy dining & dancing, travelling, music, not a pet lover. Seeking a single lady, non-smoker, 32-40, up to 5'3", sincere, no head games pls AD#1525

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, 39, enjoys music, movies, nature, outdoor activities, very down to earth. Seeks a cuddly lady for long term relationship AD#1469

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, early 60's, 5'9", 160lbs, fit, enjoy arts, sports, good conversation, good sense of humour. Seeking an elegant, slim, non-smoker, proud of her heritage lady AD#1504

COMPANION NEEDED
Single male, handsome, slim. Seeking a companion to share expenses for winter trip to Florida for 3 months. Pls call. AD#1506

WELL ESTABLISHED
Single male, 50, 5'10", 184lbs, handsome, well built, responsible, financially secure, honest, sincere, non-smoker, non-drinker, well established. Seeking a Jewish female, 40-50, with similar interests. AD#1465

NIFTY 50'S
Single white male, 56, self-employed, caring and sincere, enjoys travelling, movies, quiet romantic evenings. Seeks a compassionate, loving, sensitive lady. AD# 1480

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, 45, with a business degree, conservative looking, enjoys dancing, has good sense of humour. Seeking a female, doesn't have to be slim, children are OK AD#1405

SHARE LIFE'S BEAUTIES
Single male, 55, tall, attractive, European, non-smoker, passionate, humorous, affectionate, enjoys dancing, singing. Seeking a petite attractive female with similar interests to share life's beaubes. AD#1458

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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

330 OBITUARIES

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our hearts go out to our daughter-in-law Dora Ennis Weinberg on the shocking and devastating death of her beloved Mother and Father, Toby and Harry Fish. A devoted, sensitive and caring daughter, Dora enjoyed a rare and special intimate relationship with her parents.

We hope and pray that the love of her husband Barry and their daughter Johanna will provide Dora with the great strength necessary to survive this terrible and tragic circumstance.

Dr. Fred and Joy Weinberg and Family

HURVITZ, Herbert - on Dec. 5, 1998, late of 66 Westgate Blvd.
EJCHENTAL, Sonia - on Dec. 6, 1998, late of 213 Torresdale Ave.
NUSBAUM, Solomon - on Dec. 6, 1998, late of 196 Glencedar Rd.
PAULIN, Jane - on Dec. 6, 1998, late of 27 Hazelmere Dr.
KOREN, Rose - on Dec. 7, 1998, late of 37 Stormont Ave.
ROSENBERG, Helen - on Dec. 8, 1998, late of 10 Bobwhite Cres.
MILIAN, Osias - on Dec. 9, 1998, late of 4415 Bathurst St., #1401.
PAISLEY, Peter - on Dec. 9, 1998, late of 9 Ridelle Ave.
SILVAN, Richard - on Dec. 9, 1998, late of 170-A Strathearn Rd.
WALDMAN, Harvey - on Dec. 9, 1998, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd., PH #3.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

MORRIS, Max - on Dec. 6, 1998, late of 67 Westgate Blvd.

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FERDMAN, Tsilya - on Dec. 9, 1998.
RIBNIKER, Alexandra - on Dec. 9, 1998.
RUBENSTEIN, Simie - on Dec. 9, 1998, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
LAPSKER, Tzila - on Dec. 10, 1998.
LOUBETZKY, Cecile - on Dec. 11, 1998.
LITVACK, Sonny - on Dec. 13, 1998, late of 34 Carscadden Dr.
SALSBERG, Samuel - on Dec. 13, 1998, late of 293 Betty Ann Dr.
ABRAHAM, Stella - on Dec. 14, 1998.
ROTFARB, David - on Dec. 14, 1998, late of 7250 Yonge St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

338 SHIVA CATERING

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The Canadian Jewish news

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY

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JANUARY 7 th

Deadline

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The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:

Thursday, December 24th
Friday, December 25th
Monday, December 28th
Friday, January 1st

The office will be closing at 3:00 p.m.on Thursday, Dec. 31st.

We will not be publishing an issue on Thursday, Dec. 31st.

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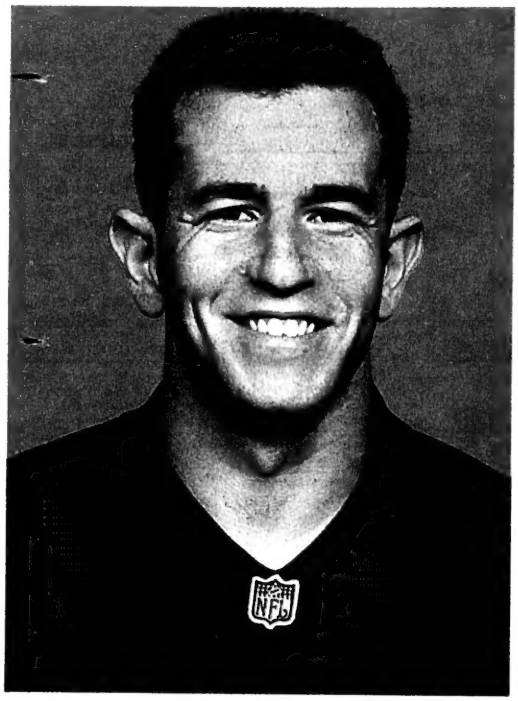

Jay Fiedler

QB a backup with Vikings

By MORDECAI SPECKTOR
The American Jewish World

MINNEAPOLIS — In the cozy press room at Winter Park, the Minnesota Vikings purple-splattered headquarters and practice facility in suburban Eden Prairie, Jay Fiedler talked with reporters about his dream of being a starting quarterback in the NFL.

The Jewish native of Oceanside, N.Y., who helped lead Dartmouth University to three Ivy League football championships, was cut by the Vikings just before the start of the regular season. When starting quarterback Brad Johnson broke his leg early in the year, Fiedler got the call to return to the team.

By mid-season, Johnson had mended and returned to the number 2 QB slot, behind veteran Randall Cunningham, who was in the midst of a sensational season. Despite his move down the depth chart, Fiedler was philosophical about his third-string duties.

"Every time you're on a roster and dressing for a game, there's always a chance that you're going to be out there," he said. "When that time comes for me – unfortunately, injuries happen in the league, guys do go down – and I get a chance to play in regular action, I've got to go out and prove that I can play."

Every player wants to be in the starting lineup, Fiedler admitted, "but not everyone gets that chance. Right now I'm kind of biding my time. If I ever get that chance, which is what I'd love to have happen, I just want to make the most of it."

Anything can happen on the brutal NFL gridirons, the 26-year-old play-caller noted. And in the midst of an early November battle against the New Orleans Saints at the Hubert Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis, it did.

When the dust had cleared that Sunday, the Vikings had another victory, but starting QB Cunningham (who Fiedler backed up in Philadelphia in 1994-95) injured his knee on the third play of the game. Brad Johnson came in and played a great game, but he fractured the thumb on his throwing hand.

Suddenly, Fiedler was thrust into the role as Vikings' starting quarterback – and became the number 1 topic among Twin Cities sports writers and gridiron mavens. ESPN featured him on their early morning show.

The fate of the rampaging Vikings rested on the shoulders of the 6-foot-1, 214-pound quarterback, who had thrown only four passes in his NFL career (he never got into a game while with the Eagles and played only briefly this year against Washington and Detroit).

"It's a fairy tale," Fiedler told the reporters then crowding around. "I've had a lot of ups and downs. Right now, my roller-coaster is riding to the top."

But, alas, the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Sid Luckman was tuned into another game: Randall Cunningham bounced back from arthroscopic knee surgery on Monday and was tapped for the following Sunday's start against the Cincinnati Bengals. Fiedler went back to backup.

Fortunately, this turn of events didn't devastate the persistent Fiedler, who started his athletic career at age five when he won the national cross-country championship for his age bracket. The intelligent and personable quarterback was out of the NFL for two years before signing with the Vikings in the spring. Last year, he played for the Amsterdam Admirals of the World League ("A fun experience...a good excuse to travel through Europe and see some sights, and play football as well," he said), and then coached wide receivers at Hofstra University on Long Island, N.Y.

"Things have been going great for me," Fiedler said during the chat at Winter Park (named after sports impresario Max Winter, the late Jewish businessman who brought the NFL to Minnesota in 1961). "It's been a great year, hooking on with the team and making it back into the NFL. To come back on a team like this is a little icing on the cake."

From a Reform Jewish family heavily into sports, Fiedler has "always been a serious kid and he's always known what he wants to do," said his older brother, Scott, an assistant basketball coach at Wagner College in Staten Island, N.Y.

Ken Fiedler, their father, was a high school basketball coach for 30 years, and took a number of young athletes under his wing, including Anthony Mason, the NBA star now with the Charlotte Hornets.

Although Randall Cunningham played most of the game against New Orleans, with a 24-3 Vikings lead and 7:54 remaining, Fiedler came in. He hit receiver Jake Reed with a pass for a first down, but the offensive series ended when Fiedler underthrew a pass to rookie sensation Randy Moss that was picked off.

On his next series, Fiedler skillfully engineered a ground attack and moved the Vikings downfield; then it was time to run out the clock and trot off the field with a 9-1 record for the season.

"Jay was solid," declared Vikings coach Dennis Green after the game. "It was kind of nice that he had that action."

In the Vikings locker room, Fiedler wore a towel around his waist and a smile. "It was a crazy week, that's for sure," he said in regard to all the press attention. "It ended up in a win, and that's the most important thing."

As for his third chance to play in an NFL game, Fiedler remarked, "It felt good. I went out there and felt like I made a couple good plays. It was fun out there."

Two weeks ago against Baltimore, Fiedler substituted for Cunningham on one play, throwing an incomplete pass. The week before, he saw action in a mop-up role against Chicago in a 48-22 win. He was in uniform but didn't play in late November matchups against Green Bay and Dallas, and his season high was registered in an October game against Washington when he completed two passes out of four attempts for 29 yards.

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The Milewski matter

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

Everything has a Jewish angle, a wag once said, and it's no different with the current imbroglio between reporter Terry Milewski and his bosses at the CBC. Milewski's relentless (and lone) digging unearthed explosive allegations that the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) ordered the RCMP to pepper-spray students protesting human rights abuses in Asia at last year's APEC summit in Vancouver. But he tripped up when he exchanged e-mails with one of the student protesters, in which he referred to the federal government as "the forces of darkness." Officials in the PMO cried bias. The CBC agreed, and suspended Milewski for three days for the indiscreet missives, and another 15 days for an unauthorized article in the *Globe and Mail*, in which he defended himself and the CBC against the PMO's charges.

Two weeks ago, the CBC's ombudsman, David Bazay, withdrew from his investigation of the matter, citing Milewski's refusal to cooperate. Bazay, the watchdog for the CBC's English services, dumped the file into the lap of his French-language counterpart, Marcel Pépin.

Why didn't Milewski play ball? He insisted the CBC reverse a ruling against him over a complaint from Doug Collins, a veteran Vancouver newspaper columnist with a long and wretched history of anti-Semitic writing under his belt. Milewski, justifiably, said the CBC couldn't possibly (or legitimately) probe a serious matter like APEC when it ruled in favor of a notorious and public Holocaust denier.

CJN readers will recognize Collins as a one-time columnist for Vancouver's *North Shore News*, and himself the subject of more than one complaint. After years of belittling the Holocaust, Collins one day penned a column titled Swindler's List, in which he claimed the Holocaust was Jewish propaganda, and that at the most, a few hundred thousand Jews died in the camps.

Last year, a British Columbia human rights panel ruled that while Collins' comments were anti-Semitic, they did not violate human rights laws. Another tribunal is now considering a similar complaint against him.

Collins, as is his wont, filed a grievance against the CBC for a Milewski report that aired on *The National* last March. The report was about racist Internet sites out west, and although Milewski had interviewed Collins for the story, he did not include Collins' specific views on the Web sites. Milewski did, however, refer to Collins this way: "Columnist Doug Collins... says the Holocaust is Jewish propaganda."

In a response last May, Don Knox, acting head of CBC TV News, politely tore a strip out of Collins, saying "you have made it plain, frequently and publicly... that you do not accept the incontrovertible facts of history. Instead, you believe in a fictional Holocaust." Yet still, Bazay ruled in favor of Collins just four months later. No wonder Milewski was peeved.

But in another twist, Bazay last week agreed to review his decision. Stunningly, the review upheld the original ruling as justified. In his three-page summary, Bazay chides Milewski for including only his own description of Collins, and excluding Collins' actual comments about the Web sites.

Furthermore, writes Bazay, "there was no evidence that Collins actually ever said 'the Holocaust is Jewish propaganda.' Milewski acknowledges that these were his words and not Collins' views about the Holocaust. *I can accept that this was a reasonable journalistic description of Collins' views about the Holocaust.* (Italics mine). But it does not follow that the March 22 item provided viewers with a fair and accurate account of what Collins said about the Web sites."

(Careful about being perceived as a defender of a Holocaust denier, Bazay adds that with this ruling, he is "not in any way whatsoever sanctioning anything Collins has had to say about the Holocaust.")

Contacted by *The CJN*, an irate and exasperated Milewski called the latest ruling "a disgrace to the CBC. Once again, Bazay has bestowed the blessing of the CBC on someone who treats the truth with utter contempt."

So Milewski is keelhauled for putting his thoughts in writing, while Collins scores a win against the mighty CBC.

Strange thing, this free speech.

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1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

1/2 cup seedless raisins
1/2 cup Concord grape wine
1 (12 oz.) pkg. wide egg noodles
1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted margarine
2 apples cored and diced
4 eggs, well beaten
salt
freshly ground pepper
cinnamon-sugar, to taste

Soak raisins in wine between 4 hours and overnight. Preheat oven to 375°F. Cook noodles in boiling water 5-10 minutes, or until tender; drain. Combine noodles, margarine, apples and drained raisins in large bowl. Add eggs; mix well. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Spoon mixture into well-oiled 9"x13" baking dish. Sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar. Bake 35-45 minutes, or until top is brown and crisp. Serve hot or cold. Yield: 10 servings.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am 68 years old. I have hardly seen or heard from my family for many years. I was living with a wonderful lady for the last six years, and she recently died. I have been living with pain in my back for four years. I go from doctor to doctor, from emergency room to emergency room, and nobody seems to be able to help me. Every time I see another doctor I get another set of prescriptions. My apartment is a mess, I have no appetite, I smoke too much and my diabetes is a problem. Who can help me?

Mr. T.

Dear Mr. T.,

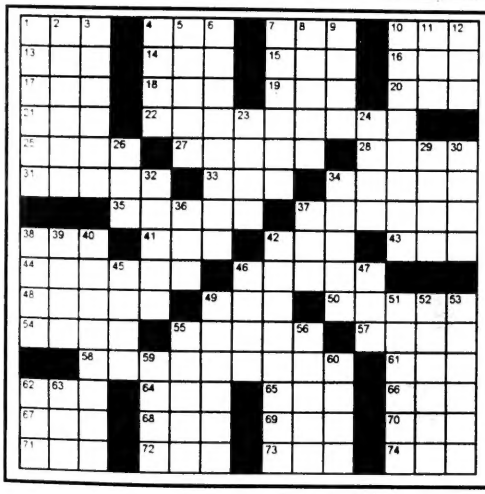
The first problem that needs to be resolved is your health. You are living with pain that you do not feel has been clearly diagnosed. You sound frustrated and do not know what to do next.

Social service agencies that help seniors have intake, referral and consultation departments that provide home visits and assessments, referrals and direction. Social workers are able to arrange for your health care to be coordinated through a geriatric department of an acute-care hospital. Home care can be arranged to provide some meal preparation and help you to relearn how to organize your home in the areas of cleaning, shopping and nutrition.

You may want assistance to become more involved in groups and activities so that you are not alone. Perhaps with this kind of support, your children will begin to see you in a more positive light and begin to find enjoyment in the quality of their interactions with you.

Agencies have many opportunities available in the areas of bereavement supports and volunteer work that often help someone in your situation rebuild their lives with a sense of meaning, dignity and compassion.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news

Across

1. Dreidel
4. Six Day or Gulf
7. Aisle
10. Paley's network
13. B.C.E. word
14. Golden __ of Spain
15. Abba's wife
16. Noodge (Eng.)
17. 1,501
18. Yeled (Eng.)
19. "Sea" to Wiesel
20. Negative
21. Herman Barrron's score
22. Conn. Senator
25. Broke the ninth commandment?
27. Use for Tzedakah
28. Dung or Jaffa
31. Witch's dwelling
33. Mike Nichols' partner
34. Sinai ship?
35. Old Jerusalem?
37. Negev town
38. Supply with Uzis
41. Over to Bialik
42. Chazzir (Eng.)
43. Last degree
44. Org. for Koufax or Berg
46. Bore biblically
48. Gabriel or Uriel
49. Newman's passion
50. Noah's messenger
54. Jazzman Getz
55. Treasure holder
57. Saks or Macy's event
58. Prophet of the Second Temple
61. Shikker's sip
62. 102
64. Corn holder
65. __ Carte
66. Sort of? (ending)
67. King David __, Jerusalem
68. Yoelson
69. Biblical fishing device
70. Her
71. Israeli pilot
72. Comedian Buttons
73. Haifa to Hebron (dir.)
74. Hee __

Down

1. Synagogue
2. Make a rabbi
3. Like Noah's animals
4. Western
5. "Never __" Kahane book
6. The Almighty
7. Chicken soup
8. Measurements
9. Tepid
10. Charoset spice
11. Top for Gottex
12. El Al milieu
23. Moses' horn?
24. Artist Yaacov
26. David O. Selznick
29. House for Avram
30. Eilat, old style
32. Wallenberg
34. George Burns' smoke
36. Actor Cobb
37. Hasmonean site
38. Oy Vey!
39. Shiva clothes
40. Steinem's is Ms.
42. Esther's subjects
45. Actor Hackman
46. Boxer Max
47. Torah breastplate
49. Lubavitcher followers
51. Like the ten tribes
52. Elijah disciple
53. Judah to Esau
55. Elected
56. Agadah
59. Reform Rabbis' Org.
60. Bigots' forte
62. American Mossad?
63. Corp.

This puzzle is the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut. (This week's and last week's answers are on page 28.)

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Fresh
1.30/100 g
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